

JFS NAMED LEAD AGENCY IN STATEWIDE PROJECT BENEFITING SENIORS

By Michelle Kramer-Fitzgerald
 Special to the Jewish Voice

Jewish Family Services has been named the lead agency in New Castle County to administer the *Delaware Aging Network's* (DAN) statewide initiative to improve service delivery to older adults. Two additional agencies in Kent and Sussex Counties—Modern Maturity Center and Sussex County Senior Services—are charged with the same mission.

JFS recently hired Karen Davis-Williams as Care Coordinator to oversee the project's scope in New Castle County. Davis-Williams' responsibilities include information-gathering from local senior service organizations to identify methods to improve programming, expand outreach and streamline processes. Her work will lead to the adoption of a comprehensive model of seamless service delivery to older adults.

Davis-Williams notes that while there are many resources available for seniors throughout the state, oftentimes these outlets lack the manpower and cohesiveness necessary to provide smooth delivery or referrals.

"It appears that most area facilities have a common need—synchronization of services," she adds.

"Addressing this need would improve access to broader services such as transportation, housing and Medicare, as well as consideration for future issues and planning."

The Delaware Aging Network was created as a groundbreaking coalition of more than 25 non-profit organizations, including senior centers, meal delivery services, transportation services, and educational providers. Its mission is to create the seamless delivery of services to Delaware's rapidly growing older adult population.

The ultimate goal of DAN is to help seniors remain independent and successfully adjust to the challenges of growing older. According to State statistics, there are more than 100,000 residents age 65 or older, and this count is expected to increase about 17% by 2010.

Supporting the vision of this project, the Delaware Community Foundation awarded DAN a \$200,000 program grant. The grant marks a departure from the way funding is allocated and the population that benefits; it is the first time funds have been awarded to an alliance of service organizations geared toward a single, united objective.

The grant will also change the way agencies provide services to seniors

throughout the state. William T. Kooser, Executive Director of St. Patrick's Center and representative of the Delaware Aging Network, emphasized, "It's not about what each agency does, but whether each person gets the services he or she needs."

JFS is particularly excited about and interested in this undertaking, as one of its three departments—*Care Management*—is aimed specifically at addressing the needs of older adults or adults with physical disabilities.

JFS Executive Director Dory Zatuschni explains JFS' role within the vision of DAN: "This project places JFS in the key position of providing leadership for a consortium of older adult care." She continues, "With the first wave of Baby Boomers leading the largest cohort of aging Americans, we believe that the time has come to begin a thoughtfully generated 're-visioning' of what it means to honor our elders within the community."

As a whole, DAN proposes a the creation of a plan referred to as the "Front Porch Model"—a return to the notion that the best way to ensure quality of life for all members of the community is to bring the generations together in natural, mutually



Cheryl Gallagher (left), Modern Maturity Center in Kent County, Karen Davis-Williams, Jewish Family Services of Delaware in New Castle County, and Kenneth Bock, CHEER Community Center, Sussex County, will oversee the coordination of services to seniors in their respective counties through a grant provided by the Delaware Community Foundation

affirming, visible ways. By creating a this mentality within agencies, communities and families, the social support network can begin to strengthen the community as a whole by honoring the connections between young and old, and between those elders who may need greater social contact in order to experience maximum well-being.

The member organizations of the

Delaware Aging Network are optimistic that this innovative initiative will result in a community structure in which older citizens will realize successful aging not by their ability to stay "out of the institution," but rather by their active and valued presence within the larger community, among others who recognize and honor the value of age and experience.

CELEBRATE TU B'SHEVAT AT LONGWOOD GARDENS

Longwood Gardens celebrates Tu B'Shevat, the New Year for Trees, on Sunday, February 19, from 9 am to 5 pm. Tu B'Shevat in Hebrew means the 15th of the Jewish month of Shevat, the date used to establish the age of fruit trees in Israel. Today, we celebrate Tu B'Shevat to be thankful for foods that grow on trees and the beauties of nature. The holiday also reminds us of our responsibility to care for the earth and preserve it for future generations. In Israel, Tu B'Shevat signals the coming of spring, as flowers begin to appear.

Throughout Israel's modern history, school children have celebrated the holiday by planting trees. On this special day at Longwood Gardens, enjoy Israeli dancing, musical performances, activities for kids and opportunities to learn about environmental stewardship and conservancy.

Longwood celebrates this Israeli holiday in honor of Pierre du Pont's love for trees and his history-making purchase of land, known today as Longwood Gardens, to save centuries-old trees from falling to lum-



AKSE Dance Troupe Harokdim will perform

ber mills one hundred years ago.

Shall we dance?

After a triumphant performance

at Anna Marie's holiday show, Harokdim are hard at work preparing for the Tu B'Shevat program at

Longwood Gardens. Harokdim and AKids from Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation in Wilmington will present a program of Yiddish and Israeli dances at the Gardens at 1:00 p.m. in the Special Events Pavilion. **Harokdim** is a teenage dance group which learns and performs Israeli and Jewish dance. Its purpose is to promote Jewish culture through teaching and performing. **Harokdim** will be joined by **Akids**, a group of young dancers comprised of 2nd to 8th graders.

If you've ever wanted to learn Israeli dancing than this is your golden opportunity. **Don Schillinger** of Rak-Dan Israeli Dancing will conduct an Israeli dance workshop at 2 pm in Longwood's historic ballroom. Based in Philadelphia, Schillinger has been teaching weekly Israeli dance classes in various locales across the United States since 1993.

Music for peace

Arab and Jewish musicians perform together! Join us for a special concert for peace at 3:30 pm in the Special Events Pavilion. **Atzilut**, under the direction of Hazzan Jack

Kessler, is eight-member ensemble celebrating the common roots of Arab and Jewish musical traditions. With their cantorial vocals and melodies of a Middle-Eastern orchestra, **Atzilut** brings the ancient Jewish mystical tradition alive. Their performance will feature songs of peace performed in Hebrew and Arabic as well as a mixture of songs from their three CDs which may include a Turkish dance medley and an Arabic love song.

A day for family fun

Bring the kids along! Activities especially for children include a pot-a-plant activity from 11 am-1 pm. Help **Mike Weilbacher**, Executive Director of the Lower Merion Conservancy, celebrate the birthday of trees in the rousing vaudeville-style show, *Trees on Stage!* What does a tree need to live? Find out by dancing to the fast-paced *Ballet of Air*, become a chanting cow in *The Story of the Sun in Six-Part Harmony* and find a magic rainbow. Along the way, get transformed into an unforgettable thunderstorm, marching ants,

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An Active Part of Your Community

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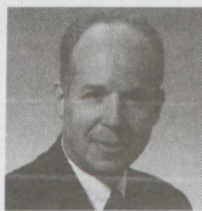
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Now may be the time to take advantage of the equity you have earned to move to a home that's more convenient for you. Did you know that MSN Money reports that home values in the Wilmington area have increased 62.5% in the past five years?* You may be surprised at just how much your home is worth.

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Iranian President
Mahmoud Ahmadinejad
October 25, 2005

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Not only does Iran's president routinely threaten Israel... he also threatens the entire world by refusing to give up Iran's nuclear weapons program.

Now is the time to tell Iran that the world will not tolerate its pursuit of nuclear arms.

The International Atomic Energy Agency-the U.N.'s nuclear watchdog organization-meets in Geneva on March 6th. If it once again fails to take appropriate steps against Iran, we will visit Capitol Hill on March 7th to demand the immediate referral of Iran to the U.N. Security Council.

But that's not all. We will also make the case for a far-reaching legislative package designed to stall Iran's drive toward the bomb.

This could be the most important Policy Conference you ever attend. We need you to be a part of it.

To register for the AIPAC Policy Conference,
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For more information about AIPAC activities in the Wilmington area,
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FEDERATION FOCUS

Shalom Delaware

After last week's Jewish Fund for the Future Investment Committee, I was thinking about how quickly the last three years have flown by since I joined the professional staff of the Jewish Federation of Delaware. Three years ago at the Investment Committee meeting, we reviewed the Jewish Fund for the Future's December 31, 2002 assets of \$12,089,240. This year we reviewed our December 31, 2005 total assets of \$15.4 million (and we lowered the fees to philanthropic funds).

The Jewish Fund for the Future grant distributions touch lives in Delaware and Israel. This year's unrestricted grant supported the Federation's Annual Campaign and the Young Emissary program. Through the Young Emissary program, Idan Kligerman served as a real life connection for Delaware youth to our P2K region and Israel. Idan, an Israeli from our Partnership 2000 (P2K) city of Arad, is Delaware's first shaliach in over 20 years, and the program was supported by the unrestricted endowments. Other grants from philanthropic (donor advised) funds and restricted endowments supported our beneficiary agencies, colleges and universities, and Jewish and non-Jewish causes. All of our scholarship programs can be viewed at www.shalomdelaware.org.

Since I came on board,

Federation has created several new programs to enhance endowment efforts, including the Endowment Book of Life, a beautiful permanent record honoring endowment donors and donor's establishing funds through bequest. We implemented special events to recognize endowment and long term annual campaign donors, such as the signing ceremony for the Endowment Book of Life last May and L'Chaim Circle reception in the sukkah this past Fall. Watch for information on the next signing ceremony in future issues of the Jewish Voice.

During my tenure, Delaware welcomed three new Star of David Society qualifying members—donors who increased or created planned gifts representing Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowments (PACE) or Lion of Judah Endowments (LOJE) over \$200,000 or Permanent Endowment funds over \$500,000. As I prepare to say Shalom Delaware to take on a new career challenge in the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, I want to express my sincere thanks to Jewish Fund for the Future past chair Richard Levine, current chair Toni Young and the JFF board for all of your support. (Leaving Delaware means I will no longer be asked if I am related to Toni Young, which, for the record, I am not).

I truly have enjoyed working with the Women's Philanthropy co-

chairs, Carol Rothschild, Connie Sugarman, Arlene Simon and Amy Leviton, to re-build the Women's Division and make Women's Philanthropy a major force of the annual campaign. Lion of Judah donors nearly doubled over the last three years, to over 65 women in the 2006 annual campaign. Delaware's Lion of Judah events saw tremendous growth in attendance and more Lions proudly wear their pins, symbolizing their support of Jewish Federation's mission. Thank you to all the Women's Committee members and all the women who make a gift in their own name in support of the annual campaign. Every gift counts!

Who knew in January 2004, when I was handed a folder marked Partnership 2000/ P2K of all the wonderful opportunities in Arad-Tamar? With Delaware P2K Chair Elaine Nemser, we visited our sister city/region Arad and Tamar and began promoting all the Living Bridge programs (Kefiada, Maccabbi and Volunteer Corps) designed to build a bond with our P2K region. We formed a committee to further our P2K involvement and sent volunteers to help on the ground in Arad. Just ask Howard Cohen or Iris Tocker to talk about their stay as part of the Volunteer Corps and you'll see their faces light up!

I hope to see you at my last few events, this Sunday, February 12



Clockwise L to R) Gina Kozicki, Suzanne Grant, Jennifer Young, Muriel Gilman, and Toni Young at the Endowment Book of Life event. Photo by Eric Crossan

from 3-5 pm at the Siegel JCC for Tu B'Shevat or Thursday, February 16 from 6-8 pm at AKSE for the JCRC-AIPAC Israeli Consulate event. Many thanks to all the wonderful volunteers I've worked with and to the entire staff of the Jewish Federation of Delaware. Special thanks to my fantastic assistant Gina Kozicki and to Sam Asher who has helped me to grow and develop in my career.

Shalom Delaware!

Since Jennifer joined the Federation staff in January 2003, she served as Jewish Fund for the Future/Endowment Director, Women's Philanthropy Director and Jewish Community Relations Director. Jennifer may be leaving Delaware, but she will continue to work in the Jewish community at the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia.

It's never too early ...



Lauren Schultz

"Life in the shtetl begins and ends with tzedakah. When a child is born,

the father pledges a certain amount of money for distribution to the poor. At a funeral, the mourners distribute coins to the beggars who swarm the cemetery, chanting, "Tzedakah saves from death." At every turn during one's life, the reminder to give is present.... If something good or bad happens, one puts a coin into a box. Before lighting the Sabbath candles, the housewife drops a coin into one of the boxes.... Children are trained in the habit of giving. A father will have his son give alms to the beggar instead of handing them over directly. A child is very often put in charge of the weekly dole at home when beggars make their customary rounds. The gesture of giving becomes almost a reflex." (Mark

Zborowski and Elizabeth Herzog, *Life Is with People*)

This week my niece, Miranda, turned one. In honor of Miranda's first birthday, her parents gave a gift of tzedakah in her name. My sister and her husband understand the importance of beginning philanthropy as early in life as possible. They have already formulated a plan to teach Miranda, as soon as she earns her own money, to continue to give tzedakah. Teaching the importance of philanthropy to the next generation is vital and it is never too early to start. It is crucial to instill in children the values we believe in and our commitment to supporting them. I am both a proud sister and a proud aunt, knowing that Miranda's legacy

is already in formation at the age of one.

I take great comfort in knowing that my niece has a thoughtful mother to teach her the responsibilities that come along with being a Jewish woman. As Jewish women we have a myriad of obligations to our families and our communities, but possibly the most important is to set the example for others to follow. Tzedakah is a central part of our Jewish tradition and as part of that tradition we should train our children to be in the habit of giving, just as they did in the shtetl. The earlier a child learns, the more likely the habit is to form. Teaching the importance of tzedakah to Miranda, the future of Jewish women, helps to ensure the

continuity of Jewish women's philanthropy.

"At every turn during one's life, the reminder to give is present." Consider making a gift in your daughter, your granddaughter or your niece's name in honor of their next milestone...their birthday, a dance recital, graduation...the possibilities are endless. Teach them to give no matter what age they are. Imagine the possibility of giving becoming almost a reflex. That would be something to be proud of. For more information or to become more involved with Women's Philanthropy, please call me (302) 427-2100 or email lauren@shalomdel.org.

Live Generously...It does a world of good.

The Power of Hasbara



Idan Kligerman

There have been amazing news developments in the Mid-East in recent months. Hamas emerged victorious in the Palestinian elections....Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon remains hospitalized in a

coma.....and Iran, whose president calls for Israel's destruction, is hard at work developing nuclear weapons. Yet, despite these disturbing developments, there are still people in this crazy world who believe Israel to be the controlling, abusive power in the region.

Israel continues to be challenged in the court of public opinion. Our enemies have stated their case on radio and television broadcasts, in newspapers and via the internet. It is up to us, Israel's supporters, to harness the power of Hasbara and explain Israel's case to the world.

Hasbara, advocating for the State of Israel, is easier when people feel connected to the land and its people. This is one of my chief responsibilities as community shaliach. It is my job to engage members of the Jewish and secular community in dialogue about Israel and help build

strong connections between our two peoples.

I have visited public schools and Jewish day schools in Delaware and South Jersey telling stories about Israel's quick response to world crises such as tsunamis, hurricanes and other natural disasters; its pioneering work in the fields of science, technology and agriculture and its numerous other great accomplishments that so seldom are publicized.

I emphasize that both America and Israel are democratic nations whose citizens have the right to express their opinion. In Israel, this right is upheld by a Supreme Court whose members include Muslim women as judges.

As an Israeli, I have a unique understanding of what it is like to live in a land where the threat of terrorism is a constant companion. Last week, I shared these insights with

listeners to a talk radio broadcast about the implications of Hamas' victory on Israel. I believe that it was my duty to call, share the facts that I know and lay all the cards on the table. This is Hasbara in action!

I urge you to become more involved in Israel advocacy efforts. Please join the Jewish Community Relations Committee (JCRC) or Federation's Partnership 2000 Committee and make your voices heard. If you want more information, say hello to me at the awesome TU B'SHEVAT SEDER this Sunday, February 12th 3-5 pm at the JCC or meet Israel's Consul General Uriel Palti at ASKE on Feb.16th 6 pm.

Want to go to Israel or send your kids to the Jewish homeland? Come and meet me at the JCC Feb. 15th 1pm.

The weekly trivia question: How can you go to Israel for free?

(what is the name of the program?)

Answers can be sent to Idan@shalomdel.org or 302-427-2100 Ext 30.

Shabbat Shalom!

Idan Kligerman is Delaware's first Shlichut or Young Emissary in over 20 years. Support for the Young Emissary program in Delaware comes from the Jewish Fund for the Future, the endowment fund of the Jewish Federation of Delaware, Partnership 2000 and Matt Slap Subaru. Idan will be here through February promoting Israel and strengthening the bond between Israel and Delaware. After February, he will be in Cherry Hill and will visit Delaware once a month. Idan is fluent in Hebrew and English, and can be reached at the Federation office (302) 427-2100 ext. 30. Also visit the Partnership 2000 website for general P2K information <http://www.partner.org.il/Arad/>

EDITORIALS AND OPINIONS

Keeping the Covenant

"The world is a tree and human beings are its fruit" - Rabbi Solomon Ibn Gabirol, 11th century Spain

On Sunday evening, we usher in Tu B'Shevat, the beginning of a "New Year for Trees." This holiday, which celebrates the first blooms of the trees in our beloved Eretz Yisrael, is a time to celebrate our covenant with Israel, our Jewish homeland and with Planet Earth—a place where all of G-d's creatures dwell.

During a time when much of the world is chilled by the dark days of winter, we eat the first fruits of Israel's spring harvest. At Tu B'Shevat seders, we drink from the fruit of the vines and savor our rich connection with the soil, water, sand and sky-essential elements of our earthly existences.

During this Rosh HaShanah of the trees, it is incumbent upon us to:

Reflect on our roles as *shomrei*, the

guardians of the precious natural resources that sustain life.

Rectify the problems of air, land and water pollution

And

Resolve to support conservation and restoration efforts that protect and preserve these precious resources for our children and grandchildren.

Throughout this edition of the Jewish Voice are articles and activities about Tu B'Shevat. Read more about how you can help to embrace our role as caretakers of the earth by working to protect and preserve its beauty.

Shabbat Shalom,

Lynn B. Edelman

Lynn B. Edelman
Editor



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Hamas win is a setback

The recent victory by the terrorist organization Hamas in Palestinian legislative elections is a setback for democracy and peace. Palestinians especially will have to live with the consequences of their choice, but it will also have serious implications for Israel, for Palestinian relations with Israel, the United States, and Europe, and for prospects for advancing peace. While some have noted the potential benefits of a new "clarity" in the Palestinian position, it is difficult to see the situation as other than a tragedy.

The Palestinian Authority laid the groundwork for Hamas's electoral success by its corruption and failure to provide for the basic needs of the Palestinian people. Even after Israel's courageous disengagement from the Gaza Strip and the northern West Bank last summer, the Palestinian Authority squandered an historic opportunity to demonstrate that it could institute the rule of law and begin to build a civil society. Instead, many Palestinians believed Hamas's claim that its suicide attacks and rejection of Israel led to the unilateral withdrawal.

Hamas is recognized as a terrorist organization by the United States and the European Union. It has been responsible for scores of deadly terrorist attacks against Christians, Muslims, and Jews in the last decade. Its charter, signed in 1998, explicitly calls for Israel's destruction as well as for the killing of Jews. Hamas leader Mahmoud Zahar publicly declared on January 17: "We do not recognize the Israeli enemy, nor his right to be our neighbor, nor to stay (on the land), nor his ownership of any inch of land." When Hamas speaks of "occupied" land, they mean the entire land of Israel, not just the West Bank and Gaza.

It is encouraging that President Bush and European leaders are demanding that Hamas renounce terrorism, disarm, and recognize Israel to gain legitimacy. These demands should be backed by firm economic and political consequences. It remains to be seen whether the international community can maintain the commitment to pressing Hamas to change its behavior

as well as its rhetoric. Already there are some signs of softening positions. Hamas may try to moderate its tone for tactical reasons, but nothing less than a strategic change in direction should be accepted in determining whether it can become a partner in a political process. The world should not again allow deception such as that practiced by Arafat, who spoke hollow words of peace while continuing to support terrorism. Also, Israel, a stable, progressive democracy having relations with 170 other nations, should not be put in the position of pleading with an implacable enemy for recognition.

While most American Jews support efforts to push for positive change, we are also realistic that the chances of a fanatical organization changing its basic beliefs are slim. History shows that extremist groups do not generally moderate when they gain power. Fundamentalist theocratic regimes like Iran and the Taliban have proven to be particularly resistant to pragmatic compromise. Despite much wishful thinking to the contrary, there is little evidence that the mundane work of running a government will make a violent, ideological organization into a moderate, pragmatic one.

We support democracy, a better life for the Palestinian people and a peace process that produces security and independence both for Israel and the Palestinians. But democracy is much more than elections; it requires respect for the rule of law and the establishment of accountable institutions such as an independent judiciary and a free press. It is likely to take years for these democratic changes to take place in Palestinian governance and for the Palestinian people to realize that a better future requires them to abandon the violent, rejectionist path of extremist groups like Hamas. In the meantime, we admire and support the resilient Israeli people and leadership in safeguarding their national security while never giving up hope for peace.

Mark Wagman, Chairman
Jewish Community Relations Committee
of the Jewish Federation of Delaware

Taste of Torah

Shabbat Shira: A Sabbath of Song

By Rabbi Michael Beals
Congregation Beth Shalom, Wilmington



Rabbi
Michael Beals

This Shabbat is known as Shabbat Shira, so named because of the song co-authored by Moses and Miriam, which the Children of Israel sang at the shores of the Red Sea for their miraculous delivery from Pharaoh's army. We read this text in synagogue this Shabbat. As the song is being chanted, it is the tradition for

the congregants to stand, as if they are reliving the miracle all over again.

The Shira text of the Torah scroll is spaced uniquely with large spaces between the words to indicate that the text is a song. During the chanting of this text, the congregants sing selected parts of the song, which are then resung by the baal koreh (Torah reader). The Haftarah for today is another song, this one composed by the judge Deborah, praising God (and the heroine Yael) for delivering the Canaanite general Sisera into the hands of the Israelites. According to the Rabbinic text, Targum Yonatan on Shir haShirim, the Song of Songs, there are a total of ten shirot, sacred songs, in the Tanakh.

The first is Adam's composition *Mizmor shir leYom haShabbat*, a song in praise of the Sabbath day, and the tenth is the song which will be sung by the Jewish people when God redeems them from our present exile.

In Wilmington, we will celebrate Shabbat Shira with Kraft Scholom-in-Residence Rahel Musleah, who was born in Calcutta, India, the seventh generation of a Calcutta Jewish family that traces its roots to 17th century Baghdad. During tonight's Friday night 6 p.m. service, at Congregation Beth Shalom, she will infuse the service with Shabbat melodies learned in India. The next morning, February 11, beginning at 9:30 a.m., Ms. Musleah will chant from her family's Sephardic Torah scroll from India, using a unique Baghdadi-Indian trope. She will also lead much of the service, using melodies from the Jewish community of India — a unique and original way of celebrating Shabbat Shira in Wilmington.

THURSDAY NOON DEADLINE

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for The Jewish Voice

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EDITORIALS AND OPINIONS

An Award for Terror

By Yossi Zur

This week the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences nominated the Palestinian movie "Paradise Now" for Best Foreign Language film of the year. The film follows the path of two young Palestinians from their decision to become suicide bombers to the moment they board a Tel Aviv bus crowded with children.

"Paradise Now" is a very professional production, created with great care for detail. It is also an extremely dangerous piece of work, not only for Israel and the Middle East, but the whole world.

My son Asaf was almost 17 years old, an eleventh-grader studying computer sciences, when one day after school he boarded a bus in Israel to return home. On the way, a suicide bomber from Hebron, 21 years old and himself a computer sciences student in the

Hebron Polytechnic, also boarded the bus and blew himself up. Of the 17 people killed, nine were schoolchildren aged 18 or younger. Asaf was killed on the spot.

I went to see "Paradise Now" to try to understand what message it was trying to convey. Was it that the murderer is human and is as deserving of sympathy as his victims? He is not. Was it that he has doubts? He has none. After all, he is so sure of his mission that he is willing to kill himself along with his human targets.

Or maybe, I wondered, the film was trying to give the message that it is the Israelis who are to blame for this horrific act, for the phenomenon of suicide bombing. In that case, are the Israelis also to blame for the similar terrorist attacks on New York City's World Trade Center, the Bali nightclub, the Amman hotels, the shop in Turkey, the restaurant in Morocco the underground stations in London,

the trains in Spain and so many others?

What exactly makes "Paradise Now" worthy of such a prestigious nomination? Would the entertainment writers who chose to honor this movie have given the same accolades if the film had been about the young men from Saudi Arabia who moved to the U.S., took flying lessons and then underwent Islamic ritual preparations for their holy mission to crash airplanes into the Twin Towers and the Pentagon? Would they have dared to nominate a version of "Paradise Now" for a similar award?

This movie attempts to deliver the message that suicide bombings are a legitimate tactic for those who feel they've exhausted all other means of resistance. But a suicide-murderer who boards a bus and snuffs out the lives of 15 or 20 innocent people, or who walks into a city carrying a biological, chemical or nuclear weapon and kills 10,000, or

even 100,000 people, is that still a legitimate tactic? Where does one draw the line?

The world should draw the line at one person. My son was almost 17; he loved surfing, he loved pop music. He is now gone because a suicide bomber decided that blowing himself up on a crowded bus filled with children was somehow a legitimate act.

Nominating a movie such as "Paradise Now" only implicates the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in the evil chain of terror that attempts to justify these horrific acts, whether the number of victims is 17 or 17,000.

This article appears courtesy of The Israel Project, an international non-profit organization devoted to educating the press and the public about Israel while promoting security, freedom and peace. The Israel Project provides journalists, leaders and opinion-makers accurate information about Israel.

Jewish group pushes Israeli environment

By Rabbi Michael M. Cohen

Like nature itself, Tu B'Shevat has gone through a number of different seasons throughout its existence.

From its biblical origins as a day to calculate the tithing of produce from fruit trees, to its transformation as a mystical nature holiday, and more recently as the environmental holiday par excellence of Judaism. Our tradition is saturated with nature-sensitive messages from the charge to "guard" the earth in Genesis (2:15) to the nature-intoxicated words of many of the Psalms.

For too long the Jewish value of caring for the environment when it comes to Israel has been put on the back burner as we wait for the conflict between Israel and her neighbors to finish. This is why the Green Zionist Alliance formed four years ago and ran for the 2002 World Zionist Congress elections. The alliance is running again in the elections for the American delegation to the elections for the 2006 World Zionist Congress. We can no longer afford that the environment be lost in the shuffle of the other important issues that face the Zionist state.

The Zionist movement has succeeded in many ways beyond its wildest expectations, and Israel has become a robust country with a dynamic cultural life. However, its success has also produced a litany of serious and life-threatening environmental problems: the Dead Sea is disappearing; open space is quickly giving way to urban sprawl and development; pollution levels continue to double every decade, posing dire health risks to Israelis, especially to children and the elderly; 70 percent of the wells along the coastal aquifer do not meet international environmental standards; and many species, such as the coral reefs of Eilat, are threatened with extinction.

It is time to take action. In addition to our platform calling for a number of innovative changes vis-à-vis Israel's environment we are calling for Alon Tal to be named chair of the Jewish National Fund in Israel. For too long this crucial position has been tossed back and forth between Zionist political parties, as a reward of politics. It is time for the chair of the fund to go to someone like Tal, who brings serious environmental expertise and caliber with him. Within the past month he

was awarded the Charles Bronfman Award for his work as an environmental leader and activist in Israel including the founding of the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies.

It was the Zionist philosopher Ahad Ha'am who said, "More than the Jews have kept the Shabbat, Shabbat has kept the Jews." One could also say, "More than the Jews have kept the Land of Israel, the Land of Israel has kept the Jews." It was one of our most important decisions to keep that connection to the land strong.

We made that connection strong by making it tangible, real, and full of meaning. It is not surprising that when the Dali Lama asked to be taught the secret of our maintaining our identity over thousands of years of exile, as he anticipates the exile of the Tibetans will be long as well, he was taught by the rabbis and teachers he met to maintain a connection with his land.

Tu B'Shevat is the holiday par excellence that makes that point. It makes no sense to celebrate the planting of trees in the middle of the winter in North America, or Poland, or Moscow, or London for that matter. It does make sense though if you want to be remind-

ed of the climate, the foliage and the seasons of the homeland of the Jewish people. We know of no other people in the world who were exiled from their land for more than 150 years and maintained their identity. One of the keys to maintaining our identity all these years was maintaining our connection to the land.

We are told that the Land of Israel was assigned to us as a sacred trust. That trust includes the care of its soil, water, air, and animal life. The health of the land is also a good barometer of the health of the Zionist movement. Zionism stands not just for returning the people to the land, but also the care of that very land so that the Jewish people may thrive on it. We prayed for almost 2,000 years for the ability to return to its soil. The land as always calls out to us. We must answer that call by standing and working for sustainable development, preserving open spaces, and environmental justice when it comes to the land of Israel.

Rabbi Michael M. Cohen is co-founder of the Green Zionist Alliance and executive director of North American Office of the Arava Institute.

CELEBRATE

Continued from page 1

autumn leaves, a mighty forest of trees and a whole lot more! Kids will especially enjoy a plant hunt throughout the Conservatory that teaches them about the seven species of fruits and grains from Israel that are traditionally eaten in celebration of Tu B'Shevat.

Stop by the Auditorium in the Visitor Center any time throughout the day to watch a film from the **American Society for Protection of Nature in Israel** exploring the life of those who protect the wildlife and the environment of Israel. The film, which runs continuously throughout the day, highlights programs by Israeli and Arab conservationists who are working to stabilize and restore endangered animal populations. Stop by to learn about those animals who are a formidable presence in the Bible in **Lost World of the Holy Land**. At 12 noon & 2:30 pm visit Longwood's Conservatory to learn about the history of Tu B'Shevat with **Nati Passow's** program **Tu B'Shevat: A History and Its Contemporary Importance**. This discussion will cover the history of the holiday and its rituals and contemporary relevance. Visitors can taste some sweet surprises and explore the mystical significance of different fruit and how ancient and present-day Rabbis have celebrated the New Year of trees throughout the ages. **Nati Passow** works as a carpenter, writer and Teva educator in Philadelphia and cur-

rently teaches a class in Judaism and Ecology. While exploring the Conservatory, visit the Discovery Cart filled with information about Environmental Stewardship hosted by a Longwood staff member from 1-3 pm.

Are you hungry?

The Terrace Restaurant will feature Israeli food selections at each cafeteria station, including a variety of assorted olives, grain salads, shelled assorted nuts and fresh fruit salad with pomegranate honey. Try the vegetarian Israeli cous-cous, roast chicken with carrot and onion and for the kids, sweet n sour or honey mustard chicken tenders. Food vouchers for children and adults are available for advance purchase.

Kosher food options are available provided by Boscov's Glatt Catering. Kosher food vouchers must be purchased in advance by calling 610-388-1000 x100.

All activities are included with Garden admission of \$12 for adults, \$6 for ages 16-20, \$2 ages 6-15 and free under age 6. Group rates are available by calling 610-388-1000 x512. Longwood Gardens is located on U.S. Route 1, three miles northeast of Kennett Square, PA, 30 miles west of Philadelphia, and 12 miles north of Wilmington, DE, in the historic Brandywine Valley. For information or a complete schedule of events call 610-388-1000 or visit online at www.longwoodgardens.org.

Going Once ... Going Twice ... Going Online!

ONLINE BIDDING OPENS SOON FOR UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE HILLEL'S ONLINE AUCTION

The Kristol Center for Jewish Life continues its new tradition of online auctions. Supporting Jewish life at University of Delaware, the second annual online auction opens at 8:00 am, on Monday, March 6th, on the Internet at <http://udhillel.cmarket.com>.

This year, the auction catalog includes a First Class trip to Hawaii, an overnight stay at the Hotel Dupont - complete with \$100 gift certificate to its famous dining room, a weekend at a Marriott resort, custom jewelry, artwork, and much more. Unique experiences are being added to the auction as well, such as a pie in the face for Hillel director Susan Detwiler, hot air balloon rides, or dinner with University professors. The auction also has services, like an eye exam from Dr. Stephen Franklin and an Emergency Plan for Business by Mark Delmerico. Unlike typical benefit auctions held at one-day events, this auction will run for 5 weeks and any items donated may be seen by thousands of people.

The UD Hillel Auction is also still accepting items for its catalog. Almost anything can be donated. For example, if you have a beach house or NYC apartment, perhaps you can offer a weekend stay; if you are known for creative cooking, perhaps you can offer a special dinner, cooked at someone's home. Unique experiences are some of the most popular items in auctions. If you don't have something to donate, but still would like to support Jewish life on campus, the Hillel foundation is also seeking auction sponsors. Call the Kristol Hillel Center, and ask to speak with Jith or Susan.

To donate an item, simply log on to the site and click on the "Donate Now" button or contact Hillel directly: 302-453-0479

The auction will run from Monday, March 6th through Thursday, April 6th and promises to have a major impact on the University of Delaware Jewish community. Kristol Center for Jewish Life supporters will receive emails about the auction, and can forward those emails to invite an unlimited number of guests to virtually "attend" and take part in the auction. Members of the public can also participate by going to <http://udhillel.cmarket.com>. You don't have to be Jewish to support Hillel!



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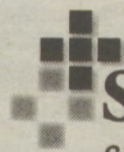
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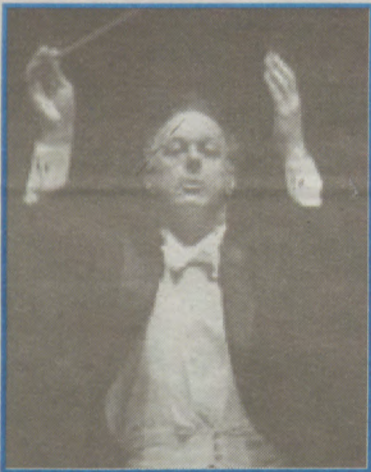
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INSIDE DELAWARE

A Night at the Symphony



Herman Cohen are the Honorary Co-Chairs for the event.

The Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, IBA was founded in the 1940's as the national radio orchestra and was known as the "Kol Israel Orchestra." In the 1970's, the orchestra was expanded and became the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, Israel Broadcasting Authority.

During the 2003-2004 season, maestro Leon Botstein was appointed music director of the orchestra. He has conducted the orchestra to great acclaim and has been widely praised for his tirelessly creative approach to programming and inspired performances. As the premiere orchestra in Israel's capital city, the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra has been dedicated to presenting masterpieces from the baroque to the contemporary, often presenting the Israel premieres of these works.

The cost for the AEA Gala at the Symphony is \$100; invitations are being mailed shortly. For more information please contact Debbie Nachlis, Director of Development at 302-478-5026 ext. 118.

Hadassah hosts Tu B'Shevat Seder



Table is set for the recent Hadassah Tu B'Shevat Seder that was conducted by Ann Jaffe



Rhoda Dombchik (FORE-GROUND), President of the Wilmington chapter of Hadassah, greets Seder participants.

Jackie Berger and Phyllis Seidel enjoy a conversation before the Seder begins.



Ann Herman (left) and Rodelle Weintraub, from the chapter's Newark group, enjoy desserts and coffee after the festive dairy lunch.

Melton hosts Super Bowl event

The Florence Melton Adult Mini School held a "Souper Bowl" luncheon on February 1st following classes. Melton Instructor Sarah Cohen



Featured Speaker, Sarah Cohen (left) and Melton graduate student, Dina Lipschultz enjoy a hearty lunch of soup and salad before the talk.

presented a talk and slide show about life on Kibbutz Ketura, located a half hour north of Eilat. Sarah and her family, who make their home on Kibbutz

Ketura, are spending this year visiting family in the West Chester area. The Melton school is very fortunate to have Sarah as an instructor.



From left) Cyra Gross, Sonny Schutzman, Fred Mannis and others fill their plates at the Souper Bowl luncheon prepared by Melton Director, Lynda Bell (right).

Tzedakah in the form of a ponytail

By Judi Feinson

Eight year old Albert Einstein Academy student, Skylar Carroll literally donated a piece of herself to help a child in need. In December, Skylar received the first haircut of her life. The twelve-inch ponytail that a Kennett Square hairstylist cut off will be donated to Locks of Love, a non-profit organization that provides hairpieces for financially disadvantaged children with long-term medical hair loss. Most recipients suffer from alopecia areata, which has no known cause or cure. The majority of donors are children eager to help other children.

When Skylar decided to cut her hair for an upcoming family portrait, her mother Brooke suggested she donate it to Locks of Love. "Her hair was so special to her that we talked about how it would be extra special to someone else," Brooke explained.

To this memorable event, Skylar and her mother were accompanied by Skylar's Pop-Pop and a friend. Being a tad nervous, Skylar's friend held her hand during the haircut. The stylist said she was honored to play a role in this special occasion. It took a little



time to adjust to the new hairstyle, however when asked how she felt about what she did, Skylar said, "I feel good about helping another child who doesn't have hair."

ZOA executive speaks at AKSE Men's Club brunch

Eleanor Weinglass, chairperson of Adult Education at Congregation Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth, talks with Steve Feldman and Marc Pevar at a recent brunch program focusing on the "Media and the Middle East." Feldman, executive director of the Greater Philadelphia District of the Zionist Organization of America and host of the "ZOA Middle East Report" weekly radio broadcast on 1540 AM, WNWR Radio, was the keynote speaker at the event. Pevar is a member of ZOA and is interested in starting a chapter in Delaware. A video of the brunch program is available at the AKSE Library.



Delaware community Hebrew School notes

Students shine during All School Service

On Friday evening, January 27, the Delaware Community Hebrew School at Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth held its all school service at 6 pm. As the children welcomed in the Shabbat with the rousing singing of L'chu Nerannena and Mi Pi Kel, families, congregants, and friends experienced a most enjoyable evening. Each child demonstrated their prayer proficiency skills as they led the prayers in the Kabbalat Shabbat and Maariv Services.

In addition, the entire school presented a special script, "The Story of An Old Siddur." Upon completion of the story, Robert Brown, was presented with his special siddur.

The children who led the prayers are: Lisa Belfer, Emma Brown, Darius Fekri, Adam Goldstein, Alex Hazen, Lindsay Hazen, Rachel Heisler, Joshua Heisler, Sarah Hoover, Stephen Piha, Joel Rice, Rachel Rice, Benjamin Russell, and Isaac Russell.

After the service, the entire congregation enjoyed a traditional Shabbat dinner.

To learn more about the Delaware Community Hebrew School at AKSE, please contact Gail Weinberg at 762-3618 or email her at gailberk@comcast.net.

Adas Kodesch Dedicates Junior Tefillot Room

AKSE's Jr. Tefillot Room, located in the synagogue's school wing, is now officially open for all to enjoy. Rabbi Sanford Dresin dedicated this room for weekly Jr. Congregation Services on January 28th. On that day, school children were able to enjoy the warmth of the Shabbat in this special space. Using the special child-friendly Siddurim, which have brightly colored pages, children and parents enjoyed singing the prayers of the Shabbat morning services together.

Jared Goldstein and David Zussman, AKSE's Jr. Tefillot leaders, presented a Shabbat story as well as riddles for everyone to solve. During the Torah service, the children used the beautiful ark, which was designed and painted by Rosemary Russell. Mitzvah baskets adorned each side of the ark.

AKSE's Jr. Tefillot service meets every Shabbat from 10:30-11:45 a.m.. Everyone is welcome to attend.

INSIDE DELAWARE

Klezmer tunes delight Kutz Home residents

Photos and Text by Joel Glazier

A gray Sunday day was transformed into a cheery hand-clapping afternoon as members of the newly formed Adas Kodesch Klezmer Band brought their sounds to entertain residents and friends at The Kutz Home.

"We enjoy providing this music and the residents were a wonderful audience," noted Steve Howard, trumpet player for the band. "We desperately need a clarinet player for this group to enhance the tunes," he said. The group rehearses on Wednesdays at Adas Kodesch on Washington Street Ext. Interested persons may call 762-2705.

Others interested in providing activities at The Kutz Home may contact Bernice Edwards, Activities Director for the Kutz Home north of Wilmington. The Kutz Home is a beneficiary agency of The Jewish Federation of Delaware.



Faith and Lou Brown add some Yiddish lyrics to favorite Jewish tunes performed by the AKSE Klezmer Band at The Kutz Home.



Nate Zahn enjoys the Klezmer entertainment with his mother Laura Zahn at The Kutz Home.



Vivian Dresin gets into the happy spirit of the Klezmer Concert.



Dr. Jay Luft plucks the notes on his Bass. The newly formed AKSE Klezmer Band is interested in more musicians especially a clarinet player.

"Shabbat Around the World" at Beth Emeth

Photos and Text by Joel F. Glazier

The address may have been Lea Boulevard in Wilmington, but the food, displays and entertainment were from anywhere but. Over 120 people enjoyed delicious cuisine from Uganda, Mexico, Tahiti and China and had the chance to read and learn about the Jewish Communities in those countries at "Shabbat Around The World" organized by Beth Emeth's Outreach Committee.

"This was a creative amazing evening which is typical of our

Outreach Committee's programs," said Esther Timmeney, who with Leslie Newman, co-chairs Beth Emeth's 100th Year anniversary events. "This was a great community event with interest for the palate and the mind," said Steven Davis, chair of the Outreach Committee.

Beside the food and entertainment, participants could visit displays to learn about the Jewish communities in the 4 represented countries and take home products from each area.



Elaine Alpert Sherman and Steven Davis of Beth Emeth's Outreach Committee help out in Beth Emeth's kitchen before Shabbat Around The World, which was attended by families and congregants of all ages.



Danny Goodman, Skylar Carroll and Torrey Carroll eagerly await the Shabbat Around The World foods at Beth Emeth.



Sherry Evans Stanton and Ann Greenstein prepare soft shells for the Mexican dishes.



Nancy Brown and Philip Yates prepare for a sweet Shabbat greeting at Beth Emeth's international event.

KIMMEL-SPILLER PROGRAM UPDATE

Get Involved at JFS & Help with Our Wish List!

JFS is in need of volunteers and donations in the following capacities:

- ✧ Donations of small-portioned frozen meals or soup to stock our mitzvah pantry
 - ✧ Donations of gas cards, phone cards, and gift cards for clothing and school supplies
 - ✧ Donation of a wheeled cart to transport baskets and supplies
 - ✧ Office volunteers to answer phones, handle data entry and filing
 - ✧ Creative individuals to assist with assembling and wrapping baskets
 - ✧ Delivery assistance for meals and baskets
 - ✧ Caring individuals to make friendly visits or phone calls to community members
- Hours are flexible. No experience is necessary—we will train you!

Please contact Volunteer Coordinator Lisa Driban at 302-478-9411, ext. 21.

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2nd Tuesday of every month
12:00 p.m.-1:30 p.m. in the Kimmel-Spiller Healing Center

Led by Rabbi Michael Beals

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Wednesday, March 1, 5:00-6:00 p.m.
Jewish Family Services, Wilmington office.
Call 302-478-9411 to register or for more information.

Bereavement Group

Free & open to the community

1st & 3rd Thursday of every month
10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. in the Kimmel-Spiller Healing Center

1st Thursday led by JFS staff member only; 3rd Thursday led by Rabbi Sanford Dresin & JFS staff member

Women in Transition Group

\$20/session or \$75 for entire program

Discussion group for women of any age who are contemplating or experiencing changes & choices in their lives.

Wednesdays • Call for specific dates
6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. in the Kimmel-Spiller Healing Center

Led by JFS staff member Nona Smolko, LCSW

Computer Maven Workshop

This program is open to older adults in the community teaches basic computer skills such as e-mail and how to surf "the Net" (Internet). Cost: \$25/JCC members, \$35/non-members. Tuesdays, 2:00 p.m., in the JFS Classroom. For more information, contact Scott Michels at 302-478-9411, ext. 18.

Delaware Money School presentation at JFS

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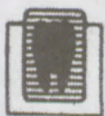
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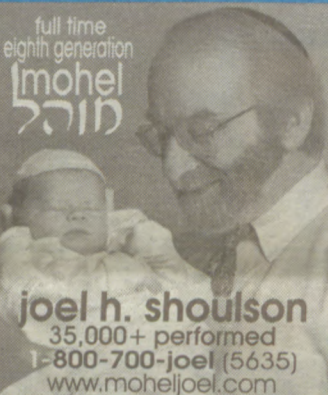
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OLYMPIC WATCH

Israel's Olympic hopefuls

By Peter Ephross, JTA

Galit Chait left Israel with her family as an infant and grew up in the United States. Sergei Sakhnovski grew up in Russia and immigrated to the Jewish state at the age of 19.

The ice-dancing duo, both Israeli citizens, will be the best hope for Israel's first-ever medal in the Winter Olympic Games, which will take place in Turin, Italy, beginning today through Feb. 26.

It's a responsibility they're reminded of whenever they're in Israel, where they've put ice skating on the map.

"We're not only skating for ourselves," Chait said last week during an interview at their home rink in northern New Jersey. "We're skating for a country — and a country that expects a lot."

According to most observers, Israelis are right to expect a lot from the pair. They won a bronze medal at the 2002 World Championships and are considered serious contenders in Turin.

"They need to skate well," said one of their coaches, two-time Russian Olympic gold medalist Evgeny Platov. "And have some luck."

If Chait and Sakhnovski do, they would make history for Israel. Israel has won medals in Summer Olympics; most recently, Gal Fridman won a gold in windsurfing at

the Athens Games in 2004.

During the interview at the snack-bar area at the Floyd Hall Arena in Little Falls, N.J., Chait and Sakhnovski, both 30, couldn't seem more different.

Pretty and petite, her hair dyed a reddish orange, Chait describes herself as full of energy, "like the Energizer bunny." She admitted to being anxious, while he's the calmer of the two.

Sakhnovski — with longish dark hair, brooding eyes and small glasses — looks like a graduate student in philosophy.

On the ice, their personalities mesh well. They're known for their intense, expressive skating style that has made them favorites with the fans. During the Olympics, their free dance will feature Ravel's Bolero, while during their original dance they will skate to cha cha, rhumba and samba music.

But they took very different paths as young skaters.

Chait was born in the Israeli city of Kfar Saba to parents who had immigrated to the Jewish state from the then-Soviet republic of Moldova. Her family moved to the United States before she turned 1. At the age of 8, she began her skating career with a trip to Rockefeller Center in New York City.

She competed for a while in individual events before switching to ice dancing.

Sakhnovski, whose father is Jewish but whose mother is not, began skating in Russia at age 4 — "when my mother pushed me into it," he said.

By the age of 8, he was already into ice dancing, which is similar to pairs figure skating, but does not allow lifts or other strength moves. "It's a stage — you need the play there like an actor," said Sakhnovski, who immigrated to Israel on his own as a young adult.

His family still lives in Moscow, while he lives in Freehold, N.J., as does Chait.

After skating with other partners, the two came together in the mid-1990s, at the suggestion of another coach. They finished 14th at the 1998 Olympics in Nagano, Japan, and sixth at the 2002 Olympics in Salt Lake City.

The climb hasn't come easy. Except for a month off in June, the two train at least six to eight hours a day. Training includes running, weightlifting and ballet, as well as ice time. They reduce the workload only during the winter, when there are skating competitions.

"For eight and a half months, we work every single day," Chait said.

Their work has paid off, not only for themselves but for Israel's image in the world.

Boris Chait, Gail's father, who also serves as chairman of the Israeli Ice Skating Federation, said that recent-



Israeli ice dancers Galit Chait, left, and Sergei Sakhnovski.

Credit: Mike Braca

ly, a Chinese woman approached him after a competition and said, "Kol hakavod," which translates loosely from the Hebrew as "more

power to you."

The two are "some of the best ambassadors of the country in the world," Boris Chait said.

Jewish hockey star goes to Olympics

By Chanan Tigay, JTA

Mathieu Schneider's father calls him "the Wandering Jew."

And while, historically speaking, most Jews haven't done their wandering on ice skates, it's not difficult to see how the term applies to Schneider: Over the course of his 17-year National Hockey League career, he's played in seven different cities, several of them more than once.

And while, historically speaking, most Jews haven't done their wandering on ice skates, it's not difficult to see how the term applies to Schneider: Over the course of his 17-year National Hockey League career, he's played in six different cities.

Currently a star defenseman for the Detroit Red Wings, he's bounced from Montreal to Long Island to Toronto to Manhattan to Los Angeles and, most recently, on to Detroit.

"I've been fortunate throughout my career to play in cities with tremendous Jewish communities," Schneider, 36, told JTA. "I feel as though I've been a role model in each city that I've played in. There are very few Jewish hockey players, and it's been a nice role for me and I've really enjoyed it."

Today, Schneider suits up for another trip: this one to Turin, Italy, where the "Wandering Jew" will strap on his skates as a member of the U.S. Olympic Hockey Team. It's the second time Schneider will be representing the United States on Olympic ice — and this time, Schneider says, he's hoping to just enjoy the experience.

"The first time around there were so many uncertainties," said

Schneider, a native of New York, says of the 1998 Games. "It was the first time the NHL went to the Olympics. The travel was really tough."

Schneider has played in more than 1,000 NHL games since 1987. Along with Washington's Jeff Halpern and Los Angeles' Michael Cammalleri, Schneider is thought to be one of just three Jews in the NHL. He says his religion hasn't been a problem for him on the ice.

Early on in his career, he recalled, there was an incident in which an opposing player unleashed an ethnic slur.

"That was the first time I heard any of that stuff. I made a mental note that the next time I had a chance, I would run the guy into the sideboards. And I did," he was quoted as saying on the Jewishvirtuallibrary.org Web site.

But outside of that — and one other similar experience at the start of his career — "there's never been any kind of taunting on the ice since."

In the intervening years, he said, the NHL has instituted sensitivity training for its players, and Schneider thinks it's working.

"I think society in general has

become a lot more aware of it, and the sports world just kind of caught up," he said.

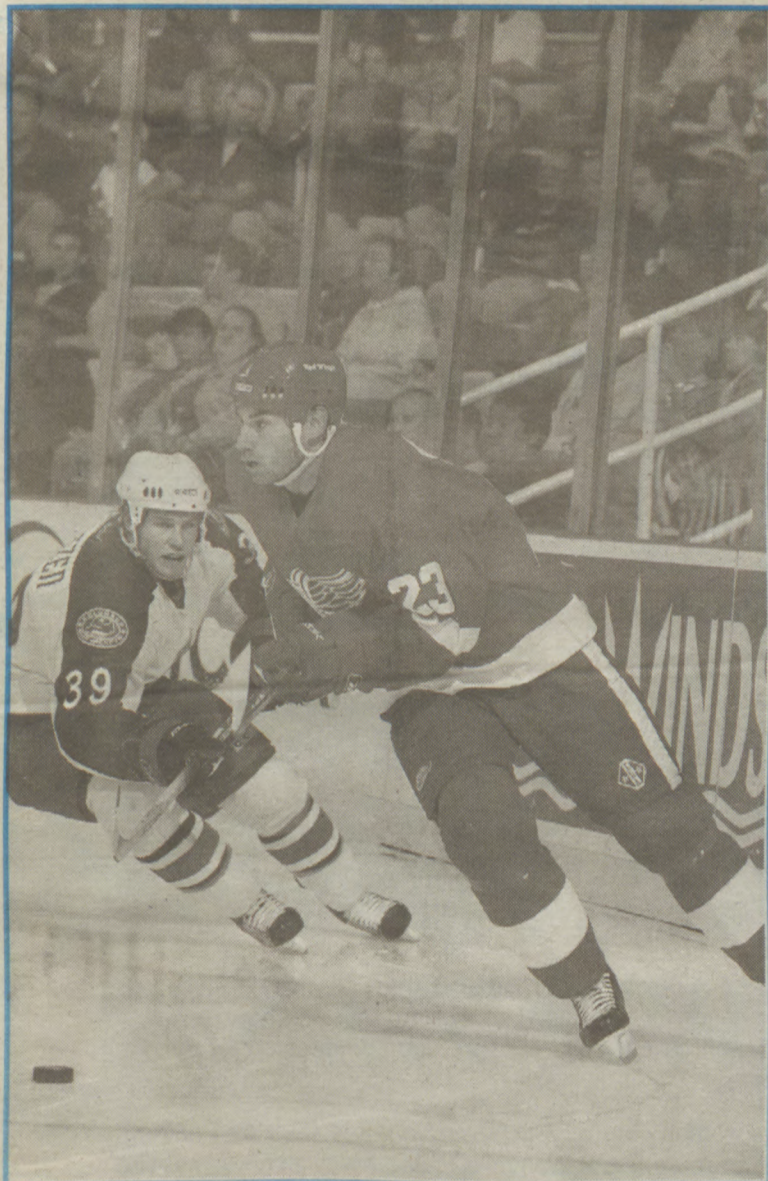
Schneider, who maintains a home in California and is a member of the Jewish Community Center in Redondo Beach, Calif., said that over the years he has made an effort to sit out on Yom Kippur and fast. It's generally not too hard, he said, because the High Holidays tend to fall during training camp and not during regular season play.

Schneider's mother converted to Judaism to marry his father. Today, he said, "she's probably the most knowledgeable of the whole family" about Judaism.

Schneider and his wife, who has been in the process of converting for the last couple of years, have three children — and one more on the way. They are, he said, being raised as Jews.

"As you get older, and especially when you have a family, religion becomes more important," he said. "I was raised as a proud Jew and I believe a lot of the lessons Judaism teaches relate really well to family."

"In the times we live in, I think it's very important to give children that sense of guidance," he added. "Jews have always stuck together."



Mathieu Schneider of the Detroit Red Wings and the U.S. Olympic Hockey Team.

Credit: Detroit Red Wings

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GLOBAL JEWISH NEWS

Cartoon imbroglio: a bitter pill for Europe

By Dinah A. Spritzer, JTA

A Danish employee of the European Union in Brussels confides that she is so fearful of Muslim anger over the now infamous cartoons of the prophet Mohammed in a Danish newspaper that she is afraid to go home.

Unnerved Danish members of the European Parliament refuse to comment on the violent protests against the cartoons in the Arab world and even normally chatty European analysts tell JTA they are withholding speculation for fear of fanning the flames.

"This is the first time there is a profound argument between modern Europe and the Islamic world," said Emanuele Ottolenghi, a fellow at the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies and at the Middle East Centre of St. Antony's College at Oxford University.

"Now Europe is getting a taste of what Israel and the U.S. have long had to contend with."

Some Europeans are wondering what Europe's grappling with Islamic anger might mean to the delicate balance of E.U.-Middle East relations.

Some analysts hypothesized that the protests were part of a wider Islamic conspiracy to pressure the European Union into a softer approach on Islam, and in particular Iran.

Shock and fear has gripped the 25-member European bloc following several days of anti-Danish and anti-European demonstrations during which Muslims vented their rage — in several cases setting fire to embassies — over 12 cartoons that appeared in Jyllands-Posten last fall.

The cartoons satirized the relationship between Islam and terrorism, in one case showing the prophet telling terrorists that there were no more virgins left to reward them for their acts. Numerous other newspapers across Europe have reprinted the cartoons in recent days to show solidarity with the Danes and to support freedom of speech.

After the protests grew more severe over the weekend, with angry mobs in London and the Middle East calling for the beheading of the Danish newspaper's editor and the cartoonist, Danish leaders and the newspaper apologized for having offended Islam.

But their words have done nothing to quell the anger in some quarters. In Iran, the supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei claimed that a Zionist conspiracy was behind the cartoons while stones and petrol bombs were tossed at the Danish and Austrian embassies. Austria holds the E.U. presidency.

Elsewhere, Norwegian peacekeeping troops were fired on in Afghanistan, gunmen threatened to attack a French learning center in Nablus, and for the Danes, the most shocking incident was the police failure to halt the burning of their embassy in Damascus.

These developments come at a precarious time for European-Middle East relations, with Europeans grappling how to deal with Iran's

nuclear threat and future funding of the Palestinians, now that Hamas has come to power.

Ottolenghi noted that the Muslim demonstrations were occurring nearly five months after the cartoons appeared.

"So why now? There is nothing spontaneous about what is happening. Denmark is going to be the chair of the U.N. Security Council when the decision about Iran's nuclear activities is made and these protests are intended to make the Danes feel the heat," he said.

Ottolenghi said he suspects the riots are also intended as a message to those E.U. leaders hoping to maintain a hard line with Hamas.

"This violence is clearly intended to intimidate Denmark in particular and Europe in general and to push them to have a more accommodating attitude towards Hamas," he said.

Such forecasts do not sit well with Jans Peter Bonde, a Danish member of the European Parliament.

"The Danish apology should be accepted and we can all have normal relations again. I think these violent elements are not the view of the majority in the Arab world. There is only one way forward: dialogue and peace. It will all be settled and then things will be back to normal," he said.

Ottolenghi scorned the Dane's "wishful thinking" that he said typified the European "white-washing" of political Islam.

"They want to see it as kosher because they have no idea how to respond to the threat of Islamic violence," he said.

If the European elite appeases the masses of angry protesters with continued apologies and promises of greater press respect for Islam, Ottolenghi says that some Muslims will feel that violence pays off.

The question of how to handle political Islam looms large within E.U. borders following the Al-Qaeda attack on a Madrid train in 2004, the London train and bus bombings last summer attributed to Islamists and the 2004 murder of a Dutch filmmaker who criticized Islam's treatment of women.

It is clear now the European governments do not have a common position on what to do when they are haunted by political Islam," said Richard Whitman, head of the European program for Chatham House, the Royal Institute of International Affairs in London.

While the French Interior Minister Nicholas Sarkozy decried the firing of a French newspaper editor who ran the Mohammed cartoon, Britain's foreign secretary, Jack Straw, announced that the reprinting of the cartoons was "disrespectful."

Whitman said he did not think that the number of Muslims in each country influenced the individual responses to the outcry over the cartoons.

"It's not like in the United States where lobbying groups help determine foreign and domestic agenda," he said.

There are approximately 14 million Muslims



Palestinian school girls are reflected in the window of an East Jerusalem clothing store, as they look at a poster calling for a boycott against Danish products, Feb 5, 2006. Violent Muslim protests erupted across Europe and the Middle East over European newspapers that printed cartoons depicting the Islamic prophet, Mohammed. Credit: Brian Hendler/JTA

in Europe and the number is growing rapidly as they have a much higher birthrate than non-Muslim Europeans.

France has the largest Muslim and Jewish population in the European Union, with 5 million Muslims and 600,000 Jews. Germany, Britain, Austria and the Netherlands also have sizeable Muslim populations.

Most analysts agreed that leaders in E.U. countries such as France were more concerned about the impact of the cartoon row on relations with Muslims within their borders than with relations with the Palestinians. But some said they agreed that an awareness of Islamic violence might create greater sympathies for Jewish

issues.

"When Europeans see E.U. flags being burned in Palestine, people are asking themselves if this is the reward for spending all that money there," said Marc Hecker of the French Institute of International Relations.

Ottolenghi was harsher on what he perceived as European hypocrisy.

"The Europeans have for years been deriding Israel for the way it behaves, saying how much more sensitive they are to the Muslims, but now that it's Norwegian soldiers being stoned in Afghanistan last night, not Israeli soldiers in the West Bank, they might view things a bit differently."

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February 15th, February 22nd, March 1st

at Chabad House, 262 South College Avenue

Parking available ~ Course Fee \$15

For more information or to RSVP contact: 455-1800

or email: Rabbi@udel.edu



Jewish National Fund, 42 East 69th Street, New York, NY 10021 • 212-879-9305 x263 • education@jnf.org

Do Yu know Tu B'Shevat?

Do you have **Tu B'Shevat talent** or do you need some **Tu B'Shevat training**? Take this fun quiz to find out!

- Jewish people began to celebrate Tu B'Shevat about 2000 years ago, when they were mostly
 - farmers in Israel
 - slaves in Egypt
 - celebrities on television
- They had laws to follow which required that they know
 - how to sing
 - the ages of trees and when the growing year began
 - mathematics
- Tu B'Shevat
 - is in the Torah
 - comes during a different season each year
 - was chosen as the date for determining when the growing year began
- Tu B'Shevat is celebrated
 - when the winter rains are over in Israel, and just before the new plants begin to grow
 - just before the rainy season
 - whenever we want to think about growing things

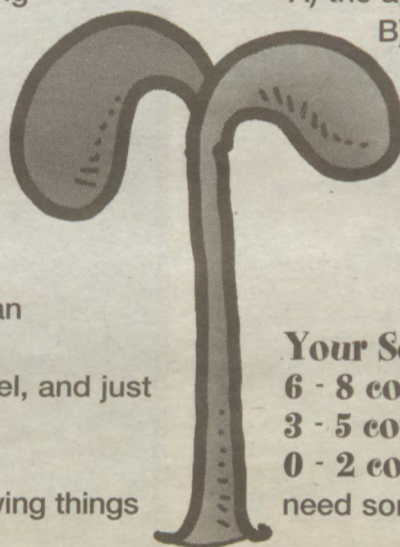
- Whatever blooms after Tu B'Shevat belongs
 - to the fastest runner
 - to the new year
 - in a special basket
- On Tu B'Shevat, a tree turns
 - pretty colors
 - upside down
 - a year older
- For farmers in Israel, it was important to know
 - the age of a tree
 - how to dance the mayim dance
 - good table manners
- Today, most Jewish people are not farmers, but we still celebrate Tu B'Shevat because
 - it reminds us of spring in Israel
 - it is a day to appreciate trees and other growing things
 - all of the above

Your Score:

6 - 8 correct: You have a ton of Tu B'Shevat talent!


3 - 5 correct: You know a tolerable amount.



0 - 2 correct: Turn back and study some more, you need some Tu B'Shevat training!





New -ginnings in the Negev


More than 60% of Israel's land is the barr-**N**, rock-**E** Negev desert where it's hard **4 N-E**-thing


2 gr-**0**. Until re--ly, ver-**E** few Jews lived in this southern area of Israel, but **2**-day the Jewish

National Fund is helping build new communi--s there. Now there **R** -matoes growing, using

brackish (salty) water which actually makes the -matoes sweeter. Olives al- gr-**0** in the

Negev, and sal- water makes the tr **EEEE** produce more fruit. **2**-day there **R** fish farms

where the fish live in covered ponds to prevent evaporation. **JNF** has also built houses, p--s and

schools in the Negev. The spe- challenge to settling the Negev is **2** provide water, build houses

& pave roads, all without harming the fragile desert **N**-vironment.

To plant trees or to donate to water projects in Israel, or for more JNF Israel Advocacy and Education programs, visit www.jnf.org or call 1-800-542-8733.

For the answers to these puzzles, plus more games, crafts, recipes, stories and e-greetings visit

www.YourPage.org

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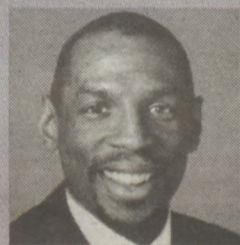
Wendy Kopp
*Executive Director Teach
for America*



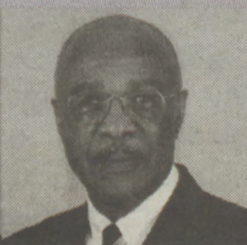
Norah O'Donnell
*Moderator
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TU B'SHEVAT CELEBRATION

A NEW YEAR for TREES

Sunday, February 19, 2006

Longwood Gardens

Concert for peace with Atzilut
Children's performance by Mike Weilbacher
Holiday talks & taste sweet surprises
with Nati Passow
Pot-a-plant activity
Self-guided plant hunt for kids

Dance performance
by Harokdim Dance Group
Israeli dance workshop
with Don Schillinger
Israeli and kosher food*
Lost World of the Holy Land film

All activities are included with garden admission of \$12 for adults,
\$6 youth (ages 16-20), \$2 children (ages 6-15) and free under age 6.
Group rates are available by calling 610-388-100 x512.

This program was planned in collaboration with the Jewish Federation
of Greater Philadelphia, Chester County and Delaware County Regions.

*Advance Reservations Required for Kosher Food Option

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LIFESTYLES

Gaza trees replanted this Tu B'Shevat

In keeping with tradition, during the week of Tu B'Shevat, tens of thousands of schoolchildren, immigrants, soldiers, and Israelis, young and old, will go out and plant trees all over Israel.

But this year, the main ceremony organized by Jewish National Fund-Keren Kayemeth Lelsrael that kicks off the tree planting, will be held at Nitzan, the temporary home of more than 500 families from Gaza.

Since before the evacuation, JNF-KKL has responded to the government's call to help establish infrastructure for localities and greenhouses for the evacuees. In addition to planting new saplings and mature trees to green the landscape, protected and valuable trees and plants that were removed from Gush Katif, will also be planted. Among these are trees that were planted in memory of the fallen, taken from the private gardens of bereaved families. Additionally, at the time of the evacuation, a

group of trees from each settlement were relocated and stored for safekeeping until new communities are created. Some will be planted on Tu B'Shevat.

"What stands out about the work we have done throughout our century of existence is our ability to focus on the important national missions," said Ronald S. Lauder, president of JNF of America. "Once again we felt we had to provide a real term response and act on behalf of the people of Israel."

In addition to trees, that meant finding housing solutions and employment opportunities, developing infrastructure and creating a sense of community to help replace what the evacuees lost.

JNF launched an emergency campaign and since its call to action was sounded, more than \$4.5 million was pledged by JNF donors for the Gaza evacuees. Already 25 caravillas at a cost



Gaza evacuee surveys his newly constructed greenhouse, erected in time for him to capitalize on the fall flower market.



Trees from Gaza were removed and readied for replanting.

of \$50,000 each have been bought; more are on the way. Hundreds of acres were cleared to set up greenhouses so the Gaza farmers could continue their work, scores of families have moved to their new homes up and down the Negev, and preparations are ongoing to move hundreds more.

"Tu B'Shevat, the new year of the trees," said Lauder, "marks a period of re-growth and rebuilding. We hope that this year is no different and we will continue our work of preserving, fostering, and developing the country."

Jewish National Fund is a non-profit organization founded in 1901 to serve as caretaker of the land of Israel, on behalf of its owners -

Jewish people everywhere. Over the past century, JNF has planted over 240 million trees, built over 180 reservoirs and dams, developed over 250,000 acres of land, created more than 450 parks, provided the infrastructure for 1,000 communities and educated students around the world about Israel and the environment. Today, JNF is putting its century of experience to work with the Blueprint Negev initiative, supporting Israel's newest generation of pioneers in developing the Negev Desert Israel's last frontier. For more information on JNF or to plant trees in Israel, call 1-800-542-TREE (8733) or visit www.jnf.org. To contact your local office, please call 888-JNF-0099 or visit www.jnf.org.

New author has Wilmington roots



Leil Leibovitz

Lisa Ann Sandell, the daughter of Nancy and Lionel Sandell of Wilmington, is the author of *The Weight of the Sky*, published in March 2006 by Viking. This, Lisa's debut novel is the coming-of-age story of a Jewish-American teenager who spends her first summer away from home volunteering on a kibbutz in Israel.

Lisa's husband, Liel Leibovitz, a ninth generation Israeli, is also a first-time author. His book, *Aliya: Three Generations of American-Jewish Immigration to Israel*, published in January 2006 by St. Martin's Press, chronicles the fears, hopes, and dreams of three generations of American Jews who immigrate to Israel.

Lisa and Liel, who became husband and wife during a ceremony officiated by Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth's Rabbi Sanford Dressin, will have a reading and



Lisa Ann Sandell

signing at the Borders bookstore on Concord Pike in Wilmington on Saturday, March 4 at 2pm. The couple will also speak at a Hadassah brunch on Sunday, March 26th.

Lisa is a 1995 graduate of Concord High School, and received her Bachelor's degree from the University of Pennsylvania. She also attended Gratz Hebrew High School. Lisa is currently a senior editor at Scholastic Inc.

Liel obtained his Bachelor's degree from Tel Aviv University, his Master's degree in journalism from Columbia University, and he is currently at work on his Ph.D. at Columbia. He is the arts and culture editor of *The Jewish Week* and is a frequent contributor to *Hadassah* magazine and *Moment* magazine.

Lisa and Liel live in New York City.

Philadelphia Jewish Museum celebrates President's Day

Celebrate President's Day and George Washington's Birthday on Monday, February 20th at noon, at the National Museum of American Jewish History with a program featuring the reading of a letter written by President Washington to historic Congregation Mikveh Israel affirming religious freedom. The guest speaker at the program will be Dr. Rosalind Remer, executive director of the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary.

Also at the celebration will be the "Ben and His Traveling Trunk" program. "Ben and His Traveling Trunk" includes a Benjamin Franklin re-enactor; a theatrical trunk filled with costumes for kids and adults to dress up like Franklin and give-aways.

Joining the celebration will be the First Troop Philadelphia City Cavalry, music by the Fifes and Drums of the Delaware Militia and re-enactors from the 11th Pennsylvania Regiment.

At the program close, cherry pie will be served.

Program participants can also visit the free Museum exhibition, "Benjamin Franklin and Religious Liberty," which examines Jewish life in the 18th century and illustrates Franklin's role in forging a pluralistic America.

This free celebration is co-sponsored by



Congregation Mikveh Israel, which shares its location with the Museum situated at Independence Mall East, 55 North 5th Street, Philadelphia.

For more information, call the Museum at 215-923-3811 or visit them on-line at www.nmajh.org.

Capitol Steps to perform at Congregation Beth Shalom

Congregation Beth Shalom in Wilmington will sponsor an evening of merrymaking and mockery for the entire community on Saturday, March 11. The evening begins with a 7:00 PM. wine & cheese reception followed by 8:00 PM. performances by singer/ songwriter Amanda Kaletsky and comedy troupe Capitol Steps.

Tickets for the event (\$40 Beth Shalom members; \$45 Community) are on sale now. Contact the synagogue office at (302) 654-4462 or order online at <http://www.bethshalomwilmington.org>. Tickets are limited and advanced purchase is strongly suggested.

The Capitol Steps are a group of current and previous congressional staffers who monitor the events and personalities on Capitol Hill, the Oval Office and other centers of power around the world and then bring a humorous twist to those events. <http://www.capitol-steps.com>

Amanda Kaletsky is a student at the University of Delaware.

Congregation Beth Shalom, founded in 1922, is an egalitarian, Conservative Synagogue, affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. It is located at the corner of 18th Street and Baynard Blvd. in Wilmington. For further information about the synagogue visit them on-line at <http://www.bethshalomwilmington.org>.



Seeking Jewish Athletes

Applications for the Maccabi Australia International Games Now Available. Maccabi USA/ Sports for Israel, located in Philadelphia, is sponsoring U.S. participation in the MAIGs in July 2006.

For more information about the Maccabi Australia International Games call Ami Monson at 215-561-6900 x116 or email amonson@maccabiusa.com, or visit the Maccabi USA/ Sports for Israel website at www.maccabiusa.com.

MILESTONES In Memoriam

ESTELLE DAVIS

Estelle Rothstein Davis, of Pompano Beach, FL, formerly of Laffin, PA, died on Tuesday afternoon, January 24, 2006, at North Ridge Hospital in Fort Lauderdale, FL.

Born January 5, 1925 in Wilkes-Barre, PA, she was the daughter of the late Isaac and Ruth Simkowitz Rothstein, and a graduate of St. Ann's Academy in Wilkes-Barre. Estelle enjoyed working in the family business of Ma's Old Fashion Bottling, Inc. prior to moving to FL. She was a member of Congregation Ohav Zedek and the Jewish Community Center, both of Wilkes-Barre, PA, and a life member of Hadassah and other religious and civic organizations. She was also involved with the Eastern Star and was past president of the Talmud Torah Ladies Auxiliary.

Estelle was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Irving, who died July 29, 2004. She is survived by her 3 loving sons, Leonard, and his wife, Joy, of Wilmington, DE, Jeffrey, of Plains and Pompano Beach, FL, and Judd, and his wife, Alisa Meyer-Davis, of Meadow Brook, PA; grandsons, Bradley, Eric and Ryan; granddaughters, Blake and Regan Davis; a sister, Sharon Rothstein Gelb, of Scranton, PA; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held in Wilkes-Barre, PA, with interment in Ohav Zedek Cemetery in Hanover Township, PA.

Memorial contributions may be made to Congregation Ohav Zedek, S. Franklin St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702; to Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Synagogue, Washington Blvd. & Torah Way, Wilmington, DE 19802; or to a charity of the

donor's choice.

DRUCKER

Beatrice A. Drucker, 81, formerly of Wilmington, died February 4, 2006 in PA. She was the daughter of the late Oscar and Mollie Goldberg and widow of Manuel M. Drucker.

She is survived by her sons, Reid and Dr. Tod; daughters, Alison Skolnik and Cynthia Drucker; brother, Melvin Goldberg and grandchildren, Al and Elliot Drucker, Corey and Hillary Drucker, Aaron and Ava Skolnik.

Funeral services were held on February 6 at the Schoenberg Memorial Chapel with interment in the Jewish Community Cemetery on Foulk Rd.

Contributions in her memory would be appreciated to Jewish National Fund, 42 E. 60th St., New York, NY 10021.

FRENG

Dorothy L. Freng, 81, of Elkton, MD, died January 30, 2006.

She was a member of Temple Beth El in Newark.

Mrs. Freng is survived by her son, William, of Elkton, MD; sisters, Lois Trace and Mildred Nichols; and grandchildren, Marshall T. and Teshar A. Freng.

A graveside service was held on February 2nd in Beth Emeth Memorial Park of Faulkland Rd.

The family would appreciate contributions in her memory to Temple Beth El, 301 Possum Park Rd., Newark, DE 19711.

JACOBS

Hilda (nee Raymond) Jacobs, died January 27, 2006. She took great pride in her cooking and was known for her sense of humor.

She was the wife of the late Reuben Jacobs. Survivors include her children, Barry (Patricia) Jacobs, Jeffrey Jacobs, Constance Jacobs, and Sheila (Arthur) Inden; her sister Aaron (Emma) Raymond, Earl Raymond, and Beatrice Yellin; grandmother of Lecia (John) McDermott, William Inden, and Matthew Inden; great grandmother of Andrew, Jack, and Anna McDermott.

Relatives and friends are invited to graveside services, Tuesday, 10 am precisely Mt. Lebanon Cemetery (Sec. 27), Collingdale, PA. Shiva will be observed at her late residence, Tuesday evening only.

Contributions in her memory may be made to Fox Chase Cancer Center, 333 Cottman Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111.

WALLSTEIN

Lillian Wallstein, 84, of Wilmington, died February 4, 2006.

She was predeceased by her

husband, Ralph and is survived by her daughters, Joanne Allen and her husband, Robert and Wendy Tigani and her husband, Bill; brother, Irving Skolnick; grandchildren, Randolph and Richard Allen, Samantha, Emily and Becky Tigani.

Services and interment private. Memorial contributions are suggested to the American Heart Association, 1501 Castle Hill Rd., Ste. 1, Newark, DE 19711.

ZINMAN

Brett L. Zinman, age 44, formerly of Wilmington, DE, died on Thursday, February 2, 2006.

He is the beloved son of Joan Zinman, of Glen Mills, PA, and the late Nathaniel Zinman. Brett courageously battled dysautonomia (a neurological disease) all of his life, and bravely endured kidney dialysis the past 3 years. He faced and fought every medical obstacle with hope and a positive attitude. He recently retired from DuPont after 22 years of proud service.

In addition to his mother, Brett will be greatly missed by his brother, Scott Zinman and sister-in-law, Cindy Zinman of West Chester, PA; sister, Jodi DeCleene and brother-in-law, Brian DeCleene of North Reading, MA; nieces, Jennifer and Stephanie Zinman, and Elinor DeCleene; and nephews, Owen and Brandon DeCleene; Aunt Sandra will always have a special spot in her heart for Brett.

The funeral service was held on February 5th at the CHANDLER FUNERAL HOME in Wilmington, with burial at the Jewish Community Cemetery on Foulk Road.

The family will appreciate memorial contributions to the Dysautonomia Foundation, 315 W. 39th St., Suite 701, New York, NY 10018.

NACHAS NOOK

AEA alumni receive statewide awards

Five Albert Einstein Academy alumni received statewide recognition when they were honored by the Brandywine School District at a ceremony earlier this year.

Hilde Alexander, daughter of Elly and Rick Alexander of Surrey Park, came in first place in the literature category of the State PTA Reflections contest. Her winning entry was a poem she wrote on the theme of heroes, entitled, "Helper." A former AEA student, Hilde is currently a seventh grader at Springer Middle School.

Three AEA alumni were recognized as statewide Delaware Technology Student Association Award Winners: Adam Crosby and Rebecca Downard, 2004 graduates, and Josh Isaacs, 2003 graduate. Adam, son of Rosi and Rich Crosby of Brandywood, received his award in the Advanced Rocket

Division. He is currently an eighth grade student at Hanby Middle School. Rebecca, daughter of Jill and Ralph Downard of Chatham, received awards in the Advanced Rocket and TSA Pin Design Divisions. She is an eighth grade student at Hanby Middle School. Josh Isaacs, son of MaryJane and David Isaacs of North Wilmington, received awards in the Advanced Rocket, Computer Applications and Electrical Applications Divisions. Josh went on to compete at the national level, and placed first in the country in Computer Applications. He is currently a freshman at Brandywine High School and is vice president of the Brandywine TSA Chapter.

Anna Moss, 2004 AEA graduate, was recognized as a Johns Hopkins Talent Search award recipient. She was Delaware's

top-scoring seventh grader in the Verbal section of the college SAT administered through the Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth. Anna is the daughter of Karen and Arthur Moss of Chalfonte.

"I am delighted, but not surprised, by the statewide recognition of our former students," commented Dr. Jack L. Sparks, Albert Einstein Academy Head of School. "After graduating from Einstein, our alumni continue to excel in middle school, high school and well beyond. We take great pride in their achievements."

Albert Einstein Academy is the Brandywine Valley's only Jewish Elementary Day School. Serving Delaware and Pennsylvania students from Kindergarten through sixth grade, AEA strives for excellence through a well-rounded curriculum in both general and Jewish studies. Albert Einstein Academy is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, and is a constituent of the Jewish Federation of Delaware. For more information about the school, call Karen Moss, Director of Admissions and Advancement, at (302) 478-5026, ext. 123, or visit us at www.aeacademy.org.

A New Son of Israel is Born



Danna and Roger M. Levy of Wilmington and Lucille and Phil Sopinsky of Philadelphia announce the birth of their grandson, Ariel Ben Zion. Ariel, the son of Natalie and Jordan Sopinsky of Kibbutz Shlulot in Bet Shean, Israel, was born on November 11th. Welcoming Ariel's arrival are his two big brothers, Israel Chaim and Zev.

Schoenberg Memorial Chapels



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COMING EVENTS

Beth Emeth Staging Reunion Weekend

A reunion weekend is being planned for March 17 and 18 as part of Congregation Beth Emeth's year long centennial celebration. The weekend will include Friday evening services honoring returning clergy, faculty and students followed by a gala Oneg Shabbat. Services start at 8 PM.

There will be a havdalah service on Saturday evening beginning at 6:30 PM. Following the service, the committee is planning a cocktail

reception and deli dinner. Live music will be provided by Phil Berger's trio. Along with dancing, the evening will feature other activities and entertainment.

Everyone is welcome. If you are a former student or faculty member, the committee is looking for you. Please contact the school office at 302-762-5858.

12 Friends Needed by JFS! To share volunteer hours each month on an ongoing basis. Basic office responsibilities and tasks as

assigned. Any assistance is appreciated—no experience necessary! Please call Volunteer Coordinator Lisa Driban today at (302) 478-9411 for further details.

A Special Brunch for Men Only - A special "men only" brunch will be held on March 5th from 10:00 am to Noon at the home of Ken & Cheryl Kamm, 312 Springhill Ave, Wilmington.

Dr. Brian Aboff of Christiana Health Care will speak about "Men's Health Issues and Answers"

Learn more about key men's health issues and what you can be doing to maintain your health and vigor. This brunch is sponsored by Wilmington Hadassah Associates and is open to all men. Cost is \$12 and reservations are required (dairy brunch, dietary laws observed). RSVP by March 1st to Ken Kamm, (302) 764-9700 or email CherylKamm@comcast.net

The Jewish War Veterans of Delaware need new members, young or old and patrons. It is

extremely important that this Jewish Organization continue. Please call Len Markovitz at 302-234-4785 or Milt Slovin 302-478-4888. You do not have to be a veteran to join.

Mark your Calendars! Brandywine Chapter of Women's American ORT presents "Shop til you Drop"—an amazing day-long shopping extravaganza

When: Thursday, April 6, 2006
Where: The Bernard and Ruth Seigel JCC
Time: 10am until 6pm

SEASIDE MARCH EVENTS

03-06-Friday Shabbat Services held at Seaside Jewish Community at 7:30 pm on Holland Glade Rd in Rehoboth Beach. Call 302-226-8977 for more information.

3-18-06-Saturday Shabbat Services held at Seaside Jewish Community at 10:00 AM.

3-18-06- 2nd Annual BINGO AND BROWNIES held at Seaside Jewish Community at 8:00 PM. \$7.50 per person includes cards for 20 games, Bingo Blotter, great prizes for each game and all the Brownies you can eat. Call 302-227-1107 for more information and your reservation.

3-23-06- Adult Education held at Seaside Jewish Community at 7:30 PM.

Discussion will be led by Nardy Ableman on the "History of Judaism in Sussex County and the current Judeo-Christian Relations". Call 302-226-8977 for more information.

3-26-06- Rosh Hodesh Group to meet at Seaside Jewish Community at 2PM to hold a Book Review/ Discussion on "The Red Tent". Call 302-227-1107 for more information.

DE Gratz hosts Open House

The community is invited to learn more about Delaware Gratz Hebrew High School during the school's Open House and Adult Education Session on Sunday, March 19, 2006. Area teens and their parents are invited to join Gratz students in their classes from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Gratz Scholar-In-Residence Rabbi Moriah Simon-Hazani will conduct an Adult Ed Class from 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Her topic is "Between ethics and esthetics: beauty and ugliness in the rabbi's world." There will be an 11th Grade parents' meeting from 12:30 p.m.-1:00 p.m. as well as a Mezzuzah dedication in memory of Rabbi Jacob and Leah Kraft beginning at 1:00 p.m.

Refreshments will be served between classes. Please plan on attending and RSVP by March 12th to Marlene Milunsky, principal, either by phone at 478-8100 or e-mail gratz@delawaregratz.org.

Delaware Gratz is located in the newly renovated Bernard and Ruth Siegel Jewish Community Center on 101 Garden of Eden Road in Wilmington.

FEDERATION NEWS NOTES

***Feb. 12th Planting Roots on Tu B'Shevat** with Idan Kligerman, Israeli Shaliach @ Siegel JCC 3 - 5 p.m. Please join us for a fun, engaging, and dynamic afternoon of good times as Idan Kligerman, Israeli Shaliach leads us in a family-friendly Tu B'Shevat Seder followed by interactive projects including decorating plant pots you get to take home, good food, and watch great Israeli Dancing! Cost: \$3/person, \$10/family. JNF trees will be available for purchase, too! Special DANCE performance by AKSE's Harokdim Dance Group! Please RSVP in advance contact Idan at: 302-427-2100 ext. 30, idan@shalomdel.org or www.shalomdelaware.org click on community events.

***Feb. 16th JCRC and AIPAC invite you to a briefing and discussion** with Uriel Palti, Consul General, Mid-Atlantic Region @ AKSE 6 p.m. The Jewish

Community Relations Committee & the American Israel Public Affairs Committee sponsor a special evening with Israel's Consul General on the topic of "Israel 2006- Peace, Elections & Hope" this Thursday from 6:00-8:00 PM Adas Kodesh Shel Emeth Congregation Washington Blvd. & Torah Way Wilmington, DE 19802. Light supper will be provided. Please RSVP in advance www.shalomdelaware.org click on community events

*** Visit - Volunteer - Support Israel Partnership 2000/ P2K.** Visit www.shalomdelaware.org for information on the Volunteer Corps and Partnership 2000 - go to Israel with the Partnership and learn how you can support the programs (Kefiada, Maccabbi, Volunteer Corps, P2K Committee, Israeli host housing, and more).

Spring speaker series launches



The Spring Speaker Series sponsored by the Jewish Studies Department at the University of Delaware will be held on Tuesdays from 12:20 to 1:30 in Room 203 Smith Hall.

Next week, on February 14, our speaker will be Dr. Ernest Kahn, Associate Professor of Jewish Communal Organizations at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Wyncote, Pennsylvania. Dr. Kahn will speak on the topic: A Voluntary Community Confronts Its Dilemmas.

Dr. Kahn holds a B.S.S. degree from City College of New York, an M.S.W. from the University of Chicago, and the Ph.D. from the University of Maryland. He holds an honorary Ph.D. degree in Hebrew Literature from Gratz College. He did graduate work in Jewish Studies at the Jewish Theological Seminary and Spertus College of Jewish Studies. He served as Associate Professor and Assistant Dean of the School of Social Work and Community Planning of the University of Maryland. He has served as Director of Community Planning, Associate Executive Vice President and Acting Executive Vice President of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia.

The community is invited to attend.

JEWSH FEDERATION OF DELAWARE SEEKS DIRECTOR OF ENDOWMENT AND JEWSH COMMUNITY RELATIONS

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JCRC responsibilities include Israel advocacy, Holocaust education and monitoring local, state and national issues of interest to the Jewish community. Applicants should be self-starters with strong inter-personal, computer, written and oral communication skills. Experience working with volunteers. Applicants with MPA, MSW or MBA are preferred. Please e-mail or fax resumes to sam.asher@shalomdel.org or (302) 427-2438.

CLASSIFIEDS

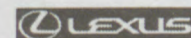
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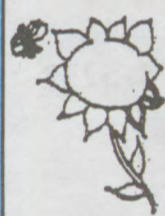
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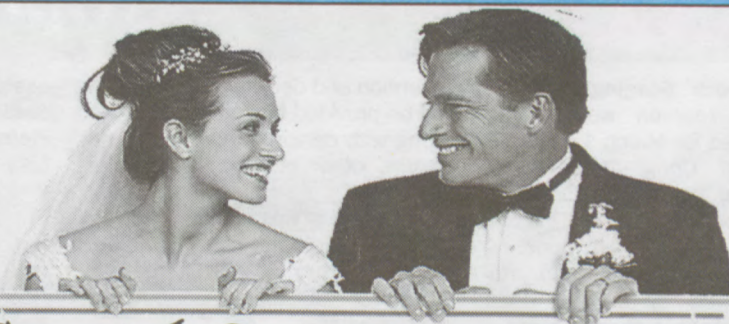
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