

# The JEWISH VOICE

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## HAPPY HANUKKAH





**DON'T JUST LIGHT THE MENORAH..**

**INDULGENCE**  
J E W E L E R S

2 Greenville Crossing, Greenville, DE (302) 426-9811

**STARTING SUNDAY DEC. 21, A BEANIE BABY WILL BE GIVEN WITH EACH PURCHASE WHILE SUPPLIES LAST**



# Holocaust Denial Published In U of D Newspaper

By DAN WEINTRAUB  
JCRC Director

On December 5, 1997, *The Review* the University of Delaware's student newspaper published an advertisement by a Holocaust denier, a Holocaust denial column by the same person and a cartoon that was widely regarded as anti-Semitic. The Jewish Community Relations Committee, Matt Denn, JCRC Chair, Dan Weintraub, JCRC Director, and Judy Wortman, JFD Executive Vice-President, immediately began working with Hillel at the University of Delaware and other concerned parties to respond to this calamitous issue. Leo Shane III, editor of *The Review*, claimed that he failed to review the newspaper prior to publication because he was preparing for final examinations. The December 5 issue was the second to last issue of the semester.

The disreputable Holocaust denier Bradley Smith apparently duped the University of Delaware's student newspaper into publishing his baseless and anti-Semitic advertisement and editorial. Smith is a hate monger who associates with extremist anti-Black, anti-Semitic, and anti-immigrant groups, including militias. Using pseudo-academic language, and an open checkbook, Bradley Smith has fooled naive college journalists into printing his bizarre assault on the truth. Debating the Holocaust is akin to arguing that the earth is flat or that slavery never existed in this country. This crackpot's ulterior motive is to white-wash the Nazis for future generations. Lies, such as the *Protocols of the Elders of Zion*, a Russian forgery, have long been used to foment anti-Semitism.

*The Review* had a legal right to print this drivel. The point is that it is morally wrong and shows no intellectual integrity to print these lies which offend the memories of those who died in Nazi gas chambers. Especially for a university newspaper, it is incomprehensible

that they would see fit to publish such outrageous Holocaust denial claims which have no basis in fact. These students made a mistake in printing Smith's lies. This hurtful Holocaust denial nonsense should not have been published any more than racist, sexist or pornographic material should be included in a student newspaper.

This has nothing to do with the First Amendment. It has everything to do with the need for common decency and a healthy respect for the truth.

Unfortunately, Smith and his views gained the wide publicity he sought - a bargain for him at the \$200 cost of the ad. *The News Journal*, *The Associated Press* and others wrote articles about the December 5 issue of *The Review*, focusing on the student journalists' mistakes and First Amendment issues. Rejecting Smith's anti-Semitic, hateful propaganda does not violate freedom of expression. Several radio stations ran accounts of this on-campus matter. Many of these press reports failed to emphasize the following critical points: that Smith is a kook and a hate monger; that Holocaust denial is factually baseless and intellectually hollow; and that Holocaust denial is always anti-Semitic.

Many members of the Jewish community have called upon President Roselle and the staff of *The Review* to make these same points that the press accounts left out. To date, statements by the President and the staff of *The Review* have failed to clearly characterize Smith as an anti-Semitic kook, to identify Holocaust denial as factually without merit and to clearly state that Holocaust denial is always anti-Semitic. Because college students are relatively young and impressionable, it would be most constructive for comments of this kind to come from the President and the newspaper.

*The Review* staff has offered two written apologies. One ran in the

following issue of *The Review* but was widely regarded as vague and insufficient. The other apology, actually a note from the editor, was posted on the newspaper's Web site and it too failed to identify Holocaust denial as factually baseless and anti-Semitic. At a number of universities where Smith's propaganda was printed in the college newspapers, upon further reflection, printed corrective editorial emphasizing that the Holocaust happened and disassociating the newspaper from Smith's anti-Semitic ideas.

President Roselle's Diversity Commission published a strong statement condemning the actions of *The Review* and strongly repudiating Smith's statements. This was printed in *UpDate*, another campus publication. President Roselle has associated himself with the commission's statements, but he has not made a personal statement clearly identifying Holocaust denial as anti-Semitic and factually insupportable. At Columbia, Cornell and other respected institutions elsewhere, university presidents have written open letters repudiating Holocaust denial as academically bankrupt and anti-Semitic.

The editorial cartoon dealt with two issues: the recent suspension of the University of Delaware rugby team over a sexual assault and the effort by accused murderer Amy Grossberg's parents to invoke their interpretation of Jewish law as giving them a privilege to not testify against their daughter. As noted in the last editorial of *The Jewish Voice*, many Jews disagree with the Grossberg's interpretation and believe that Jews are subject to the evidentiary rules of Delaware's criminal courts because the law of the land is also our law as Jews. The crudely drawn cartoon portrayed the rugby team in a court room dressed as bearded, black-hatted Orthodox Jews. The caption portrayed their representative saying that the rugby team could not testify against one another because of

their religion. Many were offended by the cartoon and suggested that it alone would have caused alarm among campus Jews. Given the presence of the Holocaust denial propaganda in the same issue, many readers were less inclined to give staff of *The Review* the benefit of the doubt.

Among the organizations supporting or leading the community response were Hillel, the Jewish Community Relations Committee, Jewish Federation of Delaware, Jewish Council for Public Affairs (formerly NJCRAC), the ADL, and Chabad Lubavitch of Newark. Jewish students, professors, administrators, parents, and trustees expressed outrage about the content in *The Review* and called for apologies and other actions. Holocaust survivors and educators offered their services to help advance Holocaust education on campus. Close cooperation amongst these organizations contributed to more effective service of students' needs and a more effective presentation of communal views.

Jewish educators and Hillel board members have articulated Jewish concerns in this matter through a variety of channels. Professor Sara Horowitz, Professor Viv Klaff, Professor Marian Palley and Janice Selekman have worked actively to promote a constructive resolution of this matter. Leslie Newman, President of the Jewish Federation of Delaware, and Judy Wortman, Executive Vice President of the Jewish Federation of Delaware, have actively supported the campus community's efforts to resolve this situation.

The JCRC has provided guidance and documentary material on Holocaust denial to the Jewish community on campus. A representative of JCRC has encouraged Hillel Director Renee Shatz and Rabbi Eliezer Sneiderman to thank the many non-Jews on campus who have expressed solidarity with the Jewish community and outrage with *The Review*. Shatz and Sneiderman

worked closely together in the aftermath of the publication. Matt Denn, JCRC chair, and Dan Weintraub, JCRC director, have provided advice and assistance to Jews on campus.

A student meeting convened by Shatz and Sneiderman brought together over 60 students and the director of the JCRC. These students took time away from preparing for their exams in order to come together to share their pain, express their outrage and plan a coordinated response. A meeting of the Hillel Board was devoted entirely to the December 5 edition of *The Review*.

Bradley Smith's advertisement offers a large monetary incentive to readers. This is meant to call readers' attention to the content of the ad and to attract people to his Web site. Smith's advertisement and column are slickly worded efforts to deny the existence of mass gassing at Nazi death camps. Smith, who heads the so-called Committee for Open Debate on the Holocaust (CODOH), is interested in white-washing the Nazis and discrediting Jewish victims. He has targeted naive young college students for this propaganda.

Smith counts upon the naive of student journalists who he calculates will publish this garbage through a misunderstanding of the application of the First Amendment, editorial discretion and journalistic responsibility. Many college newspapers fall prey to Smith's call for debate about the Holocaust and his appeal for freedom of expression. According to the ADL, Smith has placed Holocaust denial ads in papers on nearly 80 campuses.

The JCRC continues to monitor this situation and to work in support of the campus Jewish community. For more information, call 427-2100, ext. 17.

**Editor's Note: At press time, President Roselle issued a constructive statement which will be reported on in our next issue.**

## Harry Cohen Foundation Gift Presented by Sadie Toumarkine

At the December 4 meeting of the Jewish Federation of Delaware, Sadie Toumarkine presented a \$29,499.77 check from the Harry Cohen Foundation to the Federation. Leslie Newman, President of the JFD, accepted the gift and thanked Toumarkine for the myriad of programs and services that her father's legacy made possible. The Foundation was established in 1959, two years after Harry Cohen's death. At that time, his estate of \$1,250,000 was bequeathed to charitable endeavors. Since 1959, about \$3 million has been distributed to various institutions and synagogues in our community and in Israel. In addition to Jewish organizations, the Foundation has supported hospitals, Toys for Tots and the Needy Family Fund.

The Foundation's beneficiaries include the JCC, the Kutz Home

and the Federation. This year's allocation to these three agencies totals \$69,000.00. The cumulative total contribution to these agencies is \$1,114,669.95. The cumulative total contribution to two local synagogues and three agencies is \$2,032,891.71.

Harry Cohen's life in America began when he arrived as a poor immigrant from Odessa in 1905. Subsequently, he made the transition to successful businessman and philanthropist. He worked as a barber, leather worker and coal stove blackener until he saved enough money to open a grocery store at 13th and Wilson streets. He operated a variety of businesses including a very successful furniture store.

In 1932, Cohen enlisted Charles L. Belfint to join a campaign to put the then vacant Adas Kodesch Center at 512 French Street to good use. Belfint played

an active role in developing a dedicated committee which in 1934 opened the YM/YWHA with Lou Simon as president and Isadore Solod as executive director.

Cohen was a prime mover of the early Jewish Federation of Delaware. He served as treasurer for two years and campaign chairman for two succeeding years. He was dedicated to Jewish education and in 1940 wrote to Milton Kutz, Federation president, asking that a survey about Jewish education in Wilmington be undertaken. This resulted in the establishment of the Associated Hebrew School in 1943.

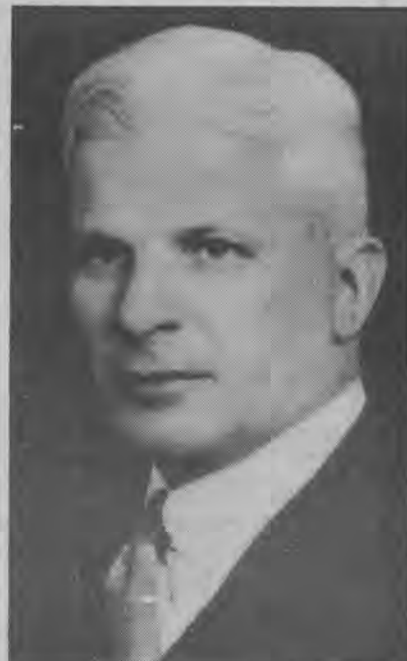
In 1945, he offered \$50,000 for a campaign for a new YM/YWHA building. He believed that the Jewish population was moving toward the northern suburbs and that a new location for the Y would be appropriate. While his offer was not accepted,

he set aside \$58,077.10 in his will for this purpose.

In 1946, Harry Cohen and Milton Kutz each pledged \$25,000 to the Federation campaign. These two were the most substantial contributions that had ever been made to Delaware's campaign. In 1948, Cohen and his committee raised \$27,000 for the Jewish National Fund and Judge Morris Gothenburg of New York, JNF President, came to Delaware to present the deed for a 250 acre colony in Israel.

By 1953, when he succumbed to a stroke, he had already accumulated his fortune. Because of the Foundation he established, our community continues to thrive today.

Sadie Toumarkine continues her father's legacy and has been a dedicated leader of the Delaware Jewish community for many years.



Harry Cohen

EDITORIAL

# What Children and Parents Should Know?

The time has come, and we are sending our child off to college. We can only hope that 18 years of loving, being there and driving car pools also instilled a foundation of information. But perhaps not. So as parents we take a deep breath and wonder what choices our child is able to make.

On December 5, the University of Delaware Student newspaper, *The Review*, published a Holocaust denial ad, a column by this Holocaust denier and an anti-Semitic cartoon. Our children were lambasted with Holocaust deniers. Were our children properly prepared? Had we provided enough of a foundation to ensure their comfort and faith to do verbal combat with those who callously rub salt into the wounds of our horrendous loss?

As Jewish parents it is our duty to provide a framework of moral fiber that builds community consciousness. It is through Jewish schools and family life that our children are exposed to our collective history.

As an American nation, there is very little that is offered in the secular world to teach

the Holocaust until recently when Spielberg and the media have focused on the topic. We, as Jews, are left the task of presenting the world at large an education to ensure that it cannot happen ever again.

Are our children prepared? Alternatively, are they given a conduit to bring community into their lives? Are they given a Jewish mixture of pride, rachmanos and staunchness of spirit?

As the University of Delaware is grappling with the audacity of the Holocaust deniers, shouldn't we as parents be seeking active information so that we are aware of events on campus? What is our responsibility as parents to safeguard the worldly assault on our children?

What a fine line we walk as we begrudgingly accept that our children need to make their own judgments and fight their own battles. Today though, we grieve doubly for the excruciating loss of the Jews through the heinous work of Hitler, and for those who seek to reopen our collective hearts and *kishkes* (insides).

# About Our Cover Artist Riva Brown

Riva Brown is a native of Wilmington, Delaware. She received her education in the Wilmington Public School system, graduating from P.S. duPont High School in 1971. Following that, she earned her Bachelor of Arts at the University of Delaware in 1975 with a minor in Art History.

Riva's calligraphy is self-taught, as there were no courses available in lettering at that time. Several good books of instruction, some basic tools, a knowledge of historic letter forms, and lots and lots of practice are what it took to become proficient.

In 1976, when she began taking commissions, calligraphy was not that well known. However, it was easy for her to see that there was a place for calligraphic lettering. So, amid the frequently heard, "You're a what?" Riva began her career as a calligrapher.

Working full-time as a calligrapher, illustrator and fine artist, her work is highly respected and sought after in the commercial field. Her client list includes such names

as Longwood Gardens, the State of Delaware, the Delaware Supreme Court, American Life Insurance Company (ALICO), and Maryland Bank (MBNA).

Riva was awarded a 1994 Individual Artist Fellowship in Folk Art by the State of Delaware for her work as a *Ketubah* (Jewish marriage contract) artist, and is considered a "State Treasure." She has been called upon to present cultural programming in the Delaware public school system in her capacity as "Folk Artist" and creator of ritual documents.

Thus far in 1997, she has exhibited extensive floral show, Governor Carper's Wilmington office, and the United Cerebral Palsy of Delaware's "Best of Delaware show. Her work is currently being shown in "Obelyn Gallery" in Annapolis, Maryland. In June of 1997, Riva was the featured artist in a one-woman show in a return engagement at the University of Delaware's Clayton Hall Conference Center.

## VOICE MAIL

The *Forward* of November 21, 1997 carries an article about Joan Nathan and the publication of her new book, "The Jewish Holiday Baker." The article mentions that she speaks Hebrew fluently, and that "she cannot overestimate the importance of these skills." She continues: "I am convinced that if you can speak a person's first language, you are able to break down barriers."

Too bad that this truth seems not to resonate in our community. If it did, we would surely already have a solid *ulpan* here. I believe that community leaders should pay as much attention to adult education as they do, for example, to community relations.

Sincerely,  
Dov Seidel

## VOICE BOX

Never doubt that a small band of caring and committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is probably the only thing that ever has.

- Margaret Mead

An invasion of armies can be resisted, but not an idea whose time has come.

- Victor Hugo

All great things are simple but can be expressed in a single word. Freedom. Justice. Duty. Mercy. Hope.

- Winston Churchill

**THURSDAY NOON DEADLINE**  
for all articles, advertisements and news for The Jewish Voice

ISSUE	FOCUS	DEADLINE
DEC. 19	HANUKKAH GREETINGS	DEC. 11
JAN. 9	CAMP PLANNING	DEC. 31
JAN. 23	JEWISH WOMEN IN PROFESSIONAL SERVICES & BUSINESS	JAN. 15

**12 NOON THURSDAY**  
EIGHT DAYS BEFORE PUBLICATION

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EIGHT DAYS BEFORE PUBLICATION

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The Jewish Voice, 100 W. 10th St., Suite 301 Wilmington, DE 19801-1628  
e-mail: jewishvoic@aol.com

The JEWISH VOICE

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Warm Hanukkah Wishes



from the Staff of The Jewish Voice

**CANDLE LIGHTING**

**DECEMBER**

FRI., DEC. 19TH  
4:20 PM

FRI., DEC. 26TH  
4:24 PM

FRI., JAN. 2ND  
4:30 PM

FRI., JAN. 9TH  
4:36 PM

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OPINION

# Vouchers - What Are They?

By LARRY HAMERMESH

JCRC Public Education Task Force  
- Member

(This article is one of a multi-part series concerning school vouchers. This series has been organized by the Public Education Task Force of The Jewish Community Relations Committee of the Jewish Federation of Delaware.)

Although many people have strong views about so-called school vouchers, far fewer people know the specific details of proposed voucher legislation. The various proposals differ greatly in their benefits, limitations and conditions. No informed debate about the merits of voucher proposals can take place without taking these differences into account.

Therefore, the Public Education Task Force of the Jewish Community Relations Committee of the Jewish Federation believes it is important, as debate goes forward on the voucher issue, that the community be informed about the content of the various voucher proposals. This article summarizes some of the major proposals, both at the state and national levels.

**What are vouchers?**

"Vouchers" can take a variety of forms. In some proposals, vouchers are a direct payment by a governmental authority to a private secondary or primary school, to a student at such a school, or to the student's parents, which payment must be used to pay private school expenses. In other proposals, vouchers are a tax credit or a tax deduction to those parents.

**How much benefit do vouchers provide to parents?**

Direct payment voucher proposals vary considerably in the amount of the benefit provided. In some proposals, the amount ranges as high as \$2,700 per student per year. Under at least one pending Delaware legislative initiative, however, parents of religious school students would receive 10% less than the otherwise applicable funding amount, a discount which is said to "allow for the religious portion of the educational curriculum of the school."

**Who would get voucher benefits?**

In regard to eligible recipients, voucher proposals fall into two distinct groups. One set of proposals limits public support to low income parents, or provides decreasing support as parental income increases. These proposals are ostensibly aimed at equalizing educational opportunity. Proposals confer-

ring benefits by means of tax credits and tax deductions, however, appear to operate more even-handedly, although they apparently would do little or no good for persons of very low income.

**What eligibility requirements would apply to religious schools?**

Again, voucher proposals have a range of restrictions and conditions upon a private religious school's eligibility for support, direct or indirect, in the form of vouchers. Direct payment voucher proposals contain a variety of restrictions, including application of federal laws against discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin. School eligibility requirements may include minimum pupil attendance requirements, parental involvement, and minimum grade advancement (such as at least 70% of pupils advancing one grade level per year). In one Delaware legislative proposal, families participate in the voucher program only if the local school board or school district, by referendum, approves participation by families in the school district.

**Will the vouchers affect public school funding?**

This question is the subject of much debate. Many voucher proposals do not explicitly indicate that funding for the proposal will reduce public school funding by the amount of that funding or at all. At least one Delaware legislative proposal, however, explicitly provides that amounts paid by the State under the voucher program would be subtracted from the amount otherwise payable by the State to the recipient's public school district.

**What voucher proposals are now pending?**

Voucher proposals have proliferated in recent years, at local, state and federal levels, and no comprehensive summary of those proposals is possible in this space. Some of the proposals that may be of particular interest to Delawareans, however, are summarized below.

**Delaware Legislative Proposals**

The 1997 session of the Delaware General Assembly brought forward several quite distinct voucher proposals:

**S.B. 66:** Sponsored by Senators Bonini, Venables and Marshall and by Rep. Welch, this bill would give all parents of school age children a \$500 per year tax credit per child attending a non-public school. Those not earning sufficient income to pay Delaware

income tax, of course, would not benefit from this proposal.

**H.B. 266:** This bill, sponsored by Rep. Phil Cloutier, would establish a private school voucher program in which eligible students in kindergarten through grade 12 could direct that the State pay \$2,500 per year to the student's school, public or private, if that school meets certain requirements. The funds could be applied to all school costs, including teachers, administration, transportation, books and supplies. Eligible pupils would be limited to those eligible for Aid for Families with Dependent Children (AFDC). Participating private schools would be barred from discriminating on the basis of race or national origin. Amounts paid by the State under the voucher program would be subtracted from the amount otherwise payable by the State to the recipient's public school district.

**H.B. 367:** Rep. Capano and Sen. Bonini sponsored this bill to establish an Educational Scholarship Program, in which eligible families would receive from \$1,100 to \$2,700 per year (less 10% attributable to religious instruction for religious school students) for tuition and "non-religious related educational expenses" charged by the school. Families with adjusted gross income of less than \$50,000 could receive the full \$2,700 per year; families with adjusted gross income over \$100,000 would not be eligible to participate; benefits for other families (between \$50,000 and \$100,000 adjusted gross income) would range from \$2,300 to \$1,100 annually.

**Federal Proposals**

**S. 1502 (District of Columbia Opportunity Scholarship Act of 1997)**

Sponsors of this and related legislation, including Rep. Dick Armey and Sens. Dan Coats and Joseph Lieberman, have proposed a voucher arrangement for students in the District of Columbia. Under this proposal, tuition scholarships of \$3,200 (for families below the federal poverty line) and \$2,400 (for families below 185% of that line) would be paid to students to defray educational expenses at any eligible public or private school. No school that discriminated on the basis of race, color or national origin would be eligible. This legislation passed the Senate on November 9, 1997.

**S. 1 (Safe and Affordable Schools Act of 1997)**

This extensive legislative proposal, sponsored by Sen. Coverdell, includes several proposals for public funding of private schools in so-called "demonstration projects" — essentially low-income areas designated by the Secretary of Education. In such projects, parents would receive "education certificates" for costs of tuition and transportation, in an amount not to exceed the per pupil expenditure by the public school district in which the recipient resides. The recipients and amounts of the "education certificates" would be determined by the entity (public agency or consortium of non-profit agencies) administering the demonstration project. Participating schools would be prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color or national origin.

**S. 949, Amendment No. 574 (Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1997)**  
On June 27, 1997, the Senate approved an amendment to the budget bill, proposed by Sen. Coverdell, that would permit the creation and use of "educational individual retirement accounts" to fund not only higher education expenses, but also "qualified elementary and secondary education expenses," beginning in the year 2001. Those qualified expenses would include tuition and other expenses for public, private or sectarian school, or for home schooling authorized under state or local law. Income earned on the contributions to such accounts, up to \$2,000 per year until the beneficiary reaches age 18, would be exempt from taxation. None of these legislative proposals, state or federal, has yet become law. They are all pending, however, and will certainly receive legislative attention in the coming year.

## Insurance Department Seeks Holocaust Victims

By MICHAEL TEACHMAN

The National Association of Insurance Commissioners, a national organization of 55 chief insurance regulatory officers from each state and U.S. territory, has created a task force to investigate improprieties committed by European insurance companies against victims of the Holocaust before, during and after the Second World War.

Interest in this issue springs from disclosures regarding Swiss wartime banking practices, as well as new information now available as a result of the breakup of the Eastern Block. In addition, interest has been fueled by a class action lawsuit recently filed in the name of several Holocaust survivors and their heirs against some very large European insurance carriers, seeking up to one billion dollars for unpaid life insurance and property/casualty policies. European insurers are accused of converting policy holder assets into their own property and denying benefits to claimants without a reasonable basis to oppose their claims.

On September 22, 1997, the Special Insurance Issues Committee of the NAIC held an informational presentation in Washington, DC. The Committee heard testimony from representatives of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, as well as a number of Holocaust survivors or heirs who gave testimony on their individual claims. In addition, at least one large European carrier had a representative present to explain what steps were being taken to investigate allegations of wrongdoing.

The NAIC has named a multi-state working group to investigate this matter further. The Delaware Department of Insurance would like to hear from any survivors of the Holocaust or heirs of Holocaust victims living in Delaware, regardless of whether they believe they have a claim. Persons falling into these categories are encouraged to contact Michael W. Teichman at the Delaware Department of Insurance by phone at (302) 739-4251 or by mail at 841 Silver Lake Boulevard, Dover DE 19804.

## Touch Points

*Jewish Family Services helps elderly cope with physical frailties and changing lifestyles.*



**Your contribution helps:**

- ✧ the Kutz Home coordinate intergenerational education programs with Albert Einstein Academy and Delaware Gratz Hebrew High School to benefit residents and students alike.
- ✧ the Jewish Community Center to provide a Jewish Summer camp experience for 500 campers.
- ✧ Temple Beth El bring informative Jewish speakers to the growing Greater Newark/Hockessin area.

**JEWISH  
FEDERATION  
of DELAWARE**

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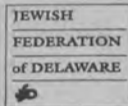
For more information call  
the Jewish Federation of  
Delaware  
at 427-2100  
Mon.-Thurs. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Friday 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Saturday, January 24, 1998 at 7 p.m.  
at The CoreStates Center

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## On the Road to Super Sunday: Stay Alert for the Signs of a Great Day for Delaware!



January 18, 1998 at MBNA in Stanton-Ogletown, volunteer callers will be treated to bagels and the whole shmear. Come to Super Sunday for a good time and a good cause.



The goals for Super Sunday 1998 are for this year's FUN-a-thon to involve more volunteers than ever before; to call more people than ever before; and to raise more needed resources for the community than ever before. Won't you be a part of it?



January 18, 1998 is a great day to support the community as a donor or a volunteer. If you can't be at Super Sunday please answer the call from a courteous volunteer caller and be generous since every dollar counts.



To volunteer today call  
The Jewish Federation of Delaware  
at (302) 427-2100

## Family Pancake Breakfast & Chanukah Program

Thursday, December 25, 1997

Featuring *The Maagal Dance Troupe*

*The Award Winning Jewish Dance Troupe directly from Centro Deportivo Israelita of Mexico City*

Come on out for a delicious ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT Breakfast!  
Served from 10:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Family games, activities and Chanukah craft projects will be offered from 11:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

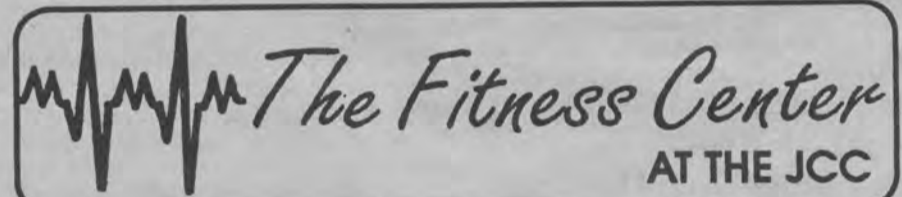
Don't miss the performance by The Maagal Dance Troupe from Mexico City! Begins at 12:30 p.m.

Cost for Breakfast and Performance  
Children - \$5.00, Adults - \$8.00, Children under 3 - free

Cost for Performance Only  
Children - \$4.00, Adults - \$7.00, Children under 3 - free

Advance reservations are recommended.  
Contact Michelle Weinraub at (302) 478-5660 for more information.

Jewish Community Center  
101 Garden of Eden Road ☆ Wilmington, Delaware 19803



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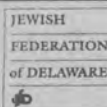
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PANIM EL PANIM  
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# Annual Lion of Judah Dinner

By FAYE J. HARRIS

Editor of the Jewish Voice

Vivian Orbach-Smith was holding up a framed picture, we thought, until suddenly a collective gasp took place. Inside this gold-rimmed frame was the icon of the cruel Hitler years, the tattered, despised yellow *Juden* (Jewish) star. We have all seen the photos of Jews being herded wearing this symbol. Here it was in touchable time, belonging to Orbach-Smith's father, Larry Orbach.

Larry and Vivian took their father-daughter relationship to a place transplanted in time, mired in the surrealistic and horrendous time of Nazi Germany. With love and courage, their partnership has birthed the book *Soaring Underground*, the story of Larry's two years as a teenage "diver" in the underground of Nazi Berlin from 1942-1944.

"To improve my chances of survival and my mother's, I did many things I would never have done in the circumstances in which I had

been born and brought up," writes Orbach. "I am neither proud nor ashamed of them. I reveal them because they illustrate, I think, what may be normal behavior in a world gone mad."

Orbach-Smith is committed to transmitting the powerful legacy of the Holocaust to future generations. She is an eloquent voice for Second Generation and speaks to religious and civic organizations, as well as television and radio. Besides recounting the horrific tragedies, she adamantly voices her sense that although the Holocaust was conceived in the darkest chasms of humankind, "it is imperative that this not be what defines our Jewishness."



Pictured above (left to right) hostess & co-chair Carol Rothschild, author Vivian Orbach-Smith, Exec. VP of JFD Judy Wortman, Pres. of JFD Leslie Newman and Campaign co-chair Ruth Weinstein.

This was her plea as she poignantly addressed the annual Jewish Federation Lion of Judah dinner on December 11, 1997, held at the Greenville home of Carol and Steve Rothschild.

Twenty-five women, who are fully committed to keeping the Jewish community vibrant, were held spellbound as Orbach-Smith shared her father's story.

The Lion of Judah participants are Jewish women who have donated \$5,000.00 or more to the Jewish Federation of Delaware each year.

The dinner was co-chaired by Carol Rothschild and Ruth Weinstein, co-chair with Barry Kayne of the 1998 UJA Federation campaign.

Members of the Lion of Judah include: Phyllis Aeronson, Yetta Chaiken, Miriam Edell, Alice Epstein, Gloria Fine, Muriel E. Gilman, Frances Glenn, Leslie Goldenberg, Helaine Gordon, Clara Hollander, Sheila Inden, Francia Isakoff, Ellen Koniver, Amy Leviton, Elleñ S. Meyer, Doris R. Morris, Karen L. Morris, Carol Rothschild, Barbara Schoenberg, Charlotte Shapiro, Ruth Siegel, Arlene Simon, Patricia R. Sloan, Connie Sugarman, Karen Venezky, Ruth Weinstein, Diane Widder, Judy Wortman, Toni Young.

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PANIM EL PANIM



Elections Held at Hillel Student Center

The Hillel Student Center at University of Delaware held elections for Student Board for 1998 on Sunday, December 7th. The new officers are: President: Meredith Gordon; Vice-President: Andrew Gross; Secretary: Randi Fenichel; Treasurer: Matthew Schwartz; Parliamentarian: Marla Gilman; Ex-Officio: Mindi Albert; Membership Chair: Harris Jay;

Social Chair: Leah Brody; Religious Chair: Jeff Driban; Community Relations: Sara Levin; Social Actions Chair: Brian Cohen. The position of Kitchen Chair was not filled at the time of elections. The new officers were installed on Tuesday night and are already planning a great 1998 year. For more information call the Hillel Student Center at 453-0479.



Sheldon and Ruth Weinstein with author Rabbi David Aaron, who was lecturing on his new book "Endless Light."

JHSD To Hold Book Signing

The Jewish Historical Society of Delaware (JHSD) is very please to announce the publication of "A Social History of the West Second Street Jewish Community - Wilmington, Delaware 1930 - 1940."

Compiled by JHSD Board Member, Marvin S. Balick, this book contains 14 oral history interviews from people who lived on West Second Street or were daily visitors to the area. Also included are over 50 wonderful black & white photographs. Though the physical landscape of West Second Street has been radically altered over the years, this book captures the essence of what was, for many years, the center of the Jewish Community in Wilmington. "A Social History of the West Second Street Jewish Community ...", gives the reader insight into a way of life that is no more. For those who remember "Jewish Second Street," this book will bring many fond memories. For those too young to remember when West Second Street was a hub of Jewish activity, this book preserves an important piece of our Jewish Community history.

Copies of the book will be available for purchase at the "Book Signing" which will be held on January 25, 1998 from 2:00 to 4:00 at the Jewish Community Center Library. Come and pur-

chase a piece of "Wilmington's Jewish history," meet the author, and enjoy light refreshments.

For further information call the Jewish Historical Society at 655-6232.

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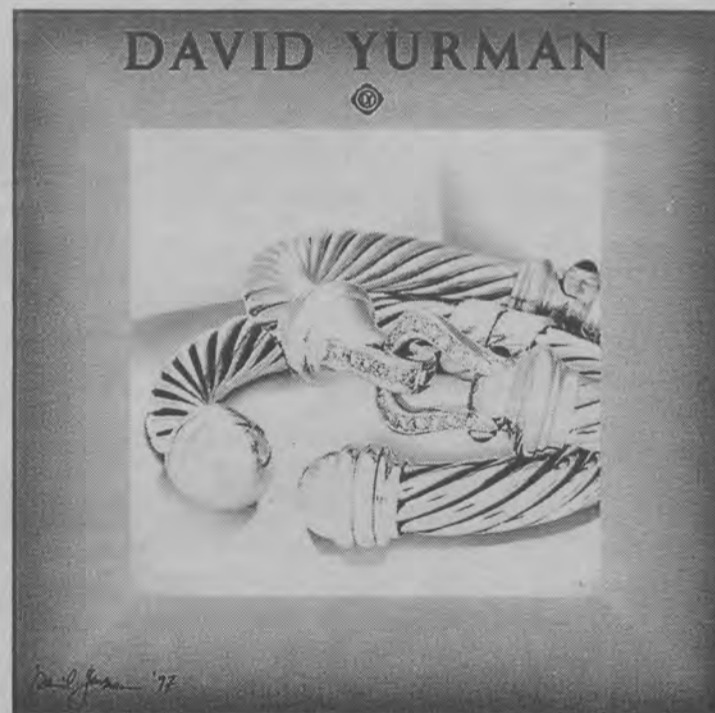
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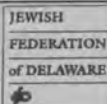
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PANIM EL PANIM



# Jewish Unity Headlines General Assembly

By **LESLIE NEWMAN**  
President JFD

Last month, I had the opportunity to attend the 66th General Assembly held in Indianapolis. The General Assembly is the national meeting for the Council of Jewish Federations and includes representation from the United States and Canada as well as leadership from Israel. Delaware was represented by Judy Wortman (Executive VP), Bernie Greenberg (Campaign Director), Marc Shandler (Endowment Director), Barbara Schoenberg (VP), Rick Geisenberg (Treasurer and winner of the 1997 Spiegel Young Leadership Award) and Suzanne Grant (Assistant Treasurer and winner of the 1996 Spiegel Young Leadership Award). In addition, we were sometimes joined by Alyson Rappaport, a Delawarean who attends George Washington University. The GA was an opportunity for study, exchange of ideas, cultural enrichment and learning. It was exhilarating. It reminded me of why I do what I do. It reminded me who I am. It reminded me how much I

have to learn. Each GA seems to have central themes. This year, the emphasis was on the integration of Judaism into our daily life and issues around Jewish unity. These issues represent what is high on agendas in our community and in other communities in North America. Arna Poupko, on staff at the Montreal Federation, was the first presenter at a session for intermediate size federation leadership. She has the rare opportunity to be their "Judaic Consultant" which means she assists the community to make decisions based upon Jewish laws, values and text. For example, if the Jewish Family Service is asked to take on a role with an individual that is traditionally assumed by a family member but extenuating circumstances make the decision unclear, Arna researches the issue from a Jewish perspective by providing Jewish text to frame the discussion. What a resource! What a luxury! Our group looked at a variety of texts that had implications for allocations. It was interesting to see how

many of the decisions we have made in this community are substantiated by Jewish texts. I will be sharing some of these with the Allocations Committee in January. Dennis Prager, a radio talk show host from Los Angeles, shared his own special view of Judaism. He believes that we are all Jews by choice and that our religion offers us the opportunity to enhance relationships with our children, find answers to social problems in our communities and help us know what is important in life. According to Prager, saying a blessing before eating implies gratitude and gratitude is an indicator of happiness. He keeps the Sabbath with his family by maintaining it as a day for shared worship, study and experiences, experiences that may include driving to a park to hike in addition to attending synagogue. The General Assembly also had many opportunities to view Jewish culture, certainly an important aspect of our daily lives. These included sessions with contemporary Jewish authors, viewing photography exhibits, seeing Jewish

theater and films. One highlight was the film, "A Life Apart: Hasidim in America" which is narrated by Leonard Nimoy. This wonderful documentary was shown in Philadelphia and will be seen on PBS. I also enjoyed a session with author, rabbi and psychiatrist Alexander Twerski, M.D. who discussed dealing with substance abuse and building self-esteem. This was an interesting perspective as I work for Children & Families First, a private social service agency. However, while all of the above was stimulating, the issue of Jewish unity permeated most sessions, both large and small. The media gave much coverage to the remarks made by Prime Minister Nentanyahu. While his speech was memorable for the long wait and heightened security, it certainly was not the high point of the assembly. We had the opportunity to hear Hon. Ehud Barak (leader of the Labor Party), Yaacov Ne'eman (Minister of Finance and Chairman of Special Prime Ministerial Committee on Jewish Unity)

Avraham Burg (Chairman of the Jewish Agency For Israel), Rabbi Donniel Hartman (Director of Education of the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem) and a panel comprising the leaders of three religious streams in the United States, Rabbi Eric Yoffie, Rabbi Jacob Rubenstein and Rabbi Jerome Epstein. In addition, the President of the Council of Jewish Federations, Dr. Conrad Giles, addressed the issue in his remarks. The Council of Jewish Federation/UJA is working tirelessly to forge a compromise that will keep us as one people. This is being done through advocacy, education and funding of programs that will enhance communication, and support diverse perspectives. CJF has brought Knesset members to the United States and let them witness first hand the depth of our commitment to varying forms of Judaism. They have presented the American Jewish perspectives to the Ne'eman Commission to promote better understanding and they have looked for other ways to

Continued on page 11

## Kids Page

### Beth Emeth Youth Center

The senior youth group BESTY, led by Social-Action vice-president, participated in Read-Aloud Delaware at the Concord Library. This will be an ongoing project. Also, a belated congratulations to all youth group members for raising 3620 lbs. of food during the High Holiday food Drive. BESTY will be having a shul-in on January 10-11, 1998, and will be inviting 7th and 8th graders of JR. BESTY to join them.

On Sunday, January 11th, JR. BESTY will be going to Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty. We will learn about early Jewish American immigration. On Saturday evening, January 24, 1998, our 5th and 6th graders of ETC. will join the JCC for Havdalah and a Pool Party. Our two younger youth groups, ITYGA (1st and 2nd graders) and JR. ETC. (3rd and 4th graders) will challenge the rabbis in our annual Rabbis' Bowl on Sunday, February 1, 1998.

In Religious School, our 3rd and 4th graders along with their parents had a pre-Chanukah tzedakah workshop. They designed t-shirts that were donated to a battered women and children shelter. In addition, they collected toiletries and other items to donate as gifts to the residents of the Milton and Hattie Kutz Home. Our 5th and 6th graders and their parents participated in a workshop with great social workers from Jewish Family Service about becoming teenagers. School is winding down for the Winter Break and we are looking forward to celebrating Chanukah with our loved ones.

By Jen Berry  
(BESTY Editor) and  
comments from students

### Teen Retreat

Temple Beth El invites teens in eighth through tenth grade to its eighth annual Confirmation class retreat at Camp Pinemere. The dates are January 30-February 1, 1998. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate Shabbat in the beautiful Poconos. The cost is \$45.00 including transportation, meals, snacks and housing. Reservations are due by January 11th to the Temple office. Call 366-8330 for more information. This trip is sponsored by Temple Beth El and the Newark Committee of Jewish Federation.

### Celebrate Shabbat with Rabbi David Wolfe-Blank at Temple Beth El

Temple Beth El will have as its guest Rabbi David Wolfe-Blank of Congregation Etiz Or of Seattle, Washington, on Friday, Jan. 9 and Saturday, Jan. 10. Explore the liturgy with Wolfe-Blank as he teaches new ways of interpreting our prayers and makes the words speak to us. Gain a greater and deeper understanding of Judaism.

Services are at 8:00 p.m. on Friday, January 9 and 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 10. There will be a Kiddush lunch on Saturday following services. Reservations for the lunch are due by January 2. Call the Temple office at 366-8330.

### Hanukkah Assembly

Temple Beth El's Religious School held its annual Hanukkah Assembly on Dec. 14th. The kindergarten sang "I'm A Dreidel." The first graders were dreidels in "Spin, Spin, Spin." The second graders danced and sang "Spin

Dreidel, Spin." The third and fourth graders sang the song "Mezuzah together. The fifth graders performed "In the Beginning," and the sixth and seventh graders sang "Hanukkah Menorah."

By Jocy Oster and  
Amanda Denmark

### Hanukkah Bazaar

The Hanukkah Bazaar took place on Dec. 14th. Children and parents were invited to play games and win prizes. Some of the games were: shooting candles out with a water gun, tic tac toe, bean bag throwing and basketball hoops. You could buy your game and craft tickets early. The 7th grade class volunteered to help with the games. The whole community was invited to come for this fun celebration.

By Denstman & Lindsay Swinger

### Children's Jewish Book Fair

Children were able to purchase books during Hebrew school and at the Hanukkah Bazaar. It was a great opportunity to buy gift books for the entire family, from baby books to biographies. Hanukkah fun to Jewish tall tales. All the books were set up to preview in our library and then in the social hall during the Bazaar.

By Erica Sontowski and  
Lisa Schonbach

### Needy Family Drive

Hebrew School students helped sort clothing and food for our Needy Family Drive. Each class was asked to bring in different food items: Aleph - cereal; Bet - soup, Gimmel - canned fruit; Dalet -

canned vegetables; Hay - rice or pasta; Confirmation - canned juice. There are 25 families and 75 children total that we are sponsoring this year. Everybody at the Temple is being cooperative and helping on the project. Each child in our adopted families is getting a winter outfit including a jacket, gloves, and hat and also some toys. Sy & Sydell Glassner and Ruth Wolfe are the heads of this project at our Temple.

By Kevin Danna, Zach Werde &  
Oren Breslouer

### Congregation Beth Shalom Gimel Class

The Gimel class is getting ready for their favorite holiday ... Hanukkah! We've played dreidel, talked about the Hanukkah story, and talked about the holiday itself. We're also getting ready for report cards. But we don't have to worry because we know we'll all do great.

Matt Davis and Steve Gold

### Aleph Class

The Aleph class has finished learning to read the Hebrew alphabet and are ready to lead Junior Congregation services. We made beautiful mosaic window decorations for Hanukkah.

Laura Ann Davis, Jeremy Dressler, Jeremy Harris, Sydney Stargatt, Jason Levin

Recently, the Hay teacher, Rabbi Goldblum, has taken short leaves of absence for business. When he was gone, we still worked on our prayers and Haftorahs. We also did arts and crafts, we watched *Fiddler on the Roof* and in the future we will be able to log onto Jewish Web sites. These activities are thoughts

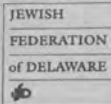
of Mrs. Spiegelman, our parent volunteer. She keeps us from misbehaving and keeps us on our toes so we don't get bored.

Written by Brandon Kovitz

### Pearl's Marigolds for Grandpa

Jane Breskin Zalben's Pearl is back, in a loving, reassuring very short book about the death of her grandfather. Zalben has a delicate touch, gently chronicling the myriad ways that Pearl recognizes different facets of her loss. The little girl puts her feet inside her grandfather's slippers and feels the worn-smooth places inside. She is angry and afraid and hurting. But at every turn, from her friends at school who hug her, to her father who promises to play checkers with her just as her grandfather had, her experience of loss is met with love and reassurance. In the

end, Pearl moves ahead, planting marigold seeds because it was a thing her grandfather would have done. There are five pages appended that briefly outline the death and burial customs of various faiths, to make this book more accessible to a wider audience, but it would have stood on its own without them. This is a rare thing, a wonderfully Jewish book that does not rely heavily on symbols or holidays, but is imbued with a 'nefesh' that shines through both pictures and text. Don't just consider this for a grieving child, for every child has questions about death. With the help of this little story, perhaps when the need arises, long years hence, working through the experience to peace will be that little bit easier.



# PANIM EL PANIM



## Jewish Unity

Continued from page 10

advocate. In this issue of the Voice you will also find a statement that can be signed and sent to CJF who will forward it to the Ne'aman Commission in Israel.

CJF/UJA, which is now a partnership, has created an opportunity for increased giving to the religious streams in Israel. Individuals may give a gift above their 1997

pledge and designate it to one of the streams. This goal is to raise \$10 million for each stream: Reform, Conservative and Orthodox. Our Federation Board discussed this issue at the December meeting and will vote on how our community will address this subject at our January meeting. Please feel free to share your input.

In his remarks, Rabbi Hartman stressed that Israelis and American Jews need to stop viewing this as a local vs. overseas issue. Both must

see us as a united people. There are differences in experience, differences in perspective and differences in the concept of religious tolerance. All will require educa-

tion. "I encourage you to visit Israel. Go on a mission. go with your family or friends. Go with a tour. Go with your rabbi. Go on your own. Next year's General

Assembly will be held in Jerusalem in honor of Israel's 50th Birthday.

Consider it. Next year in Jerusalem.

An article, written by Rabbi David Hartman who heads the

Shalom Hartman Institute and is the father of Donniel Hartman, was distributed at the GA and is included in this issue of the Voice.



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### One Woman's Opinion:

# Preview of Upcoming 1998 Entertainment

By PAULA SHULAK  
Cultural Arts Critic

Just a short review this week of some of the cultural events in store for us during the first half of 1998!

Watch for interviews in this column with several members of the Jewish community who have distinguished themselves in various facets of the arts, including music, dance and theater. We will begin in January with University of Delaware Professor of Music, Michael Zinn, who has made a unique contribution – the establishment of an authentic GEMELAN known as Lake of the Silver Bear, one of only 4 on the entire East Coast. The story of how he

became entranced by this form of Indonesian music is fascinating. If you are intrigued, you can attend a GEMELAN concert in May!

Another artistic leader, this time in the field of classical dance, is Marsha Borin, Executive Director of the Russian Ballet Theater. If you have never seen this magnificent troupe, you are missing a marvelous dance experience. We hope to interview Marsha early in the year prior to their February 14 and 15 performances, which will feature Disco Magic, Romeo and Juliet (which I have seen once and enjoyed tremendously) and Spartacus.

On Sunday, April 5, the JCC is

sponsoring a trip to Broadway to see the new musical, *Ragtime*, based on E.L. Doctorow's epic novel about life and politics in America on the brink of World War I. There are several Jewish themes woven throughout this plot which will be of special interest to members of our community. Also currently playing in New York is a brand new version of the timeless *Diary of Anne Frank*. From what I am told, even if you have seen this story on stage and on film, there are many new elements which have been added. A third Broadway show with Jewish overtones is *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*, written by Alfred Uhry. Miss Daisy fame. I hope to catch

this over the holidays and write a more in-depth review for you soon.

Finally, on the local scene, two upcoming events in the Newark area may be of interest. On February 6 and 7, Temple Beth El and the Jewish Federation are bringing Hannah Tiferet Siegel to Delaware for Shabbat. Noted as a Cantor and songwriter, *Hannah Tiferet* brings her special melodic interpretations and beautiful voice to our state as she makes the prayers in our liturgy take on new meaning and significance in our lives. Most of us are familiar with Debbie Friedman and the contributions she has made to modern Jewish music. *Hannah Tiferet* takes us one step further in our

spiritual search. Second, if I may plug my own work, Chapel Street Theater will present *Lost in Yonkers* (which I am honored to direct) opening on February 20. This Neil Simon classic has been seen at the Playhouse and also on the screen, but this will be the first local production in Delaware. I have been lucky to assemble a fine cast, and if you have never had a chance to see this heart wrenching story of a Jewish family caught in the currents of the 1940s, I hope you will make an effort to see it now. It is a magnificent work by one of this country's most prolific and perceptive Jewish playwrights.

Here's to a full cultural life in 1998!

# Jews 44 Times More Likely to Win Prizes

By E.E. JAFFE PhD

Special to *The Jewish Voice*

The controversial book by Richard J. Herenstein and Charles Murray entitled *The Bell Curve (Intelligence and Class Structure in American Life)* which was on the best-seller list for months and sold more than 400,000 copies, shows that on average the IQ of blacks in the United States is lower than that of whites. Of course, it does not particularly matter that these groups differ since individuals, not group differences, are the important thing in life, and most blacks, like most whites, are of middle IQ. It is believed by many experts in the field that these dif-

ferences are temporary and susceptible to leveling over time. It is, however, noteworthy that from a group point of view the book states that Asian Americans' IQs are higher than those of whites, and that "Ashkenazy Jews of European origin" are highest of all. The authors believe that these traits are of a genetic origin and that environment and schooling have only a modest influence on their intelligence. Although many social critics have vigorously disagreed with the conclusions in *The Bell Curve*, the findings nevertheless correlate well with the fact that even though Jews constitute only 2.5% of the US population they have won 32% of

all Nobel Science Prizes since the prize was established in 1899. The surprising statistical data is not limited to the United States, Jews have won more Nobel Science Prizes per capita than any other religious or ethnic group in the world. Recently (in 1996), a comprehensive study of the subject was published under the title "Comets, Jews and Christians" by J. Hulley. He documents that 22% of all Nobel Science Prizes from 1901 to 1990 were won by Jews. Jews are about 44 times,

more likely to win such prizes than they should on a per capita basis. The more than 20% of the prizes won by Jews is not a statistical

break since it stretches over 89 years when the Jewish population averaged about 0.5% of the total world population. This is an extremely interesting statistic which defies an easy fundamental explanation.

Most of the prizes, 64%, are won by Protestants and only 11% of these prizes were won by Catholics. It is important to note that Jewish performance is overwhelmingly better in Protestant countries than in countries where the predominant population is Catholic. A very smart Jew living in Russia has a much lower chance to create something original. No Jew has won a Science Nobel Prize while living in Israel. Apparently, Jews do best when interacting with Protestants. This also appears to help Catholics who have won a modest number of Nobel Science Prizes mostly when living and creating in Protestant countries. One common thread that exists between Judaism and Protestantism is a culture of fairness. This is conducive, in light of other Jewish attributes, to achievement and consequent recognition. Although religions have been invoked in the discussion, most of the Jewish prize winners were not or are not religious. However, the tradition of learning within the Jewish family originated with the study of the Bible, which has since been superseded by a variety of secular and philosophical studies.

In an attempt to find physical causes for outstanding performance in the sciences, some have resorted to anatomical studies. In the spring of 1955, the Nobel Laureate and a man universally identified with the word genius died at Princeton Hospital in New Jersey. The reference, of course, is to Albert Einstein. His body was cremated but not his brain. It was preserved and studied. It weighed a

mediocre 2.66 pounds. Obviously, brain size or weight has little to do with greatness, at least in this case. The investigators of the brain proposed more subtle ways of searching for the secret of genius. They measured density of blood vessels, percentages of critical cells, degree of neuronal branching. Decades passed. Microscopic slides of Einstein's brain have been analyzed by a multitude of experts. By the 1990's, no secrets have been uncovered, a testament to the elusiveness of the quality called genius. All findings were inconclusive. There were no indications why Einstein achieved so much and is considered an icon of intellectual power. By inference, it is assumed that the same applies to many other highly creative people. Nor is there a reasonable explanation why, as the pool of available humans has risen from 100 million to a billion and to five billion, the production of true geniuses like Newton, Mozart and Einstein, seemingly has declined significantly. To be sure, Nobel Science Prizes are being awarded every year, the caliber of recipients though high is frequently far from the designation of genius.

It would appear that genetic predisposition passed on from past generations together with a desire to learn, to invent, to create and apply extraordinary imagination, combined with appropriate opportunities has given Jewish scientists a disproportionately commanding position. Nobel Laureates are just the tip of the iceberg. Jews have generally excelled in the exact sciences, in medicine and related fields. Assuming no fundamental changes in the world order, future Jewish scientists can look forward to making significant and important contributions in their chosen fields of endeavor.

# Klezmer CD Has Soul

Reviewed By  
MARC SHANDLER, Esq.

The last several years have seen a revival of the traditional Jewish music of Eastern Europe, klezmer. Made popular because of its ability to get crowds into exuberant ecstatic dance, klezmer music has become the darling of many cutting edge jazz musicians without Jewish roots.

Kol Simcha, a klezmer group from Switzerland, explores the more introspective side of Klezmer on its recently released "Klezmer Soul," a compilation of slow, introspective pieces from its first four

albums. Through the marvelous combination of clarinet, piano, bass, percussion and even the strings of the Sinfonietta de Lausanne, the klezmer of Kol Simcha evokes the heartache and anguish of the Jewish heart, and provides a soothing balm.

One of the most beautiful pieces, entitled "Ha-Kotel" (which is the Hebrew name for the Western Wall in Jerusalem) brings to mind memories of the late 19th century Jewish settlers of Palestine, called the halutzim. In grand, sweeping gestures, the music seems to tell a story of aliyah, hard work and yearning for the land. One could imagine this song being the theme song of a major motion picture about this early settlement.

The CD includes a re-working of one of the traditional melodies associated with Psalm 126. The piece is entitled Shir Ha-Ma'lot.

While that term is generically applied to many of the psalms, it is often used to refer to Psalm 126, which is chanted before the singing of the Birkat Ha-Mazon (the blessing after the meal) on Shabbat and holidays. The length of this clarinet rendition is 1:26 – an eery coincidence or intentional?

Most of the work on this CD seems to tell a story. "Jerusalem," using a Middle-Eastern beat, incorporates the rhythms of Israeli folk dancing with klezmer undertones to tell the story of multi-ethnic Jerusalem. "Shabbes" begins grandly, in a manner reminiscent of Stravinsky. Through the music one can visualize the family gathering together around the Shabbat table, as the music heralds the arrival of the Shabbat and Queen.

Klezmer Soul would be a welcome addition to fans of jazz, klezmer, and just good old soulful music.

Are you concerned about the future of the Jewish Community in Delaware? Marc Shandler wants to speak with you. Call him at 427-2100, Ext. 19.

ARTS • BOOKS • ENTERTAINMENT

# Hear O' Israel

By STEVE COHEN

Just as the Israel Philharmonic orchestra was formed in advance of the independence of the Jewish state, so now is that orchestra marking the 50th anniversary of Israel well before the actual anniversary date.

The commemoration is taking place, appropriately, here in the Delaware Valley January 24 with a concert that puts the Israel Philharmonic and the Philadelphia Orchestra on stage together, and has music directors Zubin Mehta and Wolfgang Sawallisch sharing the podium. Appropriately, because the Jewish orchestra has always had close ties with this area, and its concert hall is named for the late Philadelphia philanthropist Fredric R. Mann.

Although the Israel Philharmonic is making other stops in the United States in January, this is its only concert where another orchestra and another conductor are honoring the Israelis by appearing jointly. In addition, big-name performers will be guest stars: Isaac Stern, Sarah Chang, Kathleen Battle, Tony Bennett, Leonard Nimoy and

Barbara Walters.

The gala event, entitled *Hear O Israel: Israel at 50*, takes place at the CoreStates Center in Philadelphia. Following the concert, a gala party will be held for several thousand guests and all the performers. In addition, thousands more will be able to participate by attending a closed-circuit live telecast sponsored by United Jewish Appeal.

The evening will commemorate the history and achievements of the past five decades with music, drama and multi-media interaction. Each orchestra will perform individually and in concert with the soloists during the first two-thirds of the evening. Then, after a live satellite feed from Israel has been established one of the orchestras will ceremoniously move from its position on the floor of the arena to take seats onstage within the combined orchestra setting. The Philadelphia Orchestra will be in white tie and jacket, the Israel Philharmonic in black tie and jacket.

The Israel Philharmonic was founded by refugees from Hitler's

Germany in 1937 as the Palestine Philharmonic. Arturo Toscanini, an outspoken, anti-Fascist, was guest conductor for the orchestras first concert. During Israel's War for Independence, Leonard Bernstein was a frequent conductor, appearing within shooting distance of enemy troops.

Zubin Mehta, whose career was sponsored partly by Fredric Mann, gladly responded to requests that he lead the Israel Philharmonic at many important concerts during the 1960's and 1970's. Although not Jewish, Mehta has such close ties with Jewish musicians that he even served as best man at the Orthodox wedding of pianist-conductor Daniel Barenboim and the late cellist Jacqueline DuPre. While his career thrived in Los Angeles, New York, Vienna and elsewhere, Mehta also was given the unique position of conductor for life of the Israel Philharmonic.

Isaac Stern, born in Russia and raised in San Francisco, has earned a reputation as one of the worlds great humanitarians. For many years he served as co-chairman - with Mrs. Jan Peerce - of the

American-Israel Cultural Foundation, which brought young Israeli musicians and artists to the United States and sponsored their development. Itzhak Perlman, Pinchas Zuckerman and Barenboim are among the many recipients of this help.

Stern also was the leader of the successful campaign to save and restore Carnegie Hall, and he serves as its chairman. His esteemed career as a violinist is worldwide, but he has made more appearances and recordings with the Philadelphia Orchestra under conductor Eugene Ormandy than with any other.

Sarah Chang has been chosen as a soloist for the gala because she represents the new generation of great musicians from the Greater Philadelphia area. The 16-year-old violinist has several solo CDs and also has recorded the Paganini concerto with Sawallisch and the Philadelphians. Tony Bennett's part of the gala will be as singer of a medley of songs by Americas great Jewish songwriters.

Leonard Nimoy is remembered by trekkies as the *kohane* who

used his own family's symbol of benediction to create what's now known as the Vulcan "hand sign." Barbara Walters has been chosen, like Sarah Chang, because of her ties with the Delaware Valley. She was married to the late producer and Music Fair partner Lee Guber. In fact, the same year that the State of Israel was born, Walters, Guber and their colleagues were shoveling dirt in nearby Devon to lay the foundations for the new Valley Forge Music Fair.

Wolfgang Sawallisch grew up in Germany during the Nazi era and was drafted to serve in the German army. After the war he became an esteemed pianist and conductor and has become active in publicizing the music composed in concentration camps by Jewish musicians who were about to be killed.

Sawallisch told me last year: "I want to do good things to forget the shame of that terrible time. Music brings people together. Music has power to open hearts, to bring joy, to bring light into our lives. I live for music. Music can bring beauty and consolation to people who are hurting."

# Voicing The Void: Muteness & Memory in Holocaust Fiction

By HENRY HUTTENBACH

Sara Horowitz, *Voicing the Void: Muteness and Memory in Holocaust Fiction* (Albany, State University of New York Press, 1997) 226pp. Notes, References, Index.

How does one give literary expression to genocide? To annihilation? To being ground to nothingness? How does one cloak in words the physical and spiritual extermination that was the Final Solution, and especially the memories of Survivor-Witnesses? What expressions are adequate for the humiliation, the torture, the deaths by mass murder, calculated and mechanized? This question has haunted many a post-Auschwitz writer who hears the muffled screams of the unburied millions and listens to the unvoiced cries of the survivors. If the witnesses of the Holocaust are left essentially speechless by the insufficiency of language, then how much greater is the dilemma of non-survivor authors seeking to capture the spirit of the Shoah.

Professor Sara Horowitz has found an answer in the concept of muteness. Muteness lies midway between overt articulation and abject silence. Through the literary imagination, muteness becomes audible if extraneous sounds are pushed aside. It is the always quiet - not silent! - and painful, pregnant memory given gentle voice by those aware that verbal pyrotechnics to portray dying and death in Auschwitz call for whispers, not shouts. At first, for example, Elie Wiesel called for absolute silence, and then relented and called for parables (muted anecdotes) as his device.

In her superb study, Professor

Horowitz surveys the world of imagination in the service of the Holocaust and in the transformation of muteness into a coherent system for dealing with the brutal images of the Final Solution. She also surveys the efforts of survivors struggling to transpose their own silenced memories into authentic written statements. The result is a study approaching brilliance of the dynamics generated by the Holocaust's encounter with literature.

Gratifyingly, Horowitz does not restrict herself to fiction and poetry, but includes film in her search for references to illustrate various forms of muteness. Surprisingly, she omits any mention of Steven Spielberg's "Schindler's List" which, it would seem, is an example *par excellence* of the crude absence of muteness. The film represents a stark illustration of what happens when the omission of ambiguity leads to sheer emotive noise and egregious simplification (not to mention the outright forgeries in the film's depiction of Schindler himself).

In reviewing academically this at times brilliant and always compassionate book, which ranges through a wide spectrum of Holocaust-related topics, there is one serious problem that needs to be mentioned. It is the unmistakable imbalance between the treatment of Elie Wiesel and Primo Levi. This may strike American readers steeped in Wieseliana as a peculiar observation because for most of them, academic and layman alike, Levi remains a remote personality, scarcely known and largely unread. To the majority of American Jews, Wiesel remains the quintessential embodiment of the dilemma - to speak or to

remain silent, to let silence speak for both the dead victims and the survivors, with the almost-lone voice that of the "authentic" and "authoritative" words of Elie Wiesel. On this side of the Atlantic, Wiesel is not only part of the canon; he is almost a patron saint. In contrast, the highly cerebral writings of Levi are cited on occasion but rarely found on college Holocaust course reading lists. That is because Levi's cultural home is in Europe, where his erudite breadth is preferred to Wiesel's repetitive (and too often self-promoting) emotionalism. If anyone deserves the accolade "Master of Muteness" it is Primo Levi.

In Horowitz's case a quantification of references to both authors makes the point: while Levi is mentioned somewhat *en passant* on about fifteen pages, Wiesel is highlighted in almost eighty, becoming an undeserved central figure in the drama of muteness she explores. Wiesel serves as an example for over 20 topics, whereas Levi warrants no such subtitles in the book's index. Wiesel's writings are broadly sampled; those by Levi are given but a narrow sampling (only books translated into English are to be found in the bibliography).

This said, it is by no means a rebuke of the author, who in fairness should not be faulted by what she did not do. Nevertheless, the positioning of Primo Levi as a relatively minor figure in the context of the dynamics of muteness is not only a missed opportunity but a wrong judgment. Horowitz's book would have been all the richer had she made more room for the brilliant insights of Levi, whose star in the constellation of Survivors/Authors will ultimately shine far brighter than Wiesel's already-dim-

ming planet, much of whose reflected light emanates from his adoring but not always widely-read admirers.

Fiction on and memory of the Holocaust live in the perpetually tense company of one another. Both have their own separate rules: Fiction must bow first to the dictates of verisimilitude and not necessarily to historical accuracy, while Holocaust memory strives for precision - for absolute integrity to the details of the event retained and recalled. Yet memory is constantly and remorselessly subject to the twin erosions of time and subjective perception. The potent power of the creative imagination and the unavoidable weakening of memory conspire against historic accuracy and integrity. Hence the enormous temptation to exaggerate the Holocaust theme when understatement would always be the better path to take by the way of the muted voice.

As Horowitz demonstrates in her admirable exploration of the Holocaust in fiction, the quieter the reference to that event, the closer does the author transport the reader to the realities of that genocide of yesteryear. As in music, it is not the decibel count that transports us - the fortissimo pounding of tympanies and the metallic clashes of cymbals (or, for that matter, the sounds of machine guns and screams of the dying as in "Schindler's List"), but the whispered pianissimo sounds of muted trumpets and strings. In their search to capture the Holocaust in words, authors must follow the law of opposites. The piercing howls of the tortured must be voiced in barely audible syllables, damped but searing like a laser beam, so the naked words become indelibly stamped on the readers' psyche,



Sara Horowitz

never to be forgotten, as with the graphic imagery in Dante's *Inferno*. For in the end, as Horowitz wisely concludes, one role of literature (as with history) is the preservation of scraps of memory, the winning of the eternal battle against forgetfulness. To her credit, Horowitz lets Levi have the last word, but disappointingly leaves his profoundly complex thoughts unexplored, as if their meanings were as self-evident as is usually the case with the two-dimensional Wiesel.

This is unquestionably a powerful, stimulating, and provocative book that no student of the Holocaust (or other genocides) or of literature should leave unread. It goes to the very heart of what literature is, could be, and should be when it confronts evil. To Professor Horowitz, kudos!

The reviewer is Professor of History at the City College of New York, and Editor in Chief of *Nationalities Papers* and founder editor of *The Genocide Forum*. A recognized expert on the Holocaust, he has written and spoken extensively on this theme in the United States, Europe, and Israel.



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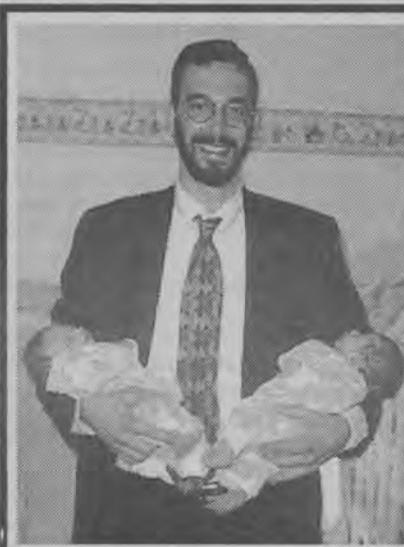
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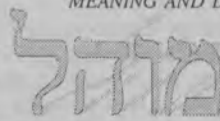
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# Mark J. Caplan Memorial Established

By **CONNIE KRESHTOOL**

The Jewish Community Center announces the establishment of the Mark J. Caplan Memorial Maccabi Youth Fund to honor the memory of Mark J. Caplan and to recognize his inspired and dedicated leadership. Mark Caplan served as President of the JCC from 1992 to 1994 and as a member of its Board of Directors from 1988 until his death in 1997.

The Fund will provide scholarships for Jewish teens, ages 13-16, to compete in the annual Maccabi Youth Games held each year in

North America and in the JCC Maccabi Israel Sports Spectacular, a four-week teen trip to Israel.

The Maccabi Youth Games are modeled after the international amateur competition for Jewish athletes, the Maccabiah Games, which are held every four years in Israel. The Maccabi World Movement is dedicated to bringing Jewish youth together in an atmosphere of sportsmanship, democracy and peace.

More than 4,500 Jewish teens from centers around the country compete in a variety of sporting

events from chess to in-line hockey. There is also an opportunity for participants to engage in social and cultural events and in community service. Plans are underway to develop a team and support individuals from Delaware for participation in the 1998 Games in Detroit.

This scholarship program captures, in a creative way, Mark Caplan's passion for sports and his great interest in young people. Following his graduation from college and before entering law school, Mark Caplan coached basketball at

Haddonfield High School leading his team to a New Jersey State Championship. During his presidency of the JCC, he strengthened the sports program and helped inaugurate the Sports Classic spe-

cial event.

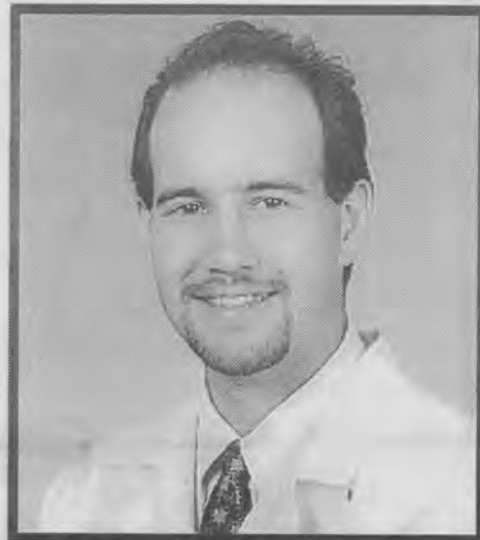
Those wishing to make contributions to The Mark J. Caplan Memorial Youth Maccabi Fund should address them to the Jewish Community Center.

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## SYNAGOGUE LIFE

### "The Rothschilds" at Beth Emeth

The Special Events Committee of Congregation Beth Emeth is pleased to sponsor a performance of "The Rothschilds," a Tony Award winning musical, starring Bernie Dean. The show will be given on January 10, 1998, at 7:30 p.m. in Beth Emeth's Auditorium at 300 West Lea Boulevard, Wilmington, Delaware.

This exciting Broadway hit was written by the same people who gave us "Fiddler on the Roof". The story is an inspiring tale based upon Frederic Morton's book about the remarkable Rothschild family. Two hundred years ago, the Rothschild dynasty began in poverty in the Frankfurt ghetto. There was a struggle for survival with little hope. For Mayer Rothschild, there was a belief, a determination, a conviction. In this fascinating Jewish musical, Bernie Dean, through drama and song, recreates the birth of this dynasty and the five Rothschild sons who rose to strike down the ghetto walls. No other family has had anything like their wealth, influence and prestige. No other family has contained such varied and spectacular personalities. They created the modern concept of international finance. They built Europe's first railroads, and colonized Palestine. It was a Rothschild to whom the Balfour Declaration personally

promised the formation of modern Israel.

Bernie Dean brings it all to life in his one-man show. He sings the complete musical score and narrates, playing the main characters using different voices and characterizations. Dean's production maintains the story line unbroken and is as compelling as the original. The show has received rave reviews all over the country. He gets a standing ovation wherever he performs.

Dean comes from a family of rabbis, cantors and Jewish scholars. His mother's first cousin was Menachem Begin, the late Prime Minister of Israel. As a child, he was steeped in the music and traditions of Judaism. His youthful talent led him to perform as a soloist with many great cantors and as a featured singer every week on New York's Jewish music station WEVD. In more recent years, Dean has performed in summer stock musicals, TV commercials and in numerous concert appearances here and abroad. Currently, his production of "The Rothschilds" is enjoying a successful national tour.

The program is planned for January 10th at 7:30 p.m., with January 17th available as a snow date. Following the show, the audience is invited to enjoy a

Viennese dessert and fruit bar and a gourmet coffee bar. For those who prefer them, soft drinks will also be available. Address your ticket requests to Esther Timmeney, 2818 Landon Drive, Wilmington, DE 19810. Tickets ordered by January 3rd are \$18.00 each. Please make checks payable to "Congregation Beth Emeth." Tickets may also be purchased at the door on the evening of the performance for \$20.00 each. If you need a ride, wish to arrange for a babysitter during the show, or have any questions about the event please call Esther Timmeney at

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## ARTS • BOOKS • ENTERTAINMENT

## Julian Preisler's Pioneer American Synagogues

**Pioneer American Synagogues A State by State Guide Revised and Updated Edition Compiled by Julian H. Preisler Heritage Books, 1997, \$17.00**

Reviewed by **MARVIN CYTRON**

How many times when traveling across this country that you check into your hotel room and with some spare time on your hands your pick up the local phone directory and begin Jewish geography ??? First you look up your family name, then browse the directory for Jewish "sounding" names and then finally you turn to the classified "yellow" pages and look up Synagogues. And lo and behold, here in the middle of nowhere there are not only Jews but they have a Synagogue right here in

North Dakota (B'nai Israel, 1891, Fargo), Iowa (Temple Emanuel, 1861, Davenport), and Mississippi (Temple B'nai Israel, 1843, Natchez).

This revised edition by local historian/genealogist, Julian Preisler, is a compilation of the oldest existing synagogue in each of the 50 states and D.C., and a brief but interesting history of Jewish organization and life in each state. There is also a listing of early Jews of the state, and the founding members of these pioneer synagogues.

Represented are some of the historical and well known synagogues most notably Congregation Shearith Israel, The Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue, New York City (1654), Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim, Charleston, South

Carolina (1794), and Rhode Island's Touro Synagogue (1759). But it is the lesser known synagogues, their history and development, that provides a panorama of Jewish settlement in America.

Yes, there is a Jewish community in South Dakota. With the discovery of gold in the Black Hills in 1874 and homestead settlement in the 1860's many Jews moved into the territory. The earliest Jewish community was in Deadwood with other settlements in Aberdeen, Sioux Falls, Mitchell and Lead. Today the pioneer synagogue is Mount Zion in Sioux Falls founded in 1919. And in Montana, Butte's first mayor, Henry Jacobs, elected in 1879 was Jewish, and a few years later Temple B'nai Israel was established in that city. In Salt Lake City, Utah the pioneer synagogue is Kol Ami (1878) where this reviewer and his young bride attended their first Rosh Hashana service together over 40 years ago. The newest of these pioneer synagogues is Congregation Beth Shalom, Anchorage, Alaska founded in 1958 one of three synagogues on "The Last Frontier".

Most "First Staters" know that our pioneer synagogue is Wilmington's Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Synagogue (1885) but a lesser known historical fact, that Mr. Preisler provides, is that of the thirteen original colonies Delaware was second (after New York) to legally admit Jews.

This easy to read book also pro-

vides illustrations of nearly 30 synagogue buildings both of historical and new design. This is a pot-pourri of domed, Moorish, Greek Revival and neo-classical design. One of the most attractive of these illustrations is Congregation Ahavath Beth Israel (1895), Boise, Idaho. Theirs is the oldest synagogue building in continuous use west of the Mississippi - a building of Romanesque design with Moorish influence incorporating a circular rose window in the facade. And for those readers who like to add to their Jewish trivia knowledge the most popular name of these early synagogues is "Emanu El".

Mr. Preisler, is a child of Holocaust Survivors, and has been student of Jewish history, architecture, and historic preservation

since his youth. He is a graduate of the University of Florida and Mary Washington College in Virginia and is currently Archivist for the Jewish Historical Society of Delaware, and a free lance genealogist. **Pioneer American Synagogues** also provides information of community Jewish cemeteries of historical significance, and concludes with a listing of Jewish Genealogical & Historical Societies.

For the amateur genealogist, students of Jewish life in early America, and the Jewish traveler this is a handy reference and valuable guide. **Pioneer American Synagogues** is available at Borders Books, Concord Pike, and Ninth Street Books, downtown Wilmington.

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*Love Letters* chronicles some 50 years in the lives of its protagonists, two wealthy WASPs - the analytical, intellectual Andrew Makepeace Ladd III and the spontaneous, eccentric Melissa Gardner - as they sit side by side at a table and read their letters to each other, charting the vicissitudes of their lives. The play begins with a childhood birthday invitation and ends with a letter of condolence.

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**Marvin Hamlisch Entertains**

The 21st Grand Gala, the annual fund-raising event for The Grand Opera House, will star award-winning entertainer Marvin Hamlisch and the Delaware Symphony Orchestra as the headliner on Friday, January 16, 1998, at 8:30

p.m. Major sponsors for this event are Delmarva Power and Light, DuPont, MBNA, and Star Enterprise.

Following the performance, bagpipers on Market Street Mall will skirl as guests promenade over to

a gala party with spectacular food and more great entertainment at the Hotel DuPont until 2:00 a.m. Featured entertainers will be Chubby Checker and the Wildcats in the Gold Ballroom, sponsored by First USA; Samoset Jazz in the DuBarry Room, sponsored by Zeneca Inc.; Minas, a salsa band, in the Grill, sponsored by CoreStates Bank, N.A.; pianist Howard Campbell in the Lobby Lounge, sponsored by Helmark Steel; and strolling artists, sponsored by ICI Americas Inc., in the Main Lobby. PNC Bank is the sponsor for the Green Room.

Tickets for the black-tie event are \$500, \$300 and \$225 per person. For tickets and more information, contact Jennifer Mackey or Christina Sonchen at (302) 658-7897.

Hamlisch, a graduate of both The Juilliard School of Music and Queens College, is the Principal Pops Conductor of the Pittsburgh Symphony and Baltimore Symphony Orchestras. He has conducted the New York Philharmonic, Boston Pops, London Symphony and Royal Philharmonic Orchestras. He served as Musical Director and arranger for Barbra Streisand's 1994 concert tour of the United States and England and of the tele-

vision special "Barbra Streisand: The Concert," for which he won two Emmys. He also composed and

conducted the score for Streisand's 1996 film *The Mirror Has Two Faces*.

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**Theodore Bikel**  
**Receives Award**

Theodore Bikel, a true renaissance man of the arts, will receive the first Lifetime Achievement Award in the Arts from the National Foundation for Jewish Culture (NFJC). The Award will be given at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, December 16, at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City.

Throughout his career, Bikel has also felt a particular responsibility to Jewish life, the Jewish community, and Jewish cultural institutions, and his leadership in the Soviet Jewry movement and as a vice-president of the American Jewish Congress have distinguished him as a Jewish activist. Bikel's profound impact on Jewish culture is recognized by his chairmanship of the NFJC's Artistic Advisory Committee and leadership of the NFJC's efforts to develop the Jewish Endowment for the Arts and Humanities.

Active for many years in the civil rights movement, Bikel was also an elected delegate to the 1968 Democratic Convention in Chicago. He served as President of the Actors' Equity Association (1973-82), as a Vice President of the International Federation of Actors (IFA), (1981-1991), as a Board Member of Amnesty International (USA), and by Presidential appointment, as a member of the National Council on the Arts (1977-82). He is currently the President of the Associated Actors and Artistes of America (4A's), a Board Member of Americans for the Arts (formerly ACA) and a Senior Vice President of the American Jewish Congress.



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# Building Community Through Professional Guidance: A Portrait of Jewish Family Services

By DORY ZATUCHNI  
Executive Director

Jewish Family Service is the most enduring Jewish institution in Delaware. Its history is so long that the present has actually been obscured by the past. Members of the community still believe that JFS's primary mission is to provide financial aid to immigrants. With a little prodding, community members will remember that the elderly are also served.

But targeting less than ten percent of the Jewish community creates a skewed portrait. It negates the very essence of the agency. JFS's mission is to *preserve and strengthen Jewish family life*, not part of it but all of it. From generation to generation, from issue to issue, Jewish Family Service provides stability, security and solutions within a Jewish context for the entire community.

Challenges and transitions encourage families, recognize behaviors alleviated by its clinical social workers. Through their therapeutic skills and compassion, they help individuals, including adolescents, couples and families recognize behaviors and attitudes that will enhance the quality of their lives. Collectively, they represent over 45 years of professional training and services.

Helene Rudnick received her MSW degree from Rutgers University Graduate School of Social Work and completed additional training in psychotherapy for the Post Graduate Center for Mental Health in New York. She is a member of the Academy of Certified Social Workers and is licensed as a clinical social worker in Delaware.

She has been a member of JFS's counseling staff since 1973, working primarily in its **Family Counseling** Department. She counsels individuals and couples on issues including marital problems, adjustment to separation and divorce, premarital and single adult relationships, individual adjustment problems, as well as those coping with depressing and anxiety due to crisis situations in their lives.

All of her efforts at JFS are aimed toward strengthening and empowering the clients to solve

present problems, promote growth and change and develop more effective ways of coping in the future.

Jan Weiss is the **Director of Services for Adolescents** and a psychotherapist. She provides counseling and supervises services for adolescents and their families at JFS, at area schools in the Red Clay and Christina School District, and other community center locations in the Wilmington and Newark area. She also develops and facilitates workshops and educational series at area synagogues and other locations in the community.

Weiss received a Master's in Social Service from Bryn Mawr Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research. She received a Bachelor of Arts Degree, Summa Cum Laude, from the University of Delaware. Her training includes experience in both the Intensive Adolescent Treatment Program and Children's Sliding Fee Scale Program at Tressler Centers of Delaware. Other work experience includes psychotherapist and workshop leader in the Community Counseling Program at Tressler and crisis intervention specialist at Brandywine Project, a program that serves at-risk adolescents and their families.

Weiss has received additional post-graduate training in couples counseling, and has completed professional training and certification as a parent educator for families dealing with separation and divorce. She is licensed as a clinical social worker.

Becky Laster received her Master's Degree in Social Service from Bryn Mawr Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research. She was honored with the Mary Montague Award for Excellence in Clinical Social Work. She received her Bachelor of Arts Degree from Princeton University, specializing in **counseling children and adolescents** dealing with such behaviors as depression, anxiety, anger, low self-esteem, short attention span and hyperactivity.

JFS provides a comprehensive network of services for the elderly

promoting independence and dignity. From assessments to case management, family consultation to accessing home health aides, from bereavement counseling to value enhancement, the clinical social workers are requested throughout the state.

Martha Frost has served as JFS's **specialist for the elderly and their families** since 1993. She earned her Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Pennsylvania and worked with older adults in both community and hospital settings prior to coming to JFS. She is experienced in counseling older adults with depression, anxiety, and bereavement issues, as well as consulting with families regarding long term care concerns. Frost also provides case management and has presented programs on positive aging, memory, relaxation, long term care and grandparenting.

Sharon Fisher earned a Master's Degree in Social Service at Bryn Mawr College of Social Work and Social Research and a Master of Arts in International Communication from American University. Within JFS's Services to the Aged, she provides clients with counseling, case management and assessments. Her **areas of expertise include grief, loss, bereavement and life transitions**. She previously worked with Hospice. She has developed and presented numerous workshops on conflict resolution and stress management.

Samantha Malinger received her Master's Degree from Widener University's School of Social Work. She currently provides **counseling and resource development to the elderly population** residing at B'nai B'rith House. She also facilitates workshops at the Jewish Community Center's Senior Center and the Kutz Home. Her knowledge of financial entitlement programs and community resources for the elderly is extensive.

Jewish Family Life Education, oriented to the entire community, responds to the multitude of needs,

wants, stresses and challenges experienced in daily living. It is within this department that new strategies and perspectives are presented. It also provides forums where people with like interests can convene.

Lauren Pokras earned both her Master of Social Service and Master of Law and Social Policy degrees from Bryn Mawr College Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research. She **develops and facilitates seminars and workshops within the agency's Jewish Family Life Education department**. Her emphasis is on positive and pre-

## UJA Washington 11

A *Passion to Action* is the theme of The UJA National Young Leadership Cabinet 11th Washington Conference scheduled for March 22-24, 1998, in Washington, D.C. Washington 11 is the largest gathering of young American Jewish leaders, with 3,000 young Jewish leaders expected. The conference, which takes place once every two years, features plenaries, workshops, a Capital Hill visit with legislators and numerous social events. Past speakers have included U.S. presidents, Israeli prime ministers, U.S. vice-presidents, U.S. senators, prominent American Jewish speakers and a variety of Washington commentators. Individuals in the age range of 25 to 45 years old are invited to attend. The Jewish Federation of Delaware plans to organize an informational meeting for those who may be interested in this opportunity. For more information, call the Jewish Federation of Delaware at 427-2100.

## Federation Market Tips

Say you have 100 shares of stock in company XYZ just sitting around doing nothing (play along with us for the purposes of this article, OK?). You could keep them for year upon year, or you could contribute them to the **Jewish Federation of Delaware** and avoid capital gains tax on the increase in value of the stock! This goes for appreciated securities of any kind, and you will also receive a tax deduction, for 100% of the fair market value at the time of the contribution.

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For details on how to contribute your appreciated securities and save \$\$\$, please contact Bernie Greenberg at the Jewish Federation of Delaware at 427-2100. Your call will also be appreciated.

ventive mental health, management issues and interpersonal relationships. During 1997, she created and introduced over 50 new programs for adolescents, parents, teachers and interfaith couples and families. Additionally, JFS was certified as the provider of **Divorcing and Separating Parent Education**, a program mandated by Delaware's Family Court.

JFS's Émigré Services enables émigrés to acculturate into the Jewish community. Since 1991, more than 300 individuals have learned English, retained employment and become Americanized through the programs in this department. **Roberta Burman** who earned her Master's Degree from the University of Delaware, has been working with this population for over eight years. Her success record has been so exemplary that the State recently awarded a grant to JFS to establish a comparable program for all émigrés arriving in New Castle county.

Nearly a century ago, Jewish Family Service was created as a testament of the compassion within the community. Today, it affirms that compassion through the skill and dedication of an extraordinary staff.

## You Are Invited to the Greatest Party

Celebrate Israel's 50th year with us! Join the Jewish Federation of Delaware and people from around the country for the UJA Yom Ha'atzmaut Mission April 26-May 5, 1998. Share in this historic occasion by becoming part of the Delaware contingent going to Israel!

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**\*Feel the joy of Israel's 50th anniversary on Rothschild's Boulevard in Tel Aviv - a street fair with food, dancing & fun! Access only to UJA Mission participants!**

**\*Observe Yom Hazikaron (Memorial Day) by traveling in the footsteps of the warriors; Participate in an evening memorial ceremony on various hilltops surrounding Jerusalem;**

**\*Experience the "March of Solidarity" as all mission participants walk from a designated point to the Kotel and share Kabbalat Shabbat together.**

In addition, there will be more gala events planned by UJA and Israel ... more singing, dancing, rejoicing ... more opportunities to feel the warmth of Israel and her people!

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# Campaign Update - It's Not Too Late

"Let's see, holiday plans? vacation plans? DONATION plans? All right, dear, I'll be done as soon as I write this check to the UJA Federation Campaign."

As the calendar year draws to a close, the Jewish Federation of Delaware would like to remind everyone in the community that contributions are accepted through December 31st. Please include the UJA Federation Campaign on your end-of-year list of charitable donations, and receive a tax deduction in return for your benevolence.

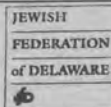
The 1997 campaign total stands at over \$1.54 million (as of publication time), and you can join the thousands of committed and dedicated members of the community whose gifts allow Federation to fund the outstanding, important agencies in Delaware. In addition, your contribution helps to provide food and basic social services for elderly Jews in the former Soviet Union, and in a total of 60 countries around the world.

To those who have satisfied their 1997 pledges, we offer heartfelt thanks. Should you wish to

increase your gift by any amount, it would be greatly appreciated by those who need it most and you will receive an additional measure of *naches*.

It is indeed true that *no gift touches more lives*. May 1998 provide us with more opportunities to improve the lives of our sisters and brothers within *Klal Yisrael*.

To pledge or make a donation to the UJA Federation Campaign, please call Bernie Greenberg at the Jewish Federation of Delaware at 427-2100.



**PANIM EL PANIM**



# Constitutionality of School Voucher Plan

By **BOB HAYMAN, ALICE EAKIN and LARRY HAMERMESH**  
Widener University School of Law<sup>1</sup>

(This article is one of a multi-part series concerning school vouchers. This series has been organized by the Public Education Task Force of The Jewish Community Relations Committee of the Jewish Federation of Delaware.)

**Introduction**

Any comment on the constitutionality of school voucher plans must begin with two critical caveats:

1. The law is in a state of flux. The Supreme Court's opinions addressing the establishment clause of the First Amendment have articulated a shifting variety of standards.

2. Any Supreme Court decision will surely emphasize the details and history of the voucher proposal at issue, so any abstract discussion of the constitutionality of such proposals is necessarily tentative.

**Evolving Legal Standards**

In its 1971 opinion in *Lemon v. Kurtzman*, the Supreme Court ruled that government activities violate the establishment clause where:

1. The activities do not evince a secular purpose;
2. They either advance or inhibit religion; or

3. They entail excessive governmental entanglement with religion.

This test has been criticized, especially in recent years, by several members of the current Supreme Court. Despite the uncertain state of establishment clause doctrine, however, we believe that the constitutionality of school voucher plans will likely be resolved by asking the following questions:

1. Does the plan evince a legitimate secular purpose?
2. Does the plan have the primary effect of advancing or inhibiting religion?

**Does the School Voucher Plan Evince a Legitimate Secular Purpose?**

School voucher plans seem unlikely to be invalidated for lack of a legitimate secular purpose. Nearly any such plan could plausibly serve some secular purpose: expanding educational alternatives, promoting equity in educational financing, or any of a wide variety of educational reform missions. True, such a secular purpose would have to be one not already fully served (*Wallace v. Jaffree*, 1985). Attempting to prove that the secular benefits of a voucher plan were superfluous, however, would likely prove difficult, since the Supreme Court appears disinclined to accept even statistical evidence that a neutral scheme of benefits will be utilized by students at sectarian

schools as opposed to public or private non-sectarian schools (*Mueller v. Allen*, 1983).

**Does the School Voucher Plan Have the Primary Effect of Advancing or Inhibiting Religion?**

This question raises two distinct but related inquiries. First, will a voucher plan impermissibly advance religion by easing the fiscal burdens that sectarian schools would otherwise be forced to bear? And second, will a voucher plan fund the religious inculcation activities of parochial schools?

As to the first inquiry, educational aid programs recently upheld by the Supreme Court have involved funding for programs that the religious schools in question would not otherwise have provided (*Zobrest v. Catalina Foothills School District*, 1993, providing a sign language interpreter to a parochial school, and *Agostini v. Felton*, 1997, upholding on-site provision of remedial educational services to parochial school students). A voucher plan that subsidized the ordinary operations of a parochial school would seem to transcend this limitation.

As to the second inquiry, educational aid programs may be suspect where they subsidize the peculiarly religious activities of sectarian schools, and amount to "government inculcation of religious

beliefs." In 1973, the Supreme Court invalidated a program of tuition reimbursements and tax credits for parents of students in nonpublic schools *Committee for Public Education and Liberty v. Nyquist*. The Court stressed the "absence of an effective means of guaranteeing that the state aid derived from public funds will be used exclusively for secular, neutral and non-ideological purposes."

Ten years later, however, in a 5-4 opinion, Chief Justice Rehnquist (who had dissented in *Nyquist*) upheld a Minnesota tuition tax deduction for educational expenses, including sectarian school tuition (*Mueller v. Allen*, 1983). In this later case, the Court emphasized that the plan "neutrally provides state assistance" to all parents, and any subsidy for sectarian activities would result only from "numerous, private choices of individual parents." This logic could sustain any aid to private school parents, since the choice of sectarian or nonsectarian school would be made by the parents. This logic could also sustain aid solely to parents of religious school students, since those parents could use the benefits (such as a tax credit) as they saw fit - although it is not generally considered likely that such a religious school-only program

would be upheld.

A second issue surrounding the effect of voucher plan is whether it creates a "symbolic union" of church and state, or is likely to convey a message of endorsement of religion. This is a very difficult issue: On one hand, the benefit of a voucher plan to religious schools arises only as a result of parental choices, which tends to dissipate an inference of state endorsement of religion. On the other hand, the Court has evinced a particular reluctance to permit state subsidy of distinctly religious instruction to primary and secondary school students. In this regard, vouchers are likely to raise issues of "entanglement" of church and state. If no attempt is made to limit vouchers to nonsectarian expenses, administrative entanglement will be unlikely (although such an attempt may be necessary to assure constitutionality); if such attempts are made, however, the enforcement mechanism may create excessive administrative entanglement.

<sup>1</sup>This article is condensed from a longer and far more scholarly work by Professors Hayman and Eakin. Readers interested in that work can obtain a copy by calling Dan Weintraub, JCRC Director at the Jewish Federation of Delaware, 427-2100.

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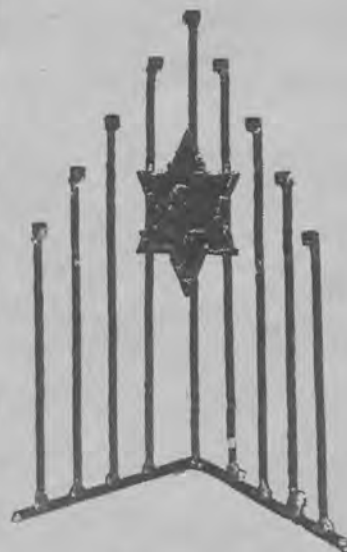


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## PANIM EL PANIM



# Behold How Good And Pleasant It Is For People To Dwell Together In Unity

The General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations met from Shabbat evening November 14 through Wednesday, November 19 in Indianapolis. Judy Wortman, Executive Vice President of the Jewish Federation of Delaware said, "Of the 15 GA's I have attended throughout my career, none was more meaningful. Every phase of the experience from Shabbat celebration to Jewish study to cultural enrichment to seri-

ous dialogue with Israel's leaders gave our delegation reason to return to Delaware with even greater commitment to the sacred work of community building." Below are comments from four other participants.

### G.A. Notes By Bernie Greenberg, Campaign Director

This was my first GA, and I have a souvenir pin that says so. The

General Assembly is at once overwhelming, intimidating and definitely exhilarating. It is truly a wonderful experience to share an event of this magnitude with 4,400 Jews from around the world while hearing from Israel's Prime Minister, opposition leader and many other dignitaries.

I feel privileged to have represented Delaware as part of our contingent, and I certainly learned a great deal while meeting other

professionals and lay leaders who all share the same interests and ideals.

I participated in fundraising seminars, community-building discussions and a new professionals orientation. Each session provided the attendees with fresh ideas and input, as well as the opportunity to hear from leaders and scholars in various fields.

On the flight back from Indianapolis, I thought about my overall feelings and lessons to bring back to Delaware from the GA. First, it's my job to transfer the energy from Indy to Delaware and inject it into our 1998 UJA Federation Campaign. Second, I realize the value of sharing information and experiences with Jews from all localities. Both lay leaders and staff can only benefit from such exchanges. Third, I feel strongly that a solution will be found concerning the conversion law issue as it affects religious unity.

Finally, I would like to share a brief encounter that occurred in an Indianapolis restaurant:

Shandler and I are enjoying a meal out on our final night in Indy, along with some other folks who were obviously GA participants. While Shandler was away from the table, a gentleman (30's) and his son (six) approached me, and the man said, "Shalom, my son is interested in your hat. Could you tell him something about it?"

Me: Sure, this is called a kippah or yarmulke, and Jewish people wear this to pray and at other times, too.

The father: Jeff, this 'hat' helps him pray. You know how we go to a church - he goes to a synagogue, and we all pray to one God.

Me: (to the boy) Would you like to see it, touch it?

Boy: Head nods vigorous affirmative.

Me: This is a clip which helps keep it on, and although mine is one color, you can see another man over there with a more colorful one - they come in all shapes, sizes and styles.

Father: Say thank you and Shalom. (Jeff does so). Is that right, Shalom?

Me: Yes, Shalom means, hello, goodbye and peace. You got it down perfectly.

After some more chat regarding the GA and Indianapolis, my visitors excused themselves and left me to ponder this short, but meaningful exchange. Hardly a moment passed before a young woman (one of the students at the GA) came up to me and said, "I just want you to know that I saw that whole thing and it was great - just great!"

Indeed it was. Just another reason I will always remember my first GA fondly.

morning, I experienced a whirlwind of speeches, religious services, workshops, study sessions and performances. I met an enormous number of interesting people and had the opportunity to speak with graduate students, professional community workers and seasoned volunteers. Following the Noa concert, I was thrilled to find Debbie Friedman helping to sell Noa CD's...of course, I bought one!

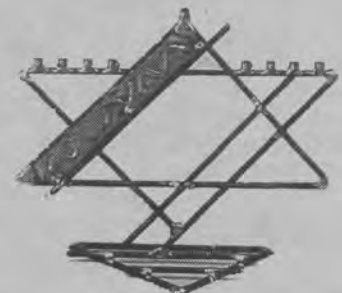
Not only was the range and variety of people fascinating, but so too were the topics of conversation. I found myself engaged in conversations ranging from Israeli politics (there's a surprise!), how to define who is a Jew, making the most of volunteering when one has numerous other responsibilities, and instilling positive Jewish ethics in our children. I even became friendly with a Massachusetts couple who have a daughter the same age as my daughter. We are hoping that our daughters will become e-mail pen pals!

As exciting as the number and variety of people and sessions, without question, the most thrilling aspect of the GA was the sheer energy of the group - it was electrifying! Everyone I met was yet another person dedicated to working toward improving their local Jewish community, the Israeli quality of life and the lives of Jews worldwide! Everyone came together with challenges from their individual community, but also with a multitude of ideas about how to meet these challenges. It was all very energizing.

Oh...and did I mention that an astronaut from Indianapolis spoke to us from the Mir Space Station via satellite? ... or the eight year old daughter of the mayor of Indianapolis who greeted Prime Minister Netanyahu in Hebrew and President Bill Clinton also addressed the group via satellite....

This is an opportunity that any volunteer or community professional should grab! And don't forget, next year...Jerusalem!

Continued on page 25



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**T**he strength of the Jewish people has always been our sense of community; our commitment to help each other without regard to personalities or politics. But the ties that bind can hurt if they are pulled in different directions. Right now, mounting strains over religion and politics in Israel threaten to divide and harm our people. But a solution may be in sight.

A committee headed by Israeli Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman is working to forge a solution that Jews can agree to, be they Orthodox, Reform or Conservative. Our Jewish community stands strongly behind the Ne'eman Committee as it seeks to maintain Jewish unity and build an Israel where all Jews feel at home.

Our Federation has taken a leadership role in assuring that the voice of Diaspora Jewry is heard in Israel. We ask you to join us in communicating our community's concerns by filling out the tear sheet below and returning it to us. We will forward your message to the Ne'eman Committee in Israel, along with those from thousands of your fellow Jews across North America.

Members of the Ne'eman Committee need to know how essential their efforts are to our community. Their decisions will influence the destiny of the Jewish people.

### TO: THE MEMBERS OF THE NE'EMAN COMMITTEE

We look to you to find a solution which will maintain Jewish unity and build an Israel where all Jews feel at home. Your decisions will influence the destiny of the Jewish people.

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Return to: [Insert your Federation name, address, fax and telephone number here]

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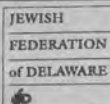
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### Electrifying Energy

By Suzanne Grant

I arrived in Indianapolis on Friday. Until I left on Wednesday





**PANIM EL PANIM**



**This Space Is Holy**

By **MARC L. SHANDLER, Esq.**  
Director, Jewish Fund for the Future

My attendance at the G.A. provided me with a unique opportunity to blend learning the newest in endowment techniques and new views of Torah, re-connecting with colleagues from other Federations and spending time bonding with our delegation from Delaware. The educational endowment sessions were particularly enlightening, as both professionals and volunteers active in endowment development from around the country shared experiences, ideas and problems.

We learned about the impact of the recently enacted tax law changes on estate planning and planned giving. Leaders from other communities were impressed by the cachet of our new name, Jewish Fund for the Future and our new logo. They recognized that it conveyed a sense of connection with the tradition and movement into the future.

The Torah study sessions were extraordinarily rewarding. Rabbi Rachel Sabath, one of the visiting scholars from The National Center for Leadership and Learning

(CLAD), led a session on leadership in the Jewish community using texts from the Torah and Talmud as study guides. The forty participants in the session were engaged in thoughtful discussions about how these Jewish texts can shape their concepts of leadership.

The highlight of the conference for me (other than the Debbie Friedman and Noa concerts, which had us all up and singing and dancing) was the stunning presentation by the President-elect of CLAD, Rabbi Irwin Kula. In a dramatic

recognition that the work that all of us do for Federation is holy work, Rabbi Kula removed his shoes, and asked the entire audience of 4,000 Jews to do the same. By invoking the memory of the Biblical story, God's commandment

to Moses as Moses stood before the burning bush, Kula impressed the audience, one of the largest crowds of Jews of which I have ever been a part, to recognize our work as kedusha, as holy work, and our assembly as holy space.

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## Swiss Bank Guard Honored

NEW YORK – Christoph Meili, the Swiss bank guard who prevented the shredding of crucial "Nazi Gold" documents, was honored by Boys Town Jerusalem at its 49th Anniversary International Dinner in New York. Boys Town's Chairman Josh S. Weston, Chairman of Automatic Data Processing Inc. (ADP), presented Christoph with The Jan Zwartendijk Humanitarian Ethics and Values Award. The award is named for the Philips' executive who, serving as Honorary Dutch Consul to Lithuania in 1940, saved 2,300 lives during the Holocaust by issuing "bogus" visas to Curacao. He acted simply because it was the right thing to do.

## Workaholic or Just Hard Worker?

NEW YORK and HAIFA, ISRAEL – Is 5:00 p.m. – the end of most people's workday – the middle of yours? Are you a workaholic addicted to work, or do you work long hours because you enjoy your work?

Findings at the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology show that the phenomenon called workaholism is not an addiction. On the contrary, it is most often associated with self-fulfillment, ambition and achievement.

Dr. Dov Zohar of the Faculty of Industrial Engineering and Management at the Technion and his doctoral student, Rafi Snir, studied 1,000 professionals, of whom 8.6 percent worked 12 hours or more a day. The rest worked 10 hours or less a day.

"We checked if the people who worked 12 hours or more were addicted to work according to the scientific definition of addiction," explains Dr. Zohar. "People can become addicted to substances – drugs, alcohol, cigarettes or to behavior – gambling."

They found very few people with addictive personalities, fewer than in a random sample of the population. Two of the three criteria that determine addiction – craving and compulsiveness – did not exist among people who work 12 or more hours a day. Furthermore, workaholism was not associated with negative impulses. Workaholics find their work challenging and fulfilling. However, Dr. Zohar warns that there are people who suffer from real addiction to work who require treatment.

## PLO Loses Battle to Acquire Enhanced Status at UN

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Failure of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) to gain "member state" status at the United Nations is an "important victory" according to B'nai B'rith. The move to upgrade the PLO from "observer state" to that of a "member state" was withdrawn last night.

"The PLO is not an independent country and should not have the rights and privileges of one at the United Nations," said Tommy P. Baer, international president of B'nai B'rith. "The PLO's agenda at the United Nations is to circumvent the peace process. We are delighted that this effort to enhance its role has failed."

Introduced by Indonesia and sponsored by more than 20 Arab, Islamic and radical states (including Cuba and Vietnam), the proposal would have conferred on the PLO similar rights and privileges of participation as those conferred upon member states, with the exception of voting and candidature. This measure would have allowed the Palestinian delegation to be seated among the member states (which is not allowed for observer states like Switzerland and the Vatican), participate in all debates, circulate documents, and sponsor resolutions. The United States, the European Union, Russia and Israel opposed the proposal.

"This was the first important loss for the PLO at the United Nations in many years," said Harris O. Schoenberg, director of U.N. affairs for B'nai B'rith. "The E.U., the United States and Russia stood up for international legitimacy and won the kind of victory we haven't seen at the U.N. in far too long."

## Mazel Tov Times 30,000

NEW YORK (JTA) – It sounds like a wedding planner's nightmare – you plan a marriage and 30,000 people come.

But that scenario happened recently at the Tel Aviv exhibition hall when a couple from two different Chasidic families exchanged wedding vows.

The bride, Machia Hager, is the daughter of Rabbi Menachem Mendel Hager, who is the heir apparent to the helm of the Viznitz group, which is based in the Tel Aviv suburb of Bnei Brak.

The groom is Rabbi Mordechai Katz, the son of Rabbi Hershel Katz, head of the rabbinical court of the Vien community in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Large weddings are common among the fervently Orthodox, particularly in Israel.

There are two reasons for such large ceremonies, said Zalman Shmotkin of the Lubavitch World Headquarters in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Having people attend a wedding to make the bride and groom happy is a mitzvah, and when there are thousands of people dancing at the wedding, there's a certain amount of joy in the air, he said.

He added that people also want to share the joy of their rebbe.

For the event, Coca-Cola printed up special labels featuring a crown displaying the names of the bride and groom next to Coke's logo.

## Jewish Women Encyclopedia

NEW YORK – American Jewish women have had a profound impact on education, the arts, politics, business, social reform, feminism and Jewish communal development. Finally, their collective story has been told in a landmark two-volume set that contains more than 700 individual biographies and more than 300 topical entries. *Jewish Women in America* captures the scope of their accomplishments and significance of their contributions to life in the United States over the course of more than two centuries.

The Jewish Theological Seminary has long been associated with American Jewish women of the highest professional caliber. Since its founding in the late nineteenth century, the institution has educated generations of women through its graduate and undergraduate programs, who have gone on to become leading figures whose influence has been felt in virtually every aspect of American society.

Dr. Paula Hyman, currently Lucy

Moses Professor of Modern Jewish History at Yale University and chair of the Judaic Studies Program there, got her academic start at JTS, as have professors of Judaic studies at colleges and universities across the country. She first served on the JTS faculty before becoming the first female dean of List College, then known as the Seminary College of Jewish Studies. Dr. Hyman co-edited the volumes with Dr. Deborah Dash Moore, Professor of history and Director of the American Culture Program at Vassar College.

The most recent expressions of the Seminary's commitment to women are found in a scholarly program in women's studies launched two years ago and in the Women's Center, which addresses a multitude of feminist concerns through both informal channels and formal programming. The center is supervised by Dr. Anne Lapidus Lerner, Vice-Chancellor and Director of the Women's Studies program, and Rabbi Adina Lewittes, Assistant Dean of the Rabbinical School.

To highlight the bond between American Jewish women and the Seminary, JTS will host a publication party on Thursday, December 11 from 6 to 8 p.m. It is open to the public, free of charge. On hand will be feminist luminaries whose lives are showcased in the encyclopedia, along with the numerous women associated with JTS who have contributed to the book's contents. Among them are: Dr. Lerner, Dr. Shuly Schwartz, Dean of List College, Rabbi Jan Kaufman, Director of Special Projects for the Rabbinical Assembly, Julie Miller, Associate Director of the Joseph and Miriam Ratner Center for Conservative Judaism, and the writer Francine Klagsbrun, who serves as head of the JTS Library Board.

For review copies of *Jewish Women in America*, please call Ron Longe, publicity at Routledge publishing house, at (212) 216-7820.

The Jewish Theological Seminary is the spiritual and academic center of Conservative Judaism worldwide.

## Lawsuit Filed Against Bible Course

By DANIEL KURTZMAN

WASHINGTON (JTA) – A lawsuit against a Florida school district for its planned Bible course could have important implications for the nationwide debate about religion's role in public schools.

Seven parents, clergy and other community members – including the president of the local Jewish federation – filed a federal lawsuit this week against the school district of Lee County, Fla.

Backed by civil rights groups, the plaintiffs are claiming that a course to be offered in high schools next year teaches the Bible as historical fact and indoctrinates students to Christianity.

The controversy erupted two years ago when the school board first voted to allow a history course covering what they call the Old and New Testaments.

With the elective course scheduled to begin Jan. 21, opponents are seeking an injunction to prevent it. No date has been set for a hearing.

"I object to any scriptures at all being taught in the public schools," said Ken Weiner, president of the Jewish Federation of Lee and Charlotte Counties and the only Jewish plaintiff in the lawsuit.

"There are appropriate places – home, synagogue, churches. This is truly a religious course most appropriate for Sunday school," he said.

"I have no problem with a comparative religion course, but this clearly has a Christian bias to it."

Weiner does not have children attending the local high schools, but said it was important for the Jewish community to be represented in the effort to block the course.

The Greensboro, N.C.-based National Council for Bible Curriculum in Public Schools developed the course.

Its president maintains that the

course is currently offered in 22 states and has never been challenged legally.

The issue at hand is much larger than the small community on Florida's West Coast.

Church-state watchdogs say the Christian Coalition has been looking to Lee County as a test case in its nationwide effort to bring religion into the public schools.

The American Center for Law and Justice, a Virginia-based group created by Christian Coalition leader the Rev. Pat Robertson, has offered to defend the school board – three of whose members are said to have close ties to the conservative Christian lobby.

The center maintains that the Bible course is about history, not proselytizing, and argues that it should not be banned because the Supreme Court has held that the Bible is appropriate for curriculum study.

It also called the lawsuit premature, saying that filing it before the course is actually offered is tantamount to censorship.

"There's nothing to test," Marc Stem, co-director of the American Jewish Congress' legal department, said of the efforts to see if

the Bible course can pass legal muster.

"It's perfectly clear how you run a good Bible curriculum, and this isn't it."

Courts have held that Bible as literature and comparative religion courses are permissible, but the particular curriculum the Florida school district is modeling its course after comes from a group that has an "evangelical world outlook" and takes the Bible literally, Stem said.

"There are perfectly good curricula around and if somebody really wanted to put in a Bible as literature class, they could have done so without any controversy, as lots of schools have," Stern said.

Meanwhile, the American Civil Liberties Union and People For the American Way, two watchdog groups backing the plaintiffs, see the Lee County dispute as a line in the sand.

"What's at stake in this case is really stopping the agenda of the Christian Coalition and their attack on public schools, freedom of religion and the separation of church and state," said Lisa Versaci, Florida state director of People For the American Way.

"This is one battleground in a much bigger way."



NATIONAL • INTERNATIONAL

Peace Coalition Launched German Jewish Torah Ark Sold

By ERIC J. GREENBERG  
New York Jewish Week  
NEW YORK (JTA) - It was shortly after 19-year-old Israeli soldier Arik Frankenthal was kidnapped and murdered by Hamas terrorists four years ago that Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin visited with the victim's father to express sympathy. Friends urged Yizchak Frankenthal, a religious Zionist, to abandon his pro-peace philosophy and to tell Rabin to do the same. His friends told him, "Do you finally understand, there is no one with whom to make peace," Frankenthal recently told a hushed

crowd at Congregation Bnai Jeshurun in New York. But the grieving father stood firm. "I told them if there was peace Arik wouldn't have been murdered," and he asked Rabin to continue to work for peace. Frankenthal was later invited to Oslo for the Nobel Peace Prize ceremony where Rabin, Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat were honored. Frankenthal was among several speakers, including Rabin's widow, Leah, who remembered the slain prime minister at a recent ceremo-

ny titled "Rededicating Our Vision" - the first major public event of the new pro-peace coalition called Beit Shalom. Made up of 16 "dove-ish" groups including Americans for Peace Now, Beit Shalom plans to lobby the U.S. Congress and the American and Israeli governments to support the Oslo peace process and religious pluralism. "I cannot bring back Arik, but I can try to prevent other people from losing their children, their future," said Frankenthal who founded Oz V'Shalom a religious, pro-peace group in Israel.

An exquisite silver German Jewish Torah Ark boasting Rothschild provenance realized \$517,320, the second highest price at auction for Judaic metalwork, on November 17 at Christie's Geneva salesroom. Anthony Phillips, international director of Christie's Silver Department said, "This staggering price reflects the impact of the Rothschild provenance and the truly exceptional and breathtaking workmanship of this Judaica masterpiece." Selling for nearly ten times its pre-sale estimate (\$50,000-83,000), this small and rare Torah Ark was created by Johann Christoph Muller in Breslau (part of Germany until the end of the second World War) between 1746 and 1748. Another superb piece created by Muller is currently in the collection of the Jewish Museum in New York. The Torah Ark (20-7/8 in. high),

formerly in the collection of the late Nathaniel Meyer Victor, the third Baron Rothschild, shares many characteristics with the numerous magnificent carved and gilded arks that were created in the mid-1700s, which were an integral part of East-European Jewish art history. However, few Torah Arks of the type and early date of the Muller Ark survived World War II, and this may be the first such sale in the last forty years. Designed as a temple entrance, the Torah Ark, flanked by two Corinthian columns, is meticulously detailed with applied openwork including scrolling foliage and birds. The upper part of the Ark is engraved with a centrally applied cartouche between regal lions and two-handled vases. Once opened, the Ark features the Tablets of Law inscribed in Hebrew, with the initial words of the Ten Commandments, a Menorah and additional engraved foliage, flowers and fruit.

Polish Church Declares "Day of Judaism"

By RUTH E. GRUBER  
ROME (JTA) - The Polish Catholic Church has designated Jan. 17 as an annual "Day of Judaism" in Polish churches. The day will be dedicated to interfaith dialogue and to teaching Polish Catholics about Judaism. The initiative, slated to involve all Roman Catholic dioceses in the country, follows the example of the Italian Catholic Church, which declared Jan. 17 an annual Day of Judaism in Italy several years ago. Stanislaw Krajewski, Warsaw consultant for the American Jewish Committee and a Polish Jewish

leader long active in interfaith relations, praised the church's initiative. "I believe that this is a remarkable project," Krajewski said in an interview from Warsaw. The Day of Judaism initiative has the "potential to affect masses" of people. A special insert was added to a church brochure for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - which is slated for Jan. 18-25 - in order to inform Polish Catholic priests and parishes about the new initiative. Some 7,000 copies of the

brochure will be sent to all Roman Catholic churches in Poland. Under the slogan "Whoever meets Jesus Christ meets Judaism," which was taken from a quotation by Polish-born Pope John Paul II, the insert includes an introduction by Bishop Stanislaw Gadecki, who heads the Polish church's commission on Catholic-Jewish dialogue. "The Day of Judaism," Gadecki wrote, "presents no attempt to proselytize among Jews, and no attempt to Judaize Christianity." Instead, he said it was meant to promote mutual respect, coopera-

tion and "joint testimony for justice and human dignity." The insert proposes special Bible readings for church services that day and suggested a theme for a sermon that day which would include various quotations from John Paul II on Jewish-Catholic relations. These included the words the pope addressed to Jews when he met with Rome Chief Rabbi Elio Toaff in 1986 - "You are our

beloved brothers, our elder brothers" - as well as more recent papal statements, such as "Anti-Semitism has no justification, and must be condemned." The suggested sermon said interfaith dialogue demands prayer as well as personal testimonies of stories where prejudice was converted into trust and resentment into love. It concludes with the statement that the Jewish people are loved by God.

Shalom Hartman Institute

By RABBI DAVID HARTMAN  
Do Israeli leaders understand the implications of saying to half of the Jewish world that their synagogues and their rabbis are not authentic because they do not reflect "Torah-true Judaism" and, therefore, theirs is a fraudulent Jewish reality? All too many Knesset members do not understand that they are needed by the Jewish people not as a political haven but as the most important expression of Jewish memory, history and visibility. To tell the majority of diaspora Jewry that their Jewish way of life does not count in Israel betrays a total lack of understanding of the important meaning of Israel in their lives. The Israeli politicians' defensive excuse regarding the trivial and inconsequential nature of the proposed legislation belies either deep naiveté or deep cynicism. How can delegitimizing Conservative and Reform rabbis in Israel imply nothing about these forms of Judaism in the diaspora? "If you believe I am traif in Jerusalem, how can you believe I am kosher in New York or Chicago? (unless, of course, you believe that traif is affected by the presence of UJA support!) What naiveté! What cynicism! If you say Conservative and Reform rabbis are traif here, then you are saying Conservative and Reform rabbis are traif anywhere. And the number of Jews affected is

irrelevant. Is there no appreciation for the soul of this country or of the Jewish people? Shouldn't the government feel responsibility for the whole Jewish people? Do we Israelis cynically measure the significance of Israel for world Jewry solely in terms of financial and political support, or do we want them to feel that Israel is vital for their spiritual identities? And how can Israel be vital for them when they are told that their Judaic way of life is not welcome in this, their spiritual home? How can Israel remain important to them if their only leverage is the threat of withholding contributions? Israeli newspapers and "enlightened" politicians say: "We are going to lose American support." But no one says, "What are we going to do to the Jewish people's Yiddishkeit? What are we doing to their sense of history and memory and hope and the dream of Next Year in Jerusalem?" Israel cannot sever itself from responsibility for the moral and spiritual renaissance of the Jewish people without losing its *raison d'être* for much of the Jewish world. The core of the issue is not conversion per se but the concession of religious ownership of Israel to the Orthodox establishment. To be a Jew requires a leap of solidarity with a people even if they worship pagan gods. Making the State of

Israel the spiritual possession of one segment of the Jewish people undermines the most important instrument for building Jewish collective consciousness today. The climate of discussion in Israel today has made American Jews bolder in vocalizing their threats. While their decision to "play hardball" may prove effective politically, the main thrust of American Jewry's case should emphasize their deep desire to be Jews and to safeguard their Yiddishkeit. By so doing they would help Israelis understand themselves, for they seem to have little or no understanding of their importance for spiritual identity throughout the world. In other words, bring your spiritual hungers - and not only your economic and political influence - here. Let Israel understand your spiritual bond with this reality. Help Israel understand its Jewish mission. Israelis see the diaspora as a *Gan Eden* - a paradise of material influence and well-being. They do not grasp the needs of the Jewish soul, of the unsatisfied hungers present in the Jewish world. The Reform and Conservative movements did not create the alternate lifestyles that compete with traditional forms. Secularism reflects the sexual revolution of modernity where gender identities and sexual references are constant-

ly being questioned. The abundance of social and cultural options and the ascendance of liberalism and pluralism are what modernity is all about. They are not Jewish phenomena. Reform and Conservative rabbis are involved with these issues because of the exposure and vulnerability of their members to these socio-cultural phenomena. It is important for Jews in Israel to understand and to appreciate the situation of Jews having to compete with the attractions of the modern world has to offer. Perhaps then they would be willing to concede that if these religious leaders made mistakes, it was with the intention of saving Jews and not in order to destroy Torah. The Israeli response to diaspora leaders should be: How can we help you in your battle with modernism and secularism? Rather than isolate and delegitimize them, we should strengthen and encourage them. But above all, they should be made to feel our understanding and empathic identification with their uphill struggle. Orthodox Judaism's intensity and passionate concern for halacha and Jewish education can serve as important catalysts to other movements in Judaism. Isolating itself from world Jewry by delegitimizing other forms of Judaism only undermines its vital importance and mission as a living example for

world Jewry. At this moment in history, we must embrace all Jews. We must strengthen all Jews fighting to keep the idea of Torah alive. And I say this not because of my commitment to liberalism and pluralism but because of my commitment to Torah and to God. And because I believe that the future of the Jewish people is too important to be left to Israeli politics. No matter what future legislation will be passed in the Knesset, diaspora Jews must never turn their backs on Israel. We are in the early stages of nation building. Thus far, we have reclaimed the land and have built a home for all Jews. The history of the homeless, wandering Jew is over. We are now in the process of building the moral and spiritual foundations of our society. Diaspora Jews' spiritual and communal needs must be understood in Israel so that a message of Torah that is inclusive and morally compelling will emanate from Jerusalem to the whole Jewish world. For further information about the Shalom Hartman Institute, please contact Jeffrey Snyder, Executive Vice-President, American Friends of the Shalom Hartman Institute, 4330 East-West Highway, Suite 1150, Bethesda, Maryland 20814; Telephone: (301) 907-8130; Fax: (301) 961-5305; e-mail: SHI-JSnyder@worldnet.att.net

## SYNAGOGUE LIFE

## Vegetarianism and Hanukkah

By RICHARD H. SCHWARTZ

Many connections can be made between vegetarianism and the Jewish festival of Chanukah:

1. According to the Book of Maccabees, some Maccabees lived on plant foods to "avoid being polluted like the rest" when they hid in the mountains to avoid capture.

2. The foods associated with Chanukah, latkes (potato pancakes) and sufganiyot (fried donuts) are vegetarian foods, and the oils that are used in their preparation are in commemoration of the oil used in the lighting of the Menorah in the rededication of the Temple.

3. Chanukah represents the triumph of non-conformity. The Maccabees fought for their inner beliefs, rather than conforming to external pressure. They were willing to say: This I believe, this I stand for, this I am willing to struggle for. Today, vegetarians represent non-conformity. At a time when most people in the wealthier countries think of animal products as the main part of their meals, when McDonald's and similar fast food establishments are expanding, vegetarians are resisting and insisting that there is a better, healthier, more humane diet.

4. Chanukah represents the victory of the few, who practiced God's teachings rather than the values of the surrounding society, over the many. Today vegetarians are a very small minority in most countries, but they believe that, consistent with God's original diet (Genesis 1:29), and religious man-

dates to preserve our health, treat animals with compassion, protect the environment, preserve natural resources, and share with hungry people, vegetarianism is the dietary approach most consistent with Jewish values.

5. Chanukah commemorates the miracle of the oil that was enough for only one day, but miraculously lasted for eight days. A switch to vegetarianism on the part of the world's people could result in an even greater miracle: the end of the scandal of world hunger which results in the death of an estimated 20 million people annually, while over a third of the world's grain is fed to animals destined for slaughter.

6. It is interesting that the ratio of eight days that the oil burned compared to the one day of burning capacity that the oil had is the same ratio (8 to 1) that is often given for the pounds of grain that are necessary to produce a pound of edible beef in a feed lot. The miracle of the oil brings the use of fuel and other resources into focus, and vegetarian diets make resources go much further, since far less water, fuel, land, pesticides, fertilizer, and other agricultural resources are required for plant-based diets than for animal-centered diets.

7. Chanukah also commemorates the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem after it was defiled by the Syrian-Greeks. The Hebrew root of the word Chanukah means dedication.

Today, a shift to vegetarianism can be a major factor in the rededication and renewal of Judaism, because it would show that Jewish values are relevant to everyday Jewish life and to addressing current problems, such as hunger, pollution, resource scarcity, and soaring health care expenditures.

8. Candles are lit during each night of Chanukah, symbolizing a turning from darkness to light, from despair to hope. According to the prophet Isaiah, the role of Jews is to be a "light unto the nations" (Isaiah 42:6). Vegetarianism can be a way of adding light to the darkness of a world with slaughterhouses, factory farms, and vivisection laboratories, as well as other symbols of oppression.

9. Chanukah commemorates the deliverance of the Jews from the

Syrian Greeks. So, today, vegetarianism can be a step toward deliverance from modern problems such as hunger, pollution, and resource scarcities.

10. On the Sabbath during Chanukah, the prophetic portion indicates that difficulties can best be overcome "not by might and not by power, but by my spirit, says the Lord of hosts" (Zechariah 4:6). Today, Jewish vegetarians are arguing that the way to a better world is not by exercising our power over animals, but by applying the spirit of God, "whose tender mercies are over all of His creatures" (Psalm 145:9).

11. The Hebrew root of the word Chanukah also means education, Jewish vegetarians believe that if Jews were educated about the horrible realities of factory

farming and the powerful Jewish mandates about taking care of our health, showing compassion to animals, protecting the environment, conserving resources, and helping hungry people, they would seriously consider switching to vegetarian diets.

12. At the morning services during each day of Chanukah, there is a recitation of Hallel, the psalms of praise from Psalm 113 to 118. During the Sabbath of Chanukah and every other Sabbath during the year, the morning service has a prayer that begins, "The soul of all living creatures shall praise God's name". Yet, it is hard for animals to join in the praise of God when annually in the United States over 9 billion animals are killed for their flesh after suffering from cruel treatment on factory farms.

## Cybershul Celebrates Third Anniversary

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI - "Name a country." That's the way R' Melech Leib DuBrow usually answers the question, "Where is your synagogue located?" That's because R' DuBrow is the spiritual leader of Havienu L'Shalom (<http://www.havienu.org>), the first and largest Jewish congregation on the Web. And with over 3,000 congregants worldwide, there is hardly a country or state that isn't home to at least one Havienu member.

That fact isn't lost on R' DuBrow and the cybershul's Webmaster, Shoshana Zakar, as the congregation gears up to celebrate its third anniversary on December 18. "Our dream was to create a virtual community where Jews from all walks of life could feel at home. On December 18, we celebrate a dream come true." Indeed, a quick look at the cybershul's virtual guestbook confirms that R' DuBrow's sentiment is widely shared. As one Canadian congregant writes, "We are the only Jewish family here in the bay. It is wonderful to have a feeling of community and connection." Another in Australia writes, "Living out here, Havienu is a great way to get more in touch with other Jews and my spirituality."

Creating a community where Jews can get more in touch with their spirituality is part of the virtual congregation's original vision. The Web site includes over 200 articles on Jewish mysticism, Kabbalah and Chassidus intended to help congregants "reach their highest human potential." As another guestbook entry confirms, "I have been greatly inspired and spiritually enhanced by the regular mailing. As well, my everyday life has been greatly improved. This site and its teachings fill a much needed void in my life."

In keeping with Havienu L'Shalom's Kabbalistic origins, the three-year celebration will include a "Tree of Life" contest in which there will be various activities and prizes.

Cybershul has more than just text. Zakar has put together a broad collection of resources including an award-winning He-brew calendar, discussion groups, a gift shop with tapes

and postcards and a Tehillim request list. About the latter, a Nashville, Tennessee, congregant notes, "I especially enjoy the Tehillim requests because it gives me the feeling that I am a part of the lives of other Jews around the world - to share their joys and their sorrows." The Web site is also replete with stunning graphics, such as the home page's Sephardic style shul facade, a photographic mikvah and artistic postcards for all occasions. Havienu L'Shalom has won several awards, including the Reader's Digest "Look Smart Editor's Choice" and ranks as one of the top-ten religious Web sites by a leading Internet magazine. The virtual congregation has also been favorably written about in such books as *The Soul of Cyberspace* and *The Guide to the Jewish Internet*.

R' Dubrow has just completed the

first in a series of monthly audio tapes entitled *Return to the Garden*, which are about "finding the balance between making a living and identifying our unique spiritual talents." Participants in the series can discuss each tape's concepts and meditations in one of Havienu L'Shalom's on-line forums.

As its third anniversary celebration approaches, R' DuBrow once "this site to be a place where peoples of all faiths can work toward that true peace which is the hallmark of the Era of Redemption." That dream may not be far off, as one non-Jewish congregant writes, "I have already crossed many boundary lines to here. What is contained in these pages is not just for Jews. In reading here, I feel a connection. Your site will help me in my spiritual growth."

## AKSE Men's Brunch

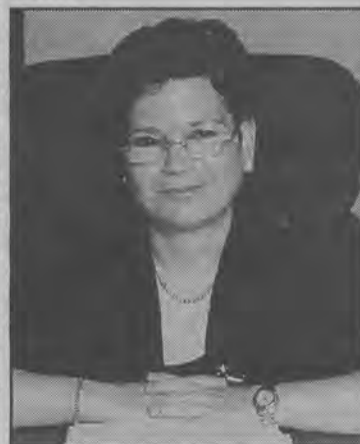
On Sunday, January 11, 1998 at 9:30 a.m., the A.K.S.E. Men's Club will feature Israeli Consul Iris Sapir from the Consulate General of Israel, Philadelphia, to speak on the topic of "The Current Situation in Israel," according to Robert S. Weiner, President of the A.K.S.E. Men's Club.

In June 1997, Iris Sapir assumed the post of Consul at the Consulate General of Israel in Philadelphia which serves the jurisdictional area of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Delaware, Kentucky, West Virginia and southern New Jersey. She joined the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1994, serving in the Latin America Department and then in the Eastern European Department in Jerusalem. In 1995 she was made Deputy Chief of Mission at the Israeli Embassy in Minsk, Belarus.

Consul Sapir earned a B.A. in History at the University of Tel Aviv and an M.A. in Ancient History at the Aran School of History at the University of Tel Aviv. Subsequently she completed three years of post graduate studies at the Ecoles des

Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (EHESS) in Paris, France, where her studies focused on the power structure of the Athenian aristocracy in ancient Greece. She is fluent in the languages of Hebrew, English and French and has a knowledge of Russian.

Reservations for nonmembers are suggested and can be made by contacting the A.K.S.E. office at (302) 762-2705.



Israeli Consul Iris Sapir

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**PANIM EL PANIM**



# Super Sunday Plans in Gear

Debbie Perch, Caryl Marcus-Stape and Jeff Stape, 1998 Super Sunday Co-Chairs, have the motor running full throttle in anticipation of Super Sunday on January 18, 1998 at the MBNA facility in Ogetown-Stanton. Once again the all day phone-a-thon (or FUN-a-thon) features volunteers calling

friends and neighbors with an opportunity to make a generous pledge to the UJA Federation Campaign.

Enthusiasm is high in this year's plans include a friendly competition between local Jewish agency and Synagogue boards for the highest percentage turnout as

Super Sunday volunteer callers. An entertaining role play will be part of the volunteer caller training. The family friendly effort will include an offer of baby-sitting for those parents who volunteer in advance and request such arrangements. Food, friends, family and fun will prevail throughout Super Sunday, a good time for a good cause.

The Super Sunday committee includes: Ron Cohen, Michelle Ellis, Jonathon Epstein, Sy and Sydell Glassner, Jerry Grossman, Cindy Goldstein, Timothy Habbart, Staci Horowitz, Larry Isakoff, Alice Kamen, Heidi Kinsella, Dr. Steven Klein, Beth Moskow-Schnoll Esq., Mr. Steven Paikin, Manuel Panar, Sheree L. Pesner, Robin Saran, Connie Sugarman, Linda Vodovis and Dr. Douglas R. White. Dan Weintraub is the Super Sunday Coordinator. This committee is driven to make this Super Sunday a success for the whole community.

Volunteers are still needed for all shifts. Manuel Panar and Heidi Kinsella are leading up efforts to recruit more volunteers than ever before. Sponsorship opportunities for local businesses are still available. Sheree Pesner and Doug White lead those making sure that good noshing is available for Super Sunday; please call Ron Cohen and Steve Paikin to discuss your options.

Cindy Goldstein and Linda

Vodovis are lending their talents to Super Sunday volunteer training. Staci Horowitz, Alice Kamen, Heidi Kinsella and Sy Glassner are facilitating the child care arrangements. Jonathon Epstein and Steven Paikin are leading the premium planning.

The Super Sunday fund drive

benefits the UJA Federation Campaign which is administered by the Jewish Federation of Delaware. To volunteer for Super Sunday, for more information or to make your pledge early, call the Jewish Federation of Delaware at (302) 427-2100 or contact a committee member.



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continued to do facility expansion and renovations, including two new resident wings and a large lobby/visitor center with a snack bar.</li> <li>• Purchased a new paratransit van.</li> <li>• Introduced a pet therapy program.</li> <li>• Expanded the intergenerational visitors program.</li> <li>• Enhanced resident-planned educational programs.</li> <li>• Expanded activities programs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase nursing staff to accommodate new admissions.</li> <li>• Increase social services to current and new residents and their families.</li> <li>• Open additional activities rooms for cooking programs; small- and large-group activities; quiet, focused groups; and dementia-specific programs.</li> <li>• Introduce an orientation and education program for community and corporate volunteers.</li> </ul>

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NACHES

OBITUARY

**Dr. Steve Weitzman Authors Book**

Much has been written about the art of biblical prose and poetry but until now it has remained a mystery why the authors of the Bible so often combined the two, incorporating songs into their prose accounts of ancient Israelite history (e.g. Exodus 14-15, Deuteronomy 31-32). Drawing on a wide variety of methods and evidence - from ancient Egyptian literature to the Dead Sea Scrolls - *Song and Story in Biblical Narrative* not only sheds light on this fascinating literary practice but shows that it has much to tell us about the form and formation of the Bible as a whole.

Dr. Steve Weitzman, Ass't Professor of Biblical and Religious Studies at Indiana University is husband of Mira Wasserman who will be ordained by Hebrew University in June 1998 and son-in-law of Judy and Rabbi David Wortman.

**Miller-Gensler Engagement**

Andrew and Barbara Miller of Wilmington, DE announce the engagement of their daughter, Elizabeth Ann, to Gary Reid Gensler, son of Paul and Janet Gensler of Rockville, MD.

The future bride earned a B.A. degree in Speech Communications from the University of Maryland, College Park. She is a freelance video producer and is owner of EMA Productions. The future groom, a graduate of James Madison University, earned a B.S. degree in Mathematics. He earned an M.S. degree in Statistics from the University of Georgia and is currently employed as a clinical trials statistician with the EMMES Corporation in Maryland.



Gary Gensler and Elizabeth Miller

A June 1998 wedding is planned.

**UJA Honorary N.V.P.**

We are deeply sorry to inform you of the passing of UJA Honorary National Vice Chairman Neil J. Norry. The funeral was held Sunday, December 14, 1997 in Rochester, New York.

Mr. Norry was the son of the UJA Honorary National Vice Chairman Irving S. Norry and the father of Lewis Norry, Campaign Chairman of the UJA National Young Leadership Cabinet.

Neil Norry was a dedicated leader and philanthropist, committed to Jews and Judaism around the world, and followed in his father's footsteps. Mr. Norry served on the UJA Board of Trustees and on the Jewish Agency for Israel Board of Governors. The leadership roles that his family continues to play are a blessing to his memory. He will be missed.

Our heartfelt sympathies are extended to the bereaved family. May the Almighty comfort the bereaved among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

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**HAPPY CHANUKAH**

**JEWISH WOMEN IN PROFESSIONAL SERVICES & BUSINESS ISSUE**

In conjunction with the *Jewish Women in Professional Services & Business* edition of *The Jewish Voice* of January 23, 1998, we are compiling a *Directory of Jewish Women in Professional Services & Business*. To insure inclusion of your business, please mail or fax name of business, address and telephone number, and if necessary a very short description of your business. Please enclose a \$5.00 donation per listing. Send information to: Faye J. Harris, Editor, *The Jewish Voice* @ jewishvoice@aol.com or fax to 302-427-2438. Deadline is January 15, 1998 for ads and listings.

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**HAPPY HANUKKAH**



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.

**DECEMBER**

**Friday 19**

**Albert Einstein Shabbat.** 7:30 p.m., Temple Beth El.

**Albert Einstein Service** at Beth El, 7:30 p.m.

**Saturday 20**

**Young Jewish Singles of Delaware 20's and 30's Annual Hanukkah Party,** come schmooz, meet new people and see old friends, eat and drink. \$10.00, 7:30 p.m. R.S.V.P. by Dec. 17, 1116 Parkside Dr., Oak Lane Manor, in Northern Delaware, just 20 minutes from Philadelphia. To R.S.V.P., for directions or to be put on our groups mailing list, call Phil 652-6688.

**Renewal Service,** 10 a.m. with Larry Gerstenhaber, Temple Beth El.

**Shabbat Morning Renewal Service.** If you can't get to Elat Chayyim but you still want a taste of Jewish Renewal, don't miss this! Larry Gerstenhaber of the Elat Chayyim staff will lead services and introduce us to Living Midrash (his own special form of Bibliodrama), Temple Beth El, Newark, 10:00 a.m.

**Sunday 21**

**Jewish Author Series.** Rebecca Goldstein will discuss her novel "Mazel," at 11:00 a.m. at the JCC. "Mazel" depicts the story of three generations of women.

Goldstein was born and raised in Westchester County, NY, where her father was a cantor. She graduated from Barnard College and received her Ph.D. in philosophy from Princeton. She is the author of three other novels and one collection of short stories. The cost is \$6.00 per person and includes brunch. This program is being co-sponsored by the Wilmington Chapter of Hadassah and the JCC. Advance reservations are required at the JCC Front Desk. For more information, contact Michelle Silberglid, Cultural Arts Director, at 478-5660.

**Men's Club Breakfast,** 9:30 a.m. with guest speaker Stewart Schiffman discussing the Internet, Temple Beth El.

**Men's Club Breakfast.** Topic "Jewish Sites on the World Wide Web" at 9:30 a.m. Temple Beth El.

**Wednesday 24**

**Beth Shalom Christmas Volunteer Project.** Congregation Beth Shalom will again sponsor a community service project on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, working in shelters, hospitals, nursing homes, and other community facilities. Last year, over 70 adults and children worked in the Ronald McDonald House, St. Francis Hospital, the Mary Campbell Center, Cokesbury Village, and the Child, Inc. Center. Our efforts were much appreciated, and our service allowed many Christians to be home on their holiday. Members of the com-

munity may join us in this worthwhile project; contact the Beth Shalom office at 654-4462 to volunteer.

**Dinner & Bingo,** AKSE, 6 p.m. Adults \$7, Children 5-12 years, \$4. Children 4 and under Free. Deadline for reservations Dec. 19. Call AKSE office, 762-2705.

**Holiday Substitution Program.** Help our non-Jewish friends observe Christmas with their families. Call 654-4462 to volunteer. Congregation Beth Shalom.

**Singles Dance & Mingle With Fish as Jewish Alternative to Christmas Eve "Responsible Partying" at NJ Aquarium Hanukkah Bash.** Wednesday evening, Dec. 24, when many Delaware Valley residents will be celebrating Christmas Eve with family, nice Jewish guys and gals will have an alternative to Chinese dinner and the movies. More than 2,000 young Jewish professionals and their friends will be rocking the New Jersey State Aquarium across the river from Penns Landing, Philadelphia. They will be celebrating the second night of Hanukkah, and in remembrance of the dedication of the Jewish Temple more than 2,000 years ago, they will also celebrate the modern miracle of the rebirth of Israel just 50 years ago.

Doors open at 8:30 p.m. and the grand arched foyer will be throbbing with great DJ music by The Pros. The romantic recesses of the aquarium will be the place to "shmooze" with conversational "lite" music courtesy of Smooth Jazz WJZ 106.1. Free parking in an enclosed lot, hors d'oeuvres, cash bar and fantastic door prizes will be offered. Grand Prize for the Bash is a one week stay in Israel at the Radisson Moriah Hotel.

A donation of \$5 per admission will go to the Greater Philadelphia B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation, which serves college students on more than 20 campuses in the Greater Philadelphia area. Cost for the evening is \$25 at the door, \$20 prepaid by Dec. 21, and \$15 for students. The Hanukkah Bash is being co-sponsored by the Graduate Student Project of Hillel of Greater Philadelphia.

For more information contact Young Jewish Leadership Concepts at (215) 750-YJLC.

**Thursday 25**

**Pancake Breakfast featuring the Maagal Dance Troupe.** The Jewish Community Center will hold their Annual All-You-Can-Eat Family Pancake Breakfast and Hanukkah Program. Breakfast will be served from 10:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Hanukkah games, gym and pool activities and arts-n-crafts projects for families will be offered from 11 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. The Maagal Dance Troupe from the Mexico City JCC will begin their performance at 12:30 p.m.

The cost for the breakfast and performance is \$5.00 for children, \$8.00 for adults. The cost for the performance only is \$4.00 for children, \$7.00 for adults. There is no charge for children under the age of 3. Advance reservations are recommended by calling the JCC Front Desk. For additional information, contact Michelle Weintraub, Assistant Executive Director, at (302) 478-5660.

**Beth Shalom in Dover** is again helping to sponsor the Christmas Dinner at the Salvation Army. Donations and volunteers

are needed. Call Helen Gelof at 653-9907.

**Holiday Substitution Program.** Help our non-Jewish friends observe Christmas with their families. Call 654-4462 to volunteer. Congregation Beth Shalom.

**Religious School Recess.** Dec. 25-Jan. 3. Congregation Beth Shalom.

**Friday 26**

**Hanukkah Dinner.** 6:00 p.m. Congregation Beth Shalom.

**Family Shabbat Service.** 7:30 p.m. Congregation Beth Shalom.

**Saturday 27**

**Beth Shalom in Dover Men's Club and Sisterhood** are sponsoring Hanukkah Hoopla at 6 p.m.

**Sunday 28**

**Beth Shalom in Dover** is sponsoring a Family Breakfast at 9 a.m. Children's activities will be making an oil menorah.

**Emerging singles Chavura** supported by AKSE, is gathering all Jewish singles to celebrate Hanukkah. The party is from 5-8 p.m. For additional information please call 888-1816.

**Wednesday 31**

**First Night Dover,** Downtown Dover. Klezmer band is again being sponsored by Beth Shalom. Tickets on sale at Beth Shalom for \$5.

**JANUARY 1998**

**Friday 2**

**Tot Shabbat.** 7:00 p.m. Congregation Beth Shalom.

**Tuesday 6**

**Religious School classes resume.** Congregation Beth Shalom.

**Friday 9**

**Guest Rabbi David Wolfe-Blank.** 8:00 p.m. Temple Beth El.

**Saturday 10**

**Guest Rabbi David Wolfe-Blank.** 10:00 a.m. Temple Beth El.

**Wednesday 14**

**There are many issues** that threaten our freedom, our families, and our quality of life. Domestic violence, welfare reform, reproductive freedom and education are some of the many causes to support. There is one vital organization through which you can have a real impact, NCJW.

For more than 100 years the NCJW has affected public policy concerning women, children and families in the United States and Israel. Through education, advocacy, research and community service, NCJW has fought for social justice.

Discover what NCJW does and the opportunities it offers women in all stages of life to make a difference in our community. 9:00 a.m. Temple Beth El. Please RSVP by leaving a message for Barbara Levitt, 652-1193 or Barbara Spiller, (610) 388-6078.

**Thursday 15**

**National Council of Jewish Women - Policy Effectors.** 7:30 p.m. JCC Board Room. Please RSVP by leaving a message for

Barbara Levitt, 652-1193 or Barbara Spiller, (610) 388-6078.

**Friday 16**

**Family Shabbat Service.** 7:30 p.m. Congregation Beth Shalom.

**Tuesday 20**

**National Council of Jewish Women - Policy Effectors.** 9:00 a.m. JCC Board Room. Please RSVP by leaving a message for Barbara Levitt, 652-1193 or Barbara Spiller, (610) 388-6078.

**Wednesday 21**

**Workshop for Parents & Grandparents of Interfaith Couples at Temple Beth El.** An interfaith relationship or marriage often presents stresses and conflicts for families of the couple. If you are facing the difficult feelings and dilemmas involved with your child's intermarriage, please take part in a special two-part presentation and discussion on the topic led by Rabbi Kaplan and Lauren Pokras, MSW, a social worker at Jewish Family Services. We will provide an overview of the issues from several angles, including research done on

interfaith marriage, personal impact on parenting and grandparenting relationships, coping with holidays, transmitting values to grandchildren and sharing religious values through respectful discussion. Join us on Wednesday, Jan. 21 and Thursday, Jan. 29 at 7:30 p.m. at Temple Beth El.

This workshop is sponsored by Temple Beth El, Jewish Federation of De., and Jewish Family Services. Reservations are due by January 12. There is no charge for the program and is open to all members of the community. Call the Beth El Temple office at 366-8330 for more information.

**Saturday 24**

**Hear O'Israel,** 7:00 p.m. at the CoreStates Center in Philadelphia. Gala event with Israeli Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra, Tony Bennett, Leonard Nimoy, Issac Stern, Barbara Walters and other prominent entertainers are scheduled to appear. For information or reservations, call the Jewish Federation of Delaware at 427-2100. Bus transportation is available at the JCC at 5:45 p.m. by prior arrangement and at an additional charge.

**NCJW Supports Quality of Life**

There are many issues that threaten our freedom, our families, and our quality of life. Domestic violence, welfare reform, reproductive freedom, and education, are only some of the many causes to support and there is one vital organization through which you can have a real impact, NCJW.

For over 100 years the National Council of Jewish Women has affected public policy concerning women, children and families in the United States and Israel. Through education, advocacy, research and community service,

NCJW has fought for social justice. Discover what NCJW does and the opportunities it offers women in all stages of life to make a difference in our community.

Wednesday, January 14, 1998, 9:00 a.m., Temple Beth El

Thursday, January 15, 1998, 7:30 p.m., Home of Leslie Goldenberg

Tuesday, January 20, 1998, 9:00 a.m., JCC Board Room

Please RSVP by leaving a message for Barbara Levitt, 302-652-1193 or Barbara Spiller, 610-388-6078.

**JHSD Exhibit on Jewish Business**

In preparation for our exhibit on Delaware's Jewish-owned business, the Jewish Historical Society of Delaware (JHSD) would like to enlist the assistance of members of the community. If you or your family currently owns or once owned a retail, wholesale or manufacturing business in Delaware, we want to hear from you!

The exhibit which is planned for the Delaware History Museum in downtown Wilmington will focus on Jewish-owned business in the state from the mid-19th Century to approximately 1970. In addition to the exhibition, we are collecting

data for a small catalog documenting as many Jewish-owned businesses as possible. This exhibit will be one of the largest and most extensive that the JHSD has done to date!

What can you do to help? If you have photographs, stationary, signs, memorabilia etc. relating to a family business, please consider donating them to the Society. Items can also be loaned to the JHSD for the exhibit only. Copies of materials are also welcome. No item is too large or too small! For further information, please call the JHSD archives at 655-6232.

**Did you know a charitable gift can produce income for you? Call Marc Shandler, 427-2100, Ext. 19 for more information.**

CELEBRATE  
**Chanukah**  
WITH THESE SPECIALS



G R O C E R Y

<p><b>1/3 OFF</b></p> <p>Manischewitz <b>Noodle Pudding</b> Old World Recipe Side Dish Mix 10.3-oz. pkg. <b>SAVE 77¢</b> <b>1.52</b></p>	<p><b>SUPER SPECIAL</b></p> <p>Manischewitz <b>Potato Pancake Mix</b> 6-oz. pkg. <b>SAVE 55¢</b> <b>1.44</b></p>	<p><b>SUPER SPECIAL</b></p> <p>Manischewitz <b>Chanukah Candles</b> 44 Candles 44 Candles Product of Israel <b>SAVE 51¢ on 2</b> <b>2 for 1.19</b></p>
<p><b>SUPER SPECIAL</b></p> <p>Manischewitz <b>YOLK FREE</b> CHOLESTEROL FREE <b>Manischewitz Egg Noodles</b> Fine, Medium, Wide or Yolk Free Wide 12-oz. pkg. <b>SAVE 35¢</b> <b>84¢</b></p>	<p><b>1/3 OFF</b></p> <p>Manischewitz <b>Mini Potato Knish Mix</b> 6-oz. pkg. <b>SAVE 77¢</b> <b>1.52</b></p>	<p>Aviv <b>Judaica Disney Dreidel</b> Quantities are limited. <b>5.99 each</b></p>
<p>Standard <b>Brass Menorah</b> Quantities are limited. <b>9.99 each</b></p>	<p><b>SUPER SPECIAL</b> Plain, Chunky, Cinnamon or Natural <b>SUPER G Applesauce</b> 25-oz. jar <b>SAVE 30¢</b> <b>69¢</b></p>	<p><b>SUPER SPECIAL</b> Chicken, Beef or Vegetable <b>Telma Cubes</b> 1.5-oz. pkg. of 3 <b>SAVE 20¢</b> <b>55¢</b></p>
<p>Blue &amp; White <b>Chanukah Candles</b> Quantities are limited. <b>4.99 pkg. of 44</b></p>	<p><b>SUPER SPECIAL</b> Chocolate <b>Chanukah Pops</b> 1-oz. Quantities are limited. <b>SAVE 10¢</b> <b>79¢</b></p>	<p><b>SUPER SPECIAL</b> Palmer <b>Chocolate Coins of All Nations</b> 1.9-oz. pkg. Quantities are limited. <b>SAVE 20¢</b> <b>79¢</b></p>

**BAKERY**

**Jelly Donuts**  
20.5-oz. pkg. of 4  
**SAVE 38¢ on 4**  
**4 for 74¢**

**See Our Bakery for Chanukah Cupcakes**

**PRODUCE**

**Fresh Carrots**  
5-lb. bag  
FIBER-2 gram per medium carrot  
Look for firm, straight, bright orange carrots. Store in refrigerator.  
**1.68**

**FROZEN**

**SUPER SPECIAL Kineret Potato Latkes**  
24-oz. pkg.  
**SAVE 70¢**  
**1.59**

**1/3 OFF - Cheese or Potato & Onion Golden Pierogies**  
16-oz. pkg. of 12  
**SAVE 83¢**  
**1.66**

**1/3 OFF 99% Fat Free, Spinach/Potato Gabila's Baked Knishes**  
16-oz. pkg.  
**SAVE 1.50**  
**2.99**

**MEAT**

Fully Cooked, Frozen  
**Empire Kosher Triangle Potato Latkes**  
24-oz. pkg.  
**SAVE 60¢**  
**1.39**  
*Available in the frozen Meat case*

Frozen - Cheese, Cherry, Blueberry or Apple  
**Empire Kosher Blintze**  
13-oz. pkg.  
**SAVE 30¢**  
**2.39**  
*Available in the frozen Meat case*

Glatt Kosher, Frozen  
**Philly Ground Beef**  
**SAVE 90¢/lb.**  
**2.69 lb.**  
*Available in the frozen Meat case*

**DELI**

**Medium Whitefish**  
Available in the Service Deli  
**SAVE 80¢/lb.**  
**4.99 lb.**

**Chopped Chicken Liver**  
Available in the Service Deli  
**SAVE 1.49/lb.**  
**3.59 lb.**

Sliced  
**Vita Smoked Salmon**  
3-oz. pkg.  
**SAVE 50¢**  
**2.99**



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Browse through our aisles and find your favorite name brand kosher products for holidays and every day. We carry an extensive line of Empire kosher frozen meats as well as fresh meat and poultry items. Our Service Deli features a great selection of smoked fish and kosher meats which we'll slice for you on our kosher-only slicer. We also carry a complete line of Malin's kosher soups, salads, knishes and kugels. You can save with our own quality SUPER G Brand. For information on kosher certification for SUPER G products, pick up our free brochure at the Consumer Information Center.

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Customer Service (302) 475-5862 • Prescription Dept. (302) 475-6572  
Food store open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.  
Prescription Department open Monday thru Saturday 8am to 10pm; Sunday 9am to 6pm.

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PRICES EFFECTIVE SUN., DECEMBER 14 THRU SAT., DECEMBER 27, 1997

