

# The JEWISH VOICE

Jewish Historical Society  
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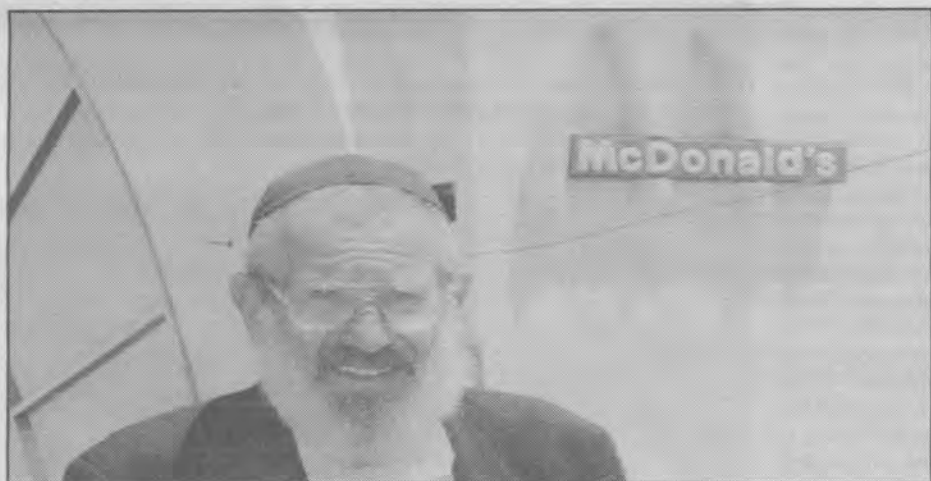
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**BABI YAR MENORAH CLINTONS:** KIEV -- President Clinton and First lady Hillary bow their heads May 12 as they stand in front of a ten-foot-high menorah at Babi Yar, where in 1941, 100,000 people were massacred by the Nazis. Also from far right to left are: Alexander Shlaen, chairman of the Public Center at Babi Yar; Rabbi Yaakov Bleich; and Ilya Levitas, chairman of the Jewish Council of Ukraine. PHOTO CREDIT: RNS PHOTO/Reuters.



**GINGRICH:** WASHINGTON -- Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin listens as House Speaker Newt Gingrich answers a reporter's question May 8. Rabin said Israel would not involve itself in an American political debate on whether to move the U.S. embassy in Israel to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv. Gingrich made it clear he supported moving the embassy. PHOTO CREDIT: RNS PHOTO/Reuters.



**ISRAEL MCDONALDS:** JERUSALEM -- An ultra-orthodox Jew passes in front of the golden arches of a soon to be opened McDonald's May 16. The company announced it would open in July the first kosher outlet in its world-wide chain, a move which will enable thousands of Israelis and visitors who adhere to Jewish dietary laws to enjoy their first "Big Mac". Religious Jews do not mix dairy and meat products. CREDIT RNS PHOTO/Reuters.



Gathered at Congregation Beth Shalom for the 60th Annual Meeting of The Jewish Federation of Delaware are from left (standing) Judy Wortman, Executive Vice-President of JFD; Judge Charles Keil; Barbara S. Keil, Chair of The Jewish Voice Editorial Committee; seated from left Donald Parsons; Burt Shanker of Beth Shalom; Isadore Silverman, and Sadie Toumarkine. Long time contributors were thanked in an evening long tribute which included a narrated slide show history from before the founding of JFD through the period of the 1950's. (Photo for the Jewish Voice by Morris Ariff).

Dr. Ralph Tomases (left) and Mrs. Barbara Yalisove (center) prepared a slide show which Debbie Pernick Poppiti (right) narrated for the 60th Annual Meeting of the Jewish Federation of Delaware (JFD). Their slideshow illustrated with photos and documents the people and places of the formative years of the Jewish community of Delaware. (Photo for The Jewish Voice by Morris Ariff).



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FEATURE  
AIPAC CONFERENCE

AIPAC'S 36th Policy Conference Focuses On Iranian Terrorism And U.S. Embassy Move To Jerusalem

By PRISCILLA W. SIEGEL

Special To The Jewish Voice

For the first time in AIPAC's history, a United States president addressed its annual conference, held last week in Washington. This historic first was warmly greeted by the 2400 AIPAC supporters, including 800 students. Sharing a platform with Prime Minister Rabin, President Clinton reaffirmed his administration's support of Israel, its security, and U. S. commitment to the peace process.

Following Rabin's speech which strongly deplored Iran's "Khomeinism" Clinton focused on the threat posed by Iran in its export of terrorism and its determination to achieve nuclear capability. He reiterated the hope that Russia would reconsider its agreement to sell nuclear technology to Iran. "I believe," said the President, "that Russia has a powerful interest in preventing a neighbor, especially one with Iran's track record, from possessing these weapons."

Clinton further warned that "the specter of an Iran armed with weapons of mass destruction and the missiles to deliver them haunts not only Israel but the entire Middle East, and ultimately all the rest of us as well." He urged AIPAC lobbyists to support the Administration's sanctions against Iran, while expressing the hope that other countries would join the embargo.

Included in the President's speech, was an enjoiner to lobby Congress for continued Foreign Aid, and the need to maintain Israel's advanced military capabilities, for which financial aid is required.

Interestingly, neither Rabin nor Clinton in their talks, discussed the emotional issue of moving the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, an issue raised by Senator Dole in his address to the Conference. Dole, who is seeking the Republican Presidential nomination, announced at the AIPAC banquet his intention to introduce legislation to move the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem. According to reports, Clinton and Rabin are downplaying this issue in the interest of not complicating the Middle East peace process. However, responding to hawkish lobbyists on the embassy issue, American legislators have agreed to support the acquisition of a site in Jerusalem, with groundbreaking to begin by 1996 and completion by 1999. AIPAC's own legislative lobbying agenda, anomalously, includes the embassy move to Jerusalem. This seems to run counter to AIPAC's policy of following the Israeli government's lead.

Among other issues that emerged from the Conference, was the question of Syria and whether to support a peace agreement that included U.S. troops on the Golan to secure the peace, in the event that the Golan is returned to Syria. Conflicting and passionate opinions were expressed over this possibility. On the one hand, U.S. troops stationed on the Golan could well tie Israel's hands if Israel needed to launch a pre-emptive strike against Syria. Israel would then be in the position of having to ask for U.S. permission to react to a Syrian threat. And if Syria were to launch a strike against Israel, the



RABIN CLINTON AIPAC: WASHINGTON - President Clinton and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin attend the 36th annual American Israel Policy Action Committee (AIPAC) meeting May 7 in Washington. The two met earlier in an Oval office meeting to discuss the ongoing Middle East peace talks. Photo Credit: White House Photo



"First Timer" at AIPAC Yetta Chaiken of Wilmington (left) and "Old Timers" at AIPAC, Terry and Ernest Dannemann of Dover (middle and right). Photo by Jerome Siegel.



Senator Robert Dole, AIPAC, May 1995. Photo by Jerome Siegel.

United States, in order to defend its troops, could become entangled in a war against Syria. Proponents of U.S. troops on the Golan, claim, on the other hand, that such troops would serve as a true buffer and deterrent to war between the nations of Syria and Israel.

Perhaps the most impressive aspects of this policy conference was the spirit of cooperation and warmth exhibited between the two heads of state, Rabin and Clinton. This should be very reassuring for Israel.



Nathan Sharansky - AIPAC - May 1995. Photo by: Jerome Siegel

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The JEWISH VOICE PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Issues You Won't Want to Miss!

Issue Date		Deadline
June 2	JUNE BRIDAL	May 25
June 23	SUMMER WEDDINGS	June 16
July 14	"BOOKS and the BEACH"	July 7
August 11	GUIDE TO JEWISH LIFE IN DELAWARE (our Newcomer's Guide)	Aug. 4

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The JEWISH VOICE LATE BITS

The following summaries relate to late breaking stories and other items of interest. Much of what follows was not available at press time in a more substantial form. Other items are included in summarized form to reflect current developments. These news summaries are adapted from what has been provided to The Jewish Voice from the Jewish Telegraphic Agency (JTA).

ADVISORY: The U.N. Security Council is meeting again to determine how to proceed with a draft resolution on Israel's plan to expropriate Arab-owned land. The U.S. is expected to veto any resolution.

WASHINGTON — Jews respond immediately — and with vigor — to the Christian Coalition's new "Contract with the American Family."

NEW YORK — The changing landscape of Jewish fund raising means philanthropic organizations need to alter their approach, according to one prominent Jewish sociologist.

NEW YORK — The U.S. ambassador to the European Union is visiting Hungary and Poland to urge the governments there to compensate Jews for property confiscated by the Nazis and the Communists.

NEW YORK — The Justice Department appeals a court decision to try Lemrick Nelson, the man believed to have murdered a Jew during the Crown Heights riots, as a juvenile.

ROME — Pope John Paul II urges Christians to make pilgrimages to Nazi death camps to pay homage to the 6 million Jews murdered in the Holocaust.

JERUSALEM — A public storm erupts over the lyrics of a song by a popular Israeli singer that convey powerful disillusionment with the peace process.

JERUSALEM — Palestinian police will reportedly undergo training in Israel.

JERUSALEM — Hold the pickles. McDonald's is going kosher here.

TEL AVIV — An attempt by right-wing Israelis to introduce a prayer protecting Israel from its leaders fails.

TEL AVIV — As the toll from traffic accidents in Israel continues to climb, the Masorti movement offers a new prayer for safety on the road.

NEW YORK — An unusual array of T-shirts are adorning clotheslines throughout Israel, all part of a special project to call attention to victims of rape and domestic abuse.

TEL AVIV — Teaching peace in Israel is not always a peaceful prospect.

The JEWISH VOICE is moving July 5 to: 100 W. 10th St. Suite 301 Wilmington, DE 19801



BRIEFS

**Report: German Cops Brutalize Foreigners In Growing Numbers**

BONN (JTA) —A new report by Amnesty International has pointed to a growing trend of German police brutality directed at foreigners living in Germany. The organization checked complaints filed against the German police from January 1992 to March 1995 and found that Berlin police officers were responsible for more than half of the cases of maltreatment. The report said the organization was "concerned" by a growing number of "beating, stepping and other forms of violence" that had caused damaged teeth, bleeding and broken bones.

**Pope Urges Symbolic Visits To Nazi Concentration Camps**

ROME (JTA) — In a message commemorating the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II, Pope John Paul II urged Christians to make symbolic, spiritual pilgrimages to Nazi death camps to pay homage to the 6 million Jews murdered in the Holocaust.

The Polish-born pope wrote that the "point was reached where hellish death camps were built, where millions of Jews and hundreds of thousands of Gypsies and other human beings met their death in atrocious conditions," he said.

"Their only fault was that they belonged to another people," the pope added.



Cardinal Bernardin of the Archdiocese of Chicago with dignitaries at the dedication of the JNF forest planted in his honor in northern Israel.



NEW YORK — Governor Pete Wilson (left) of California is shown addressing a forum of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. The governor presented his views on a variety of international and domestic issues including the stationing of U.S. monitoring personnel on the Golan Heights, continued U.S. economic assistance to Israel, PLO compliance with the Declaration of Principles, government support for private education, and school prayer. Standing next to Governor Wilson is Lester Pollack, chairman, and seated is Malcolm Hoenlein, executive vice chairman of the Conference of Presidents.

Commentary:

**The Jerusalem Squeeze Play**

By DOUGLAS M. BLOOMFIELD

When talking to people on Capitol Hill in both parties as well as those in the media and the Jewish community about the legislation introduced last week to move the U.S. Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, the most commonly heard description is "cynical."

The politicians don't deserve all the blame. Some of the onus falls upon the Jewish community so long as we not only enjoy their pandering but also solicit it. Would that we were as politically sophisticated as our reputation.

Of course the legislation is a transparent appeal to wealthy Jewish contributors (a higher priority at this point than voters, since relatively few Jews vote in Republican primaries), but, hey, it works.

On Capitol Hill the legislation has an appealing momentum. Politicians of both parties will anxiously jump on board because they know this is the Jewish equivalent of motherhood and apple pie, and they got the green light from AIPAC, the pro-Israel lobby at whose convention the legislation was unveiled. In the competition for campaign contributions and votes this is a sure winner, especially for those who need to compensate for past transgressions and/or future

plans to cast votes against foreign aid.

Sen. Robert Dole, the GOP front-runner and author of the legislation, cannot be blamed for exploiting the issue, not withstanding his past opposition, if he thinks it will benefit his presidential campaign. He has been around long enough to understand the possible implications for the fragile peace process. He has traveled through the Arab world and met with enough Arab leaders to know how they feel. In fact, it was after just such a trip in 1990, which included a visit with Saddam Hussein, that he announced his opposition to a similar bill. He announced that both his views and the world situation have changed since then.

The embassy should have been moved a long time ago. There were several opportunities during the 1980s when there was no real peace process to damage, but they were blocked by many of those pushing the move today when there genuinely is a viable — albeit fragile — peace negotiation underway.

The US Embassy belongs in Jerusalem because that is the capital of the State of Israel regardless of its precise city limits, which are still changing.

The Dole legislation (Speaker Newt Gingrich introduced it in the House) is the key component of a squeeze play on Capitol Hill engineered by those who want to kill the peace process and those willing to exploit that desire for financial and political gain. Caught up in the crunch are many good and sincere friends of Israel as well as the governments of both countries.

Dole understands that if the legislation is passed and sent to the White House, President Clinton will be put into a difficult squeeze. If he vetoes it, he offends a core constituency. If he signs it, his opponents get the credit and he risks losing what could be the most important foreign policy achievement of his administration.

There are symbolic and functional aspects to the embassy move. Changing the location of where American diplomats are based in Is-

rael will not change the substance of US policy (unless this or a future American administration feels it "owes the Arabs one" as compensation).

What most do not realize is that Jerusalem already is the acknowledged and functioning capital of Israel, notwithstanding the location of any embassy. Ambassadors, including those from Egypt and Jordan, must go up to Jerusalem to present their credentials to the president and to conduct their work with the prime minister, the foreign minister and other government officials. It is in Jerusalem that the president formally receives all the religious leaders in Israel, including the Moslems.

That does not alter the fact the embassies belong in Jerusalem. The question to be asked is what advantage is there in moving America's at this time and whose agenda does it serve. Critics of the peace process say if Jerusalem is a deal breaker, better to break it now than later when more concessions of authority and territory will have been made to the Palestinians. Democrats accuse Republicans of irresponsibly attempting to alienate Bill Clinton from the Jews. Then there are those Jewish organizations which publicly endorse the bill but privately say they have no choice and wish it would go away.

Yasir Arafat's spokesman declared the legislation could make the Israel-PLO Declaration of Principles "null and void," but an unnamed spokesman said while it would weaken Arafat's already-shaky standing he would not abandon the negotiations.

The White House contends the Dole-Gingrich legislation, if enacted, "would likely lead to a breakdown of the negotiations and halt the gains on normalization that Israel has been making in the Arab world."

Prime Minister Rabin is less than enthusiastic about the legislation, but he too is caught in the squeeze play. No prime minister of Israel can say "Don't move your embassy to Jerusalem," but he made it clear in private meetings and public comments that the legislation is a domes-

Continued on page 15

**Women Seek To See Bible From Eve, Sarah's View**

By MARION KWARTLER

MetroWest Jewish News Staff Writer

The Women of Reform Judaism, the Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, voted to recommend that the movement prepare a feminist commentary on the Bible at a mini-conference held May 7-8 in Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Study of the biblical matriarchs and female judges and prophets can offer modern women role models. Biblical stories will be incorporated to offer insight into the lives of women at that time.

"This is a project whose time has come," said Dr. Tamara Eskenazi, a professor of Bible at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Los Angeles. "There is no commentary on the Torah that is sensitive to women...you have to be sensitive to issues raised in the text regarding women."

With women developing more liturgy and gender sensitive ritual, the Women of Reform Judaism believe that a feminist commentary to equal Rashi or other male commentaries is appropriate.

The board of directors of Women of Reform Judaism will meet in New York City next month to consider the resolution of the mini-conference to create a women's commentary.

"It's a long term process and involves getting together an advisory board, editors and scholarly contributors," said Ellen Y. Rosenberg, executive director of Women of Reform Judaism. "The conference was historic because we brought together lay leaders and professional scholars to address the relevancy of the Torah to women today."



U.S. EMBASSY SITE JERUSALEM: JERUSALEM — Israeli pedestrians and traffic pass a large tract of land (far side, behind stone wall) May 9 that may be the site of a new U.S. Embassy if passed by the U.S. legislature. The U.S. government has leased the land since 1987 from Israel and the controversial issue of a new embassy in Jewish West Jerusalem is again resurfacing. Photo CREDIT: RNS Photo/Reuters



EDITORIAL

More Words About Hate Speech

Reverberations from the bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma continue to be felt in public and private discourse.

In the last fifty years Jews have welcomed freedom of expression in opposition to censorship. We learned that those who burn books may later burn people.

One solution is to view these principles-free expression and responsible expression - as complementary rather than in conflict.

Thank You "Schools '95"

The Jewish Community Relations Committee (JCRC) is a member of the Schools '95 coalition which includes the American Association of University Women, Wilmington Branch; Executive Committee, Civic Councils of Brandywine Hundred; Coalition to Save Our Children; Delaware Association of School Administrators; Delaware Nurses Association; Delaware State PTA; League of Women Voters of Delaware; and Planned Parenthood of

recent lambasting of hate speakers did not hamper their free expression, but did promote more responsible expression.

Free expression also means that anyone is free to contradict hateful or false speech. As hate speech spreads like a disease over cyberspace (computer networks, on-line services and the internet) more can be done to counter the assault.

Already you can not falsely yell fire in a crowded theater, lie on the witness stand, or incite a riot. Further legal limitations on speech are probably not needed to counter the hateful speech that has caused such concern.

Freedom comes with responsibility. Ameri-

Delaware.

The coalition worked to help interested voters make informed decisions about candidates for school boards throughout Delaware.



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Entries for the Calendar of Events are due on the Thursday deadline, published in The Jewish Voice. Copy should be typed and double spaced. Entries are preferred on 3 1/2" floppy disk or via E-mail. Please include day, date, time, place, brief description, and contact person.

MAY

Sunday 21

Young Jewish Adults of Delaware (YJAD) - BRUNCH AND WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS. 11:00 a.m. Join us for Allyson's huge brunch, or their salad bar. Call David at (609) 678-8029, or Sandi at (609) 678-8190 before May 17th.

Monday 22

ORT Brandywine Chapter 1995 Leadership Award Dinner in honor of Sandra N. McBride. Dinner starts at 7:00 p.m. Presentation begins at 8:00 p.m. at Congregation Beth Emeth. RSVP required by May 12. Call Michelle Engelman at (610) 358-1969 for details.

JUNE

Friday 2

Young Jewish Adults of Delaware (YJAD) - Synagogue Drop-In - Come out and join us for Shabbat services. Following services, YJAD will go out to eat at a local hot spot. Reservations required by May 28th. Call Merrily at (302) 477-1302 for time and location.

Thursday 15

Young Jewish Adults of Delaware (YJAD) - HAPPY HOUR AND DINNER AT THE CACTUS BAR & GRILL. 6:30 p.m. Call David at (609) 678-8029 for directions and further info.

Sunday 25

Young Jewish Adults of Delaware (YJAD) - CANOE TRIP down the scenic Brandywine. Reservations are required by June 11th. \$21 per person. Call David at (609) 678-8029 for directions and further info.

JULY

Sunday 9

Young Jewish Adults of Delaware (YJAD) - Post-July 4th Picnic at the Gross Mansion. 2:00 p.m. Come join us for food, friends and fun. Reservations are required by June 29th. Call Phil at (302) 652-6688 for directions, cost and further info.

Tuesday 18

Young Jewish Adults of Delaware (YJAD) - YJAD Chavurah DISCUSSION GROUP. 7:00 p.m. Join us for a lively discussion and hors d'oeuvres. Please call Merrily at (302) 477-1302 for further details.

Sunday 23

Young Jewish Adults of Delaware (YJAD) - Annual picnic and olympics. 12:00 noon at the J.C.C.'s Family Campus. Join us for food, fun, swimming, and the least competitive and wackiest olympics you'll ever see. Reservations are required by July 16th. Call David at (609) 678-8029.

Sunday 30

Young Jewish Adults of Delaware (YJAD) - Co-Ed Noncompetitive SOFTBALL. 1:00 p.m. No reservations are required, but there is always a shortage of gloves, so, if you have one, please bring it. Call Sandi at (609) 678-8190 for directions and further info.

Ongoing

YJAD Weekly Activities. Young Jewish Adults of Delaware's (YJAD's) co-ed, noncompetitive volleyball league will continue every Wednesday night from 6-8 p.m. behind the J.C.C. as of May 31, 1995.

Exhibit Highlights Henrietta Szold

"Daughter of Zion: Henrietta Szold and American Jewish Womanhood," a new exhibition, will be open at the Jewish Historical Society of Maryland (JHSM), 15 Lloyd Street, Baltimore, from April 9 through December 10, 1995.

Coming To Delaware: The Amish, Jewish and Italian Farm Communities

This is shown at the Delaware Agricultural Museum on Route 13 near Dover. For information call (302) 734-1618.

Candle Lighting

MAY

19TH - 7:55 PM

26TH - 8:01 PM

JUNE

2ND - 8:06 PM

9TH - 8:11 PM

THURSDAY NOON DEADLINE

Table with 3 columns: DEADLINE, FOCUS, ISSUE. Rows include May 25 (June Bridal), June 16 (Summer Weddings), July 7 (Books and The Beach), August 4 (Guide To Jewish Life In Delaware).

All submissions due 12 noon downstairs at JFD front desk



## OPINION

## Celebrating Federation's Past

By TONI YOUNG

President of JFD

(Excerpted from her talk of the 60th Annual Meeting of The Jewish Federation of Delaware)

"We are a people of memory. Remembrance is part of our tradition and is the basis for gratitude for what past generations have done." These words, written by Rabbi Jacob Kraft twenty years ago on Federation's fortieth anniversary, are most appropriate now. On our sixtieth anniversary, we are very cognizant of what past generations have done for us. Memories of all the individuals who built this community are with us. Tonight we honor our long time contributors, those individuals whose first gift or whose husband's first gift was made sixty, fifty one, or forty years ago. There are over three hundred people on the lists in your booklets. We salute them tonight and thank them for their continued belief in and support of the Jewish community and its Federation.

Three hundred people have contributed to our Federation for at least forty years. I think that's remarkable for several reasons. Consider the fact that the United States is a country where we are free to give our time, energy and money to the things we believe in. Jews have not always lived in such places. Second, consider the stability of our community. Contrary to the popular myth that Wilmington is a transient community, we have three hundred people — and there would be many more if we had listed children or siblings of the original donors — who have provided continual support to our Jewish Federation. We owe a debt to the people who established our Jewish roots, and the way to pay back that debt is to guarantee that we build a Jewish community for tomorrow. Finally, consider the importance of an organization that has continued to attract such devoted support for all these years. Federation is obviously filling an important role.

Beginnings are exciting. People are filled with passion and have a clear understanding of the cause. The Federation was formed in 1935 "to serve as a representative body empowered to speak for and represent the community, to plan and deal intelligently with all local, regional, national and overseas problems, and to run a united Jewish campaign." Many of the individuals here tonight were involved at the beginning and can describe those early days far better than I can. They would tell you that the individual responsible for the success of Federation was Ben V. Codor, the first executive director.

In 1975, Rabbi Kraft wrote about Codor, "Successive generations should be made to recognize the service of this selfless, dedicated man." Rabbi Kraft described Ben Codor as "the dynamic and energizing force that brought people together; the human mortar that kept people and institutions united." According to Rabbi Kraft the "greatness of the man was in his total devotion to his goal, a goal to unite the Jewish community, to bring its factions together into a unity of endeavor, to dispel the frictions of community leaders, to prevent the clash of competing personalities and to elicit in each a resonant chord that responded to an ideal: the strengthening of our community organizations, helping people who were stricken and in need, unity in behalf of the Jewish homeland."

Bill Frank's tribute to Ben Codor, included in your booklets, refers to Ben Codor's extreme dedication to welding the various independent Jewish welfare, religious and social organizations into a united Jewish Federation. Ben Codor gave the best years of his life to our community. He died prematurely at the age of forty-eight having served seventeen of those years as executive director of Federation. A lot of specifics have changed since 1935 and the Codor years. The State of Israel has been created as our homeland. Instead of assisting refugees from war torn Eu-

rope, we are welcoming Jews from the former Soviet Union. Instead of teaching Jews about life in America, we are educating Jews about Judaism. The Jewish Community Center, Jewish Family Service and the Kutz Home, the three local organizations which existed under different names in 1935, have been joined by Albert Einstein Academy, Gratz Hebrew High School, Hillel as well as synagogues in Newark and Dover. But one thing hasn't changed, the need to coordinate our efforts, to plan our



Toni Young, President of The Jewish Federation of Delaware (JFD), (at right), Judy Wortman, Executive Vice-President (JFD), and Martha White (standing), of P. Gerald White, Inc., a realty concern, sign the lease for JFD office space in the Community Services Building in Wilmington. JFD is the first agency to have signed on to this historic project. The Community Services Building is sponsored by The Longwood Foundation and DuPont. At the site of the current Montchanin building it will bring together many Delaware nonprofits. JFD will move on July 5, 1995. Effective thereafter their new address shall be as follows: The Jewish Federation of Delaware, 100 W. 10th Street; Suite 301, Wilmington, DE 19801.

collective future, and to run one central campaign.

We have tried hard in recent years to make Federation a strong, effective, central planning and fund raising organization like it was at the beginning. This past year there have been increased discussions between all the synagogues, Federation and the agencies, as well as increased dialogue between Federation and its agencies. We have funded a population and needs assessment study, which will begin at the end of this month, to tell us more facts about our community so we can plan effectively.

We live in a time of change. In order to define where we are going and how we will get there, we must plan together. Difficult decisions must be made, but these decisions will not be as difficult if we stay focused on our goal. Our vision for the Federation is "to bring Jewish people together into a community coalition, grounded in Jewish teachings and heritage, to strengthen the State of Israel, the global Jewish family and local organizations in order to further the survival of the Jewish people." We won't get caught up in the small issues if we remember the goal, which in its simplest terms, is to have educated, active Jews in generations to come. We hope that sixty years from now, when our community celebrates its 120th anniversary, the children we're raising right now will be present. We would not recognize our Jewish community if we were there because it will be very different. Our goal is that such a community, a group of Jews helping others, exist.

I hope all of us take this anniversary as an opportunity to rededicate ourselves to our goal and to the hard work ahead. I look forward to working with you in the coming year.

## Building The Future

By JUDY WORTMAN

Executive Vice President of JFD

(The following address was presented at Congregation Beth Shalom for the 60th Annual Meeting of the Jewish Federation of Delaware.)

Toni Young, our remarkable president, has worked tirelessly to sift through the layers of our community's past in order to uncover the stories, memories, and dreams of our forebears. Earlier this year, Toni and I sat side by

side in Eretz Israel digging in beloved soil uncovering layer by layer the stories, memories, and dreams of our ancestors. To have a vision of the future, we must understand the past so that we can bequeath to our children, not just ancient memories and artifacts, but a dynamic community created layer by layer, inspired by thousands of years of faith in God, and steeped in the values of Torah which Moses bequeathed to us when he descended from Mt. Sinai.

We are currently about half way through the counting of the Omer, half way from the celebration of Pesach to Shavuot, half way from the time our people found the strength and faith to leave the slavery of Mitzrayim to follow Moses to Eretz Israel. Tonight we celebrate our past 60 years and we have made reference to reaching the halfway point to 120, the age of Moses when he died atop Mt. Nebo looking out on the promised land that God would not allow him to enter. Moses knew that it was time for his children and grandchildren to inherit and build the promised land. He was able to die secure in the knowledge that he had given them the skills, values and courage to build Israel and to transmit the teachings of Torah that they inherited to future generations.

Toni and I also stood atop Mt. Nebo this year looking across the Jordan into the land of Israel. Who would have thought that such a vision was possible in our lifetime? But faith in God inspires us to do the impossible and witness miracles, whether that be creating peace with our Arab neighbors, or building brick by brick, book by book, child by child, a Jewish day school in Delaware. The clarity of the view of Israel from Mt. Nebo provided us with the distance and objectivity to envision the community that we would continue to build. We have accepted that responsibility along with you whom we honor tonight, 60 years of leaders, to create a legacy for our children.

We all have a role in fashioning that legacy. We do so with hard work, with passion, and with all our resources—the tangible and the intangible—just as we invest all we have in our own children. I call on each and every one of you to become a partner in this dynamic process as we create and witness a miracle of giving birth to a new generation. It is up to us, as it was for Moses, to give our children the knowledge, values, and courage that they will need.

We are about to embark on another process of unearthing memories and dreams. At the end of this month we will begin a community population study. We expect that the data we find in this search will provide us with the knowledge base necessary to realize our dreams. I look forward to reporting to you one year from now all that we have learned so that together we can develop the strategic plans necessary to continue making miracles.

אשם ציני אל ההרים

מאין יגרא צורי

יודי מצום ה'

ערשה שמים ארץ

I will lift up mine eyes unto the mountains  
From whence cometh my help,

Ha-shem the creator of the heavens and the earth.



Health care professionals and other members of Wilmington's Beth Shalom recently provided a health fair for members and community neighbors of the synagogue. The all day health fair at the synagogue facilities, 1801 Baynard Boulevard, provided diagnostic testing and health prevention information for a variety of illnesses and diseases. Volunteers from a number of health associations (Alzheimer's, Cancer, Easter Seals, Diabetic, Poison Control, etc.) staffed information booths and provided literature and good health care guidelines. Delaware Medical Center, St. Francis Hospital, Riverside Hospital and the Visiting Nurse Association contributed to the event. Lectures and exams were available for Sleep/Apnea, Back Care, Diabetes, Foot Care and Breast Disease. The mammogram van along with skin examination was available for interested individuals. The Chairman of the 1995 Health Fair is Dr. Ed Sobel.

## Anne Frank Remembered

"Anne Frank Remembered" will have its world premiere on Thursday, June 8 at 9:00 a.m. ET/PT during The Disney Channel's Free Summer Preview.

This new special captures the Jewish teenager's story with eyewitness accounts of those who knew her best — her family, friends, relatives, classmates, and fellow concentration camp inmates.

Narrated by actor/director Kenneth Branagh, the documentary features actress Glenn Close reading excerpts from "The Diary of a Young Girl" by Anne Frank.



## Delaware Legislature Considers Hate Crime Bills 131 and 132

By DAN WEINTRAUB  
Editor of *The Jewish Voice*

Senate Bill numbers 131 and 132 were introduced earlier this month to amend the Delaware Code relating to Hate Crimes. Bill 131 would subject a murder committed during a hate crime to the penalty of a possible death sentence upon conviction. Bill 132 would legally define a hate crime, in part, if the crime was committed because of the victim's race, religion, color, disability, national origin or ancestry. Delaware's JCRC has not taken a specific stance on these bills. Last year at a JCRC meeting it was asserted that Hate Crime legislation should include sexual preference as a protected category. It was noted that gays and lesbians are currently subjected to more hate crimes than any other group. The bills before the Delaware State Senate does not include such protection and in effect defines hate crimes so as to

not include violence against gays and lesbians motivated by the victims' status as gay or lesbian.

Another matter before the legislature about which the JCRC has not yet taken a position is Senate Bill number 133 which would require a moment of silence in public school. Delaware presently allows the observation of a two-minute period of silence in public school. Bill number 133 changes that from optional to mandatory. Observers say it is unclear whether this so-called "period of silence" bill is meant as a substitute for a school prayer bill or merely an attempt to put another foot in the door toward the introduction of prayer into public school.

It is not known at this time when and if further measures will be taken with regard to any of these bills.

## Silverman Scholarship Awarded To Cabelli & Yampolsky

Sara Cabelli and Lev Yampolsky are this year's recipients of the Sylvia and Isadore N. Silverman Scholarship for Jewish Summer Programs.

Sara is an eleventh grader at Mount Pleasant High School and is a member of B'Nai B'Rith Girls. This summer, she plans to attend the Young Leadership Program in Israel, sponsored by Volunteers for Israel. Sara's parents are Michael and Rosanne Cabelli.

Lev is a ninth grader at Brandywine High School and a member of B'Nai B'Rith Youth Or-

ganization. This summer, Lev will go to Israel on the Gratz 95 Israel Summer Teen Tour. Lev's parents are Michael and Olya Yampolsky.

The Sylvia and Isadore N. Silverman Scholarship Fund was established in 1989, on the occasion of the Silvermans' 55th Wedding Anniversary by their children and friends. The award honors their years of dedication to the Wilmington community, especially to Adas Kodesh Shel Emeth Congregation and to the Boy Scouts of America. Scholarships are awarded each year to assist

young people who will participate in a summer program of Jewish study or enrichment.

The Silverman scholarship is open to all Jewish youth in Delaware. For an application for next year's award, call the AKSE office at 762-2705.

## Fraternity Contribution

Members of the University Of Delaware, Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE) Fraternity, Newark, DE, recently conducted a fund drive to provide funds for Breast Cancer Research at the Medical Center of Delaware. Through a series of social events throughout the academic year the fraternity raised funds to support ongoing research at the Cancer Center located at the Medical Center. The check was presented by three members of the fraternity to Dr. Irving Berkowitz, Medical Director of the Cancer Center as part of Wilmington's Beth Shalom Community Health Fair Day.

"All too often fraternities and sororities are unfairly criticized as being self centered and insensitive to community needs and this is a perfect example of notable project that contributes to the community," said a Beth Shalom spokesperson.



Lev Yampolsky



Sara Cabelli



### JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER ANNUAL MEETING TO INCLUDE ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The 61st Annual Meeting of the Jewish Community Center will be held on Sunday, June 11, 1995 at 4:00 p.m. at the Family Campus, 101 Garden of Eden Road.

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Mark J. Caplan, has nominated the following individuals for election to the Board of Directors of the JCC.

The following have been nominated for elected officers for a one year term:

- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| President.....           | Robert B. Coonin   |
| Vice Presidents.....     | Lena Elzufon<br>Daniel Klein<br>Jordan Rosen<br>Richard Stat |
| Treasurer.....           | Michael Weiss  |
| Assistant Treasurer..... | Buddy Berger   |
| Secretary.....           | Amy Leviton  |
| Assistant Secretary..... | Connie Sugarman  |

The following have been nominated for a three year term:

- |                |                 |               |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Buddy Berger   | Scott Green     | Rhonda Walter |
| Ron Cohen      | Marilyn Levin   | Michael Weiss |
| Susan Coonin   | Connie Sugarman | Larry Zutz    |
| Karen Friedman | Joan Wachstein  |               |

The following have been nominated for a two year term:

- Caryl Marcus-Stape  
Caren Zetlan

The following have been nominated for a one year term:

- Peter Gilman

According to Article VII, Section I of the By-Laws of the Jewish Community Center: "At least three months before the Annual Meeting, the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee, to meet at least two months before the Annual Meeting, consisting of seven members in good standing. Four of whom shall be members of the Board of Directors. At time of said appointment, notice will be posted that the Committee will be meeting and suggestions may be submitted. This Committee shall nominate a slate of officers and members as candidates for the vacancies which shall exist on the Board of Directors, but in no event shall any members of the Nominating Committee be nominated by the Committee as an officer or director. No further nominations shall be submitted to the Annual Meeting."

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Saturday, June 3rd ~ noon - 5:00 p.m.

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### JFD Sponsors Riva Brown Demonstration

DOVER, DE — Riva Brown, a Wilmington calligrapher, will be demonstrating the ancient art of calligraphy during the Delaware Agricultural Museum and Village's May 20, 1995 living history event, *Springtime on the Farm*. Calligraphy is a very old Jewish art which came about as a result of customs to beautify objects used in rituals. Marriage contracts, certificates, and other documents were enhanced by the simple use of this writing. Little used or remembered 20 years ago, calligraphy has taken hold again in recent years. Ms. Brown began taking commissions in 1976 and these have ranged from the art's originally intended use, as in an 800 word text on a single sheet and inscribing a 200 year old family Bible, to new uses such as the broom and golf ball clients wished to beautify. With the Museum's interest in early art forms and in conjunction with the exhibit *Coming to Delaware: the Amish, Jewish and Italian Farm Communities*, this special demonstrator is a welcome addition to the Museum's other activities. This demonstration is funded, in part, by the Jewish Federation of Delaware. The Delaware Agricultural Museum and Village, a private, non-profit organization, is located just south of Delaware State University on Rt. 13 in Dover. Information on

the Museum's *Springtime on the Farm and Coming to Delaware: the Amish, Jewish and Italian Farm Communities* is available by calling 302-734-1618.

### The End is Near Says Ag. Museum

DOVER, DE — *Coming to Delaware: The Amish, Jewish and Italian Farm Communities* closes soon. This unique exhibit designed to help visitors understand the impact and importance of these immigrant groups on the State will be closing the end of June. During the year it has been on display, this exhibit has gained recognition throughout the region. More than 26,000 visitors have enjoyed the vignettes presented and have learned about the differences and similarities these groups possessed. "Don't be left out of the crowd," say Museum officials. "Once the exhibit closes June 30, the Museum's interpretation of this important aspect of Delaware's history...will be history."

The Delaware Agricultural Museum and Village, a private, non-profit organization, is located just south of Delaware State University on Rt. 13 in Dover. Admission is charged. Information on *Coming to Delaware: The Amish, Jewish and Italian Farm Communities* and other exhibits and events at the Museum is available by calling 302-734-1618.

### Delaware's Rosenberg To Chair ORT Leadership Forum

Ruth Rosenberg, a resident of Wilmington, has been appointed by National President Sandy Isenstein to serve as Co-Chair of the newly created Young Leadership Forum of Women's American ORT.

"I am very excited about this new venture. ORT recognizes that to have a successful future we must develop and nurture our young leadership," says Ms. Rosenberg.

Ms. Rosenberg will provide leadership and direction to this group of young women age 45 and under residing in the geographic confines from Central New Jersey to Columbia, Maryland. The group's goals are to provide women the opportunity to learn about the ORT program, network for personal and professional reasons and develop new friendships.

Ms. Rosenberg has been involved in Women's American ORT since 1989. Currently she is President-Brandywine Chapter-at-Large and has held numerous leadership positions including Membership Vice-President and Communications Vice-President. She is also involved in communal activities including the Wilmington JCC and Congregation Beth Emeth.

Ms. Rosenberg received her B.A. from Drew University, New Jersey and worked in retail management

and the insurance industry prior to becoming a "full time mom." Ms. Rosenberg and husband Matt have two young children.

Women's American ORT, an organization of membership chapters across the United States, supports vocational and technical training for Jews around the world, particularly in the United States, South America, France, India, Morocco, and Israel. It is the largest affiliate organization of the World ORT Union and a ma-

ajor source of financial support to its central budget.

More than 250,000 students presently are enrolled in ORT's 800 schools and projects which include comprehensive and vocational high schools, colleges, apprenticeship programs and teacher-training institutes. The ORT program encompasses some 50 countries and is the largest non-governmental network of vocational education and technical training centers in the world.

In addition to its central mission, Women's American ORT works actively in the United States to improve public educations, to promote literacy, to combat anti-Semitism and to support women's rights.

### 'Salute To Israel' Dance Party

In Celebration of Israel's 47th Birthday, Delaware Valley area young professionals are invited to join the party Sunday evening, May 21, at RockLobster, Delaware and Vine Streets, on Philly's famous waterfront. Hundreds of Singles will be Saluting Israel to the tunes of popular DJ music, enjoying an exclusive 8-10 p.m. party with complimentary hors d'oeuvres, a \$2 draft beer special, and toasting Israel with a non-alcoholic \$1 frozen fruit drink special. Cover for the evening is \$10, and the party is being organized by

Young Jewish Leadership Concepts (YJLC)—a non-profit young professionals network.

Earlier in the day on May 21, from 1 a.m. to 4 p.m., over 5,000 people are expected for a community celebration of Israel's 47th Anniversary of Independence, at the Judge Lewis Quadrangle in Philadelphia, across from the Liberty Bell. YJLC will be sharing information about its nationally-known Israel Encounter, young professionals tour, as well as providing \$2 discount coupons for the evening dance-party.

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



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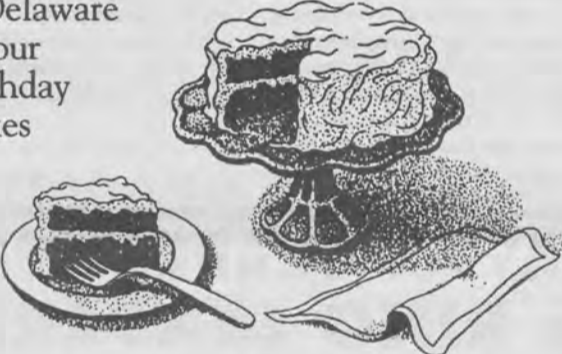
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PANIM EL PANIM

(Face to Face with JFD People)



Shelly Corlett Joins *The Jewish Voice* Advertising Assistant Has Already Started

By DAN WEINTRAUB  
Editor of *The Jewish Voice*

Delaware resident Shelly Corlett has joined *The Jewish Voice* as an Advertising Assistant. She is a native of Montreal, Canada and comes to *The Jewish Voice* with a marketing background. Corlett, who has begun working closely with Advertising Manager Irv Epstein, has held a variety of management and marketing positions with several Delaware enterprises in recent years. She has also maintained a schedule of part-time work with the A.I. duPont Institute's Rehabilitation Unit as a liaison between patients and health care professionals. She completed Management Programs at Algonquin College in Ottawa and with R. Simpson in Montreal.

Corlett will work on a part-time basis with *The Jewish Voice* to meet the marketing needs of the publication's advertisers. She lives in north Wilmington with her husband Cliff, her daughter Becky and her son Andrew. When she is not at work she enjoys gardening, cooking and interior decorating. She has lived in Delaware for the past twelve years.

Irv Epstein, Advertising Manager of *The Jewish Voice* has said that the addition of Ms. Corlett will greatly enhance the effectiveness of the Advertising Department. Epstein believes that the Department will now be able to continue its growth in providing a medium in which advertisers can communicate their messages.

Corlett was hired after the Business Committee of *The Jewish Voice* recommended the addition of a part-time Advertising Assistant. Since its inception in 1994 the Business Committee of *The Jewish Voice* has served to evaluate operational as-

pects of *The Jewish Voice* with an eye toward improving its financial prospects. Hiring an Advertising Assistant was approved by the Executive Committee of the Jewish Federation of Delaware (JFD) and the Board of JFD. Judy Wortman, the Executive Vice-President of JFD approved the final selection of Corlett from among the available candidates for the position.

*The Jewish Voice* is published by the Jewish Federation of Delaware (JFD), the central planning and fundraising organization of Delaware's Jewish community. *The Jewish Voice* is the only newspaper devoted to news of concern to Delaware's Jews.

Woodworking

In celebration of their recent move to Powder Mill Square, Creations Gallery will feature new works by Vermont woodworker Eric Sprenger and Delaware marine artist Steve Rogers during a three-day opening reception Thursday, June 1st, 5:00-8:00 p.m., Friday, June 2nd, 5:00-8:00 p.m. (Art Loop Night) and Saturday, June 3rd, noon-5:00 p.m.

Working primarily with cherry, walnut and other domestic woods, Eric Sprenger specializes in handcrafted home furnishings including clocks, lamps, mirrors and occasional tables. Steve Rogers will be showing a new selection of his ship models which capture in minute detail the work boats of the Chesapeake Bay and fishing and pleasure boats of the New England Coast.

The receptions are free and open to the public; refreshments will be served.

Creations Fine Woodworking Gallery is located in Powder Mill Square, Greenville, Delaware. Gallery Director is John Sherman (302) 655-8311.

Holiday With Tears: V-E Day Recounted By New Americans

By ROBERTA D. BURMAN  
JFS Russian  
Resettlement Coordinator

In Delaware, there lives a group of Russian Jewish World War II veterans that fought bravely against the German army. When war broke out, all of them were between the ages of 17 and 28, with the innocence of youth and hope for the future. Instead, they found themselves fighting from the walls of Moscow and Leningrad through the towns and villages of the Ukraine, Belarussia, Poland and Germany. Their fierce battles ended in Berlin. Following are the memories and recollections of some of these veterans of this war they call The Great Patriotic War:

Lev Sychin recalls fighting against German troops that surrounded Minsk. The fighting was long and difficult but finally they were able to liberate the people of the town. He fought bravely in the Minsk battle, the battle to capture Berlin, and also for the liberation of Warsaw.

Abram Bluestein also fought his way on foot from Melitopol in the Ukraine to Berlin. These awful battles were waged from town to town, through the Crimea, in an attempt to prevent the Germans from taking over. In Simpheropol, the hull of tank #201 stands, to this day, as a memorial to those who fought for freedom. Abram was a Tank Radio Specialist. His next position, also in his tank division, occurred when he was transferred to the Belarussian front where he fought his way to victory on German soil. He remembers that the little town outside of Berlin where his fighting ended was called Vilsun. Abram bears the results of his war wounds to this day with the same bravery he exhibited during those battles many years ago.

Matvey Derbaremdiker remembers the attack of German troops in August of 1943, in the area known as Kursk Arch. The Germans were trying to go around Moscow from the



From left to right: Abram Sheynin, Boris Golod, Lev Sychin, Yelizabeta Ayzenshteyn, Semion Krasnopolisky, Leonid Genyuk, Matvey Derbaremdiker, Gennady Gribov, Elya Derbaremdiker. Not shown, Isaac Okun.

south. Matvey, who was Aide to the commander of his Infantry platoon, and the others were ordered to divert the German troops from their planned direction of attack. In spite of the awful German artillery barrages, with great sacrifices they succeeded in throwing back the German

advance. They broke the German defense and strengthened their position on the Muse River at a high point in the Roots Region. Matvey remembers being wounded in this battle.

Yelizaveta Ayzenshteyn, the one  
Continued on Page 11

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PANIM EL PANIM

(Face to Face with JFD People)



Kutz Holocaust Remembrance

Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Memorial Day, has a special significance to the residents of the Kutz Home. With an average age of 86 they have been through two World Wars and countless uprisings and pogroms. Many were born in Eastern Europe and have lost countless relatives and friends in the Holocaust. Several are survivors themselves, having been in death camps or forced to leave Europe due to persecution and fear.

In special tribute to all who perished in the Holocaust, Mollie Epstein conducted a mid-day service for residents and staff on April 27th. She

spoke movingly of the innocent millions who died and of those Christians who helped the Jews and those Jews who resisted and fought against hopeless odds. She spoke of the tragedy of hate in Oklahoma City, but ended with a note of hope that one day hatred and bigotry would vanish. She lit a memorial candle and all assembled observed a moment of silence.

Gertrude Friedlander, a Kutz resident and a Holocaust survivor said "It was good to know that her family and friends and all victims were not forgotten".

Holiday With Tears

Continued from Page 10 woman veteran in Delaware, was in the army from the beginning until the

end of the war. As part of the Marine Brigade, she was the youngest medic in her battalion. When she was wounded, she was transferred to the Leningrad front to the 63rd Army. Her next transfer was to the Belarussian front. From there she made her way to Germany. A well known Russian author, Svetlana Alekseyevich wrote something about Yelizaveta in her book called "A War Has No Woman's Face."

Abram Sheynin, who was a naval officer, found himself in a land battle due to the shortage of officers. As the situation on the front improved, he was transferred to the North Fleet in Arhangelsk. There he headed the Belomorskaya Marine Observatory. In the winter of 1942, he took part in the construction of the railway across the icy North Dvina River. The construction became necessary when the marine port of Murmansk was completely destroyed by German bombers. This railway was used to transport cargo that was given by the American army as part of Lend Lease to aid the Soviet army.

Leonid Genyuk fought in the Great Patriotic War from beginning to end. He finished, as did most of the others, in Berlin. He served as a Commander of the Mortar Division, detached to the 341st Fighter Command. He fought on five fronts, Ukrainean, first and second Belarussians, Leningrad, and Pribaltic. He set free the towns of West Ukraine, Belarussia, and Poland. In East Prussia, he was part of the capture of several major cities and towns. Twice, he was seriously wounded. Leonid met and joined forces with our American troops on a bridge over the Oder River. Curiously, when he came to the United States as a refugee in 1992, he visited New Jersey and bumped into one of the American soldiers that he knew during the war. They recognized each other after all these years.

Gennady Gribov states, "I know I survived this bloody war just by chance. During the siege of Leningrad, thousands of people died from starvation and freezing weather conditions. I was a young boy of 16 and I remember seeing burning houses after the bombardment. We received rations of one slice of bread per day. In spite of the terrible hunger, we were able to construct barricades to deter the progress of tanks that were trying to advance Fascism in our country. When I was 18, I was drafted into the army and sent to fight in the battle of the Kursk Arch. This was the location of the largest tank battle of the war. Thousands of Russian tanks fought against an armada of German tanks. Many perished as the tanks were hit and burned. The ground between Kursk and Orel was red with the blood of the soldiers of both armies. But we withstood the onslaught and were victorious. I was shot in the head and evacuated by a medical corpsman. In spite of my wounds, I was lucky that I survived. I also know that the most awful evil in the world is war. Terrorism and Fascism, in our time must not be tolerated. Those of us that fought before are ready to give up everything we have today to prevent this evil from happening."

Others, not quoted, but no less involved, were Isaac Okun, a veteran of both Europe and Japan, Boris Golod, Semion Krasnopolsky and Elya Derbaremdiker. (All of the people came here as refugees from Anti-Semitism in the Former Soviet

Union. Some are now American citizens.)

In observance of the 50th Anniversary of the end of WWII, the Russian Veterans and their wives held a celebration at B'nai B'rith House on May 9, 1995. During this holiday atmosphere, eyes filled with tears as nostalgic war songs were played, poems were read, speeches were made, and memories were recalled. Humor was interjected into this serious occasion as each persons contribution was acknowledged. This gray haired group became young once again as they recounted both the happy and war-scorched memories of their youth. They can all take pride in the numerous decorations for bravery and a job well done.

Kutz Annual Meeting Highlights Renovation Plans

By HOWARD HOFFMAN A dreary, rainy April 30th was brightened by news presented to a large audience at the annual meeting of The Milton & Hattie Kutz Home. President Eileen Conner discussed the Home's new renovation and expansion plans slated to begin this June.

Using architect's drawings, Ms.

Continued on Page 15

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# The Rabbi Writes: New Text On Kook

By Rabbi  
**LEONARD B. GEWIRTZ**

Rabbi Abraham Isaac Kook and  
Jewish Spirituality  
Edited by Lawrence J. Kaplan  
and David Shatz  
N.Y. University Press, 346 pages.  
Bibliography and Index 1995.

The first Ashkenazic chief rabbi of Palestine, under the British mandate Rabbi Abraham Isaac Kook (1865-1935) was respected as a formidable spiritual giant with incredible diversity of talents and interests. A talmudist, halakhist, Kabbalist, mystic, religious philosopher, moralist,

poet, and communal leader, Rav Kook's grasp and outlook was very broad and all inclusive. He was a spiritual giant of the Jewish people in the 20th century. In the bibliography of the book under review are listed 32 Hebrew titles of books republished in 1985 to mark the 50th anniversary since the passing of Rav Kook. These 39 volumes included his major works on *Talmud*, *Halakhah*, *Aggadah*, poetry, ethics, prayer, Zionism, and religious philosophy. The literary executors of his writings inform us that they are guardians of more than 30 volumes of his vast creativity in manuscript form, waiting to be published at a propitious time.

To fully comprehend the intellectual giant Rav Kook was, I offer the evaluation of the gaon, Rav Shlomo Yosef Zevin, editor of the *Encyclo-*

*pedia Talmudit*:

"It would be no exaggeration to state that the great luminary, Rav Kook, of blessed memory, was one person among the leading Torah scholars of our generation who possessed complete and equal mastery of *Halakhah* (Jewish Law) and *Aggadah* (non-legal literature) ... Rav Kook did not have to research the issue before responding to it. Rather, he would on the spot present all the relevant Talmudic texts and proceed to move from the *Talmud* to the *Rambam*, all the *Rishonim* ... etc.

"The world of *Aggadah* was equally under his control. Vision and poetry, thought and speculation ... all would pour forth from him in an unending stream." (Zevin, *Ishim Vee'shitot*, p. 232, Tel Aviv, 1958).

The book, *Rabbi Isaac Kook and Jewish Spirituality*, includes an extensive bibliography by Robert Carroll. One hundred and fifteen authors are listed who have, in the last 60 years, written hundreds of articles in scholarly journals on the thought of Rav Kook. The editors have divided that book into three sections:

1. The philosophy and *Halakah* of Rav Kook;
  2. The Harmonism, Tolerance, and Faith;
  3. Zionism and the State of Israel from the perspective of Rav Kook.
- The thirteen chapters are an analysis by twelve professors of philosophy, Jewish studies, Jewish thought, and Rabbinics.

II

Prof. Lawrence Fine views Rav Kook as an original thinker "with a mind of unusual inventiveness." But Rav Kook, though influenced by Lurianic mysticism, demythologizes Lurianic *Kabbalah*, and views the *Sephirot* as not in G-d, but as levels in man's psychological development. Rav Kook recognizes the material reality of the universe, but G-d pervades all of existence. There is an *adnut Hakolelet*, all-inclusive unity under G-d; for the total configuration leads to G-d. This is not *pantheism* because the Rav views G-d and the Universe as separate entities. This term is *pan-entheism*. Here knowledge of G-d is in the inner life of the soul. The presence of the divine is felt on all levels of reality, but Rav Kook says that the fullness of G-d's presence is felt best *within the soul*.

Accepting Lurianic mysticism and its categories, he sees the need "for descent for the sake of ascent"; *Yeridah l'tzorech aliyah*. But in demythologizing mysticism, there is the clear presence of the material world. For Rav Kook, eating, for example, is a necessary act in order to reach the spiritual. In contrast, Lurianic thought sees a conflict between food and spirituality; one must leave behind all materiality to achieve spirituality. Kook is influenced by *Hassidism* and saw enjoying food on *Shabbat* as *Oneg Shabbat*, as a spiritual activity. Prof. Fine presents Kook as a thinker relevant to our time.

Kook accepted the *evolutionary* process as a means for the ethical improvement of humanity. Rav Kook understood the spiritual development of secular Jewry. He believed the person "must have absolute inner freedom" in order to grow.

Prof. Lawrence J. Kaplan discussing the Rav and the Jewish philosophical tradition, suggests that Rav Kook's thought is both holistic and organic. Although Rav Kook is a mystical thinker, he approaches Jewish philosophical tradition in a posi-

tive way, in order to incorporate its insights into his own thought. *Rambam*, who was a rationalist, was opposed to anthropomorphism in the Torah (Guide I:26) and explained it with *Hazal's* saying, "The Torah speaks in the language of the common man" (Berachot 31b). While Rav Kook praises the *Rambam* for demolishing the suggestion of G-d's corporeality, nevertheless, he, as a mystical thinker, is tolerant of anthropomorphic expression, because how can man express the ineffable with the poverty of human language?

For the *Rambam*, G-d's perfect unity demands a dualistic universe, matter separate from G-d. G-d is the formal and final cause of the universe, never the material cause. Rav Kook, who tended toward a pantheism without the pantheistic dross, saw the world itself in G-d.

The *Rambam* found the highest human perfection expressed in the *knowledge* of G-d, in the *knowledge* of truth. For *knowledge* will lead to the love of G-d, *Ahavat Hashem*. Rav Kook found the highest perfection in *faith* from which love and *knowledge* of G-d will develop.

For *Rambam*, the perfect universe is monistic.

For Rav Kook, the ultimate perfection is harmony of multiplicity.

For *Rambam*, the nature of the universe and Torah is stable, fixed and structured.

For Rav Kook, the nature of the universe and Torah is changing, evolutionary, and moving to a higher level of goodness.

For *Rambam*, intellectual activity is contrary to imagination; for intellect conceptualizes, analyses, differentiates (Guide I 73; III:15 & 459).

For Rav Kook, the imagination is superior. "Whatever may be imagined—exists in Truth" (*Orot Hakodesh* I:212). Rav Kook thought philosophy was dry, though it kept the faith in a pure monotheism. It is cold, abstract, lifeless rationalism, lacking vitality and depth of experience. Through imagination and evo-

lution, Rav Kook saw potential reality and development which was more inspiring. In admiration of the *Rambam's* mind, Rav Kook said, "If a person is afraid to think, he will progressively sink deeper into the mire of ignorance that will deprive him of his soul, sap his strength, darken his spirit" (*Orot HaKodesh* III:26).

Rav Kook's poetry is explored by Prof. Jerome J. Gellman to discover the essence of his thought. He examines two poems in great detail:

"The First One Drew Me" written circa 1924-1925, and "The Whispers of Existence," written circa 1912-1913.

From these poems we gain understanding of Rav Kook's metaphysical world. In the poem, "The First One Drew Me," Rav Kook imagines himself being drawn to the transcendent, with the *introverted* feeling of leaving this world behind; in the ascent he reaches the "unitary ground of all multiplicity," and hears the song not by ear, but by his soul. "My soul does hear this song." The poem expresses the deepest emotions of Rav Kook standing before the "open heavens."

"The Whispers of Existence" is the poetry of a spiritual experience from an *extroverted* perspective. Here the spiritual force flows downward, and this is an experience which, in principle, is available to every one. In the poem the spiritual force is flowing; the transcendent descends into the world and becomes available to the people. Now we can overcome despair. The spiritual awareness becomes available to the whole nation and can be realized in the redemption of the nation. In this poem we see how to Rav Kook's concept of national redemption is a divine concern, and the national redemption of Zionism must be a spiritual phenomenon, wherein the whole people are evaluated to become a spiritual unity.

This review of Kaplan and Shatz's collection of a range of analyses and interpretations of the central issues in Rav Kook's thought is being printed in two parts. Part one has discussed the essays on Rav Kook as mystic, as philosopher and as poet.

Part two will discuss the essays on *Halakhah*, and the Jewish State, as well as touch on other issues which are at the core of Rav Kook's thought and influence.

(Part two of this review will be printed June 2.)

## Gewirtz and Kook

By DAN WEINTRAUB

Editor of *The Jewish Voice*

Rabbi Leonard Gewirtz, Emeritus Rabbi of Adas Kodesh Shel Emeth Congregation, in Wilmington, Delaware, who has reviewed a new text about Rav Kook, Israel's first Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi of Israel, is the author of an English translation of Rav Kook's *Footsteps of the Messiah. Jewish Spiritually - Hope and Redemption*, by Rabbi Leonard B. Gewirtz was published by Ktav Publishing House of Hoboken, NH in 1986. The new text which Gewirtz reviews in this issue of *The Jewish Voice* and the following issue, includes Gewirtz's work in its bibliography

In addition to the translation, Gewirtz included two sections and an epilogue of original material. Gewirtz wrote about such issues as Hope and Redemption in the context of Rabbinic sources, philosophic traditions and rational analyses. In his 1986 work, Gewirtz focused his discussion on their relationship and relevance to contemporary culture.

Gewirtz was profiled at length in an issue of *The Jewish Voice* in October of 1994. The article was written in anticipation of the dedication of a sanctuary in his honor at AKSE where he served for many years as rabbi. Gewirtz is also the author of *The Authentic Jew and His Judaism*. He is an occasional contributor to *The Jewish Voice*.

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# OBITUARIES

## BETTY APOTHAKE

Betty Apothaker, 89, mother of Selma Seitz of 1707 Dalfield Drive, Green Meadow, Brandywine Hundred, died May 7 in Seashore Gardens Nursing Home, Atlantic City, N.J.

Mrs. Apothaker, of Atlantic City, also is survived by eight grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

## JANET SHRIER

Janet Shrier died April 30. She is survived by her husband, her brother, three children and their spouses. She was the wife of Alfred Shrier of Delray Beach, Florida. She was the mother of Linda Shrier Schiffer of Baltimore, MD, Carl Reed of Exton, PA and Larry Shrier of Palm Beach Gardens, FLA. She was the Mother-in-Law of Rabbi Ira Schiffer, Joseph Reed III and Susan Shrier. She was the sister of Louis Green of Phoenix, AZ. She is also survived by five grandchildren. Services were held at Schoenberg Memorial Chapter in Wilmington, DE on May 1, 1995.

## SOLOMON DENENBERG

Solomon Denenberg, 97, formerly of 3010 Madison St., Wilmington, died June 9 in The Kutz Home, 704 River Road, Bellefonte.

Mr. Denenberg, an electrical contractor, owned Denen Electric Co., Wilmington, and retired in 1975 after 50 years.

He was a member of Congregation Beth Emeth, Montefiore Mutual

Benefit Society, B'nai B'rith Lodge 470, and the Electric Contractors Association of Delaware, and was a former member of Jewish Community Center Senior Center.

His wife, Ethel Denenberg, died in 1992. He is survived by a daughter, Linda Seidenstat of Wilmington; four grandchildren and a great-granddaughter.

## Cafe Tamar Presents "Neshama-The Soul of A People"

An evening of song and dance will usher in Israel's 47th year of independence celebration at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, May 29, 1995. The event will be held at Cafe Tamar in the social hall of Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth synagogue.

The program entitled *Neshama! The Soul of a People* will be performed by the AKSE Choral and Dance Groups with featured soloists Cindy Goldstein, Linda Vodovis, cantor Daniel Leeman and Sam Romirowsky.

The choral group directed by Faith Brown will be accompanied by Sara Berman and the Tamar Musicians. David Gesterak, accordionist, will present a medley of Russian and Yiddish songs. Narrator for the evening will be Joel Tenenbaum.

New to this year's program will be AKSE's youngest group of dancers, Akids 2, directed by Melinda

Weinstein. Melinda also directs Akids 1, who will also be part of the program. Ha-Rokdim, a teenage group of dancers, will perform several exciting dances directed by Harriet Ainbinder. The adult dances are led by Faith and Lou Brown with Harriet Ainbinder.

Kosher foods will be sold at 6 p.m. prior to the performance, catered by "Zaydie's Place."

This year, Cafe Tamar will pay a musical tribute to the songs of cantor Debbie Friedman and the late Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach. There will also be a medley of songs celebrating Yom Yerushalayim and the city's tri-millennium.

Tickets are available at the synagogue office, 762-2705, at \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children younger than 13.

An AKSE spokesperson encouraged readers to celebrate the 47th birthday of Israel on Monday, May 29, with the entire community, and to experience Israeli music and dancing at Cafe Tamar!!

## Words & Music From Vampires To Klezmer

By STEVE COHEN

Charles Busch is a cult figure in American theater. His creation, *VAMPIRE LESBIANS OF SODOM*, ran for five years in New York, fascinating audiences with its parody of sci-fi movies and with Busch himself playing a transvestite. Busch also wrote and starred in other comedies that cast him as a woman.

The Wilma Theatre in Philadelphia has scored a coup by bringing Busch and his latest play to our area. There's a big difference between his previous work and this. *YOU SHOULD BE SO LUCKY* presents Busch as a lonely 30-something gay man, who wears relatively normal mens' attire. And *YOU SHOULD BE SO LUCKY* has a strong and affectionate Jewish flavor, with quite a bit of the Yiddish language.

Busch's character is befriended by an older straight man named Si Rosenberg who turns out to be Busch's fairy godmother, you should pardon the expression, in a hilarious twist on the Cinderella legend. Like early Neil Simon plays, this comedy is lightweight and provides a multitude of laughs.

Because of the Yiddish language and Jewish content, I surmised that Busch based the play on his own background. "You've outed me!" he told me, in mock horror. Although he never used his ethnicity before, he says that his next play will also have a Jewish flavor, being based on several of his family members.

In person, Busch is a nice-looking man without effeminate mannerisms. Clearly he plays a fictional character, based only in part on himself. He has created a tremendously funny evening in the theater. Please read this sentence with a Yiddish accent: You don't have to be Jewish, or gay, to laugh out loud at this play.

The Wilma Theatre has a successful record for creating elaborate stage sets on its tiny stage. With *YOU SHOULD BE SO LUCKY* the company has outdone itself. The outrageous set is one of the leading characters, and the human players are well cast and extrovertedly hilarious.

...

The New York Philharmonic just presented the premiere of a piece called *KLEZMER RONDOS*, and its vocal solo was sung by Cantor Alberto Mizrahi. Interestingly, Mizrahi says that one of his favorite singing parts is in Verdi's *REQUIEM*. He's not alone in considering that ostensibly Catholic mass to be above and beyond religion. The composer himself was an atheist. A friend of mine asked the tenor at his wedding to sing an aria from *REQUIEM* because the music is so beautiful.

# NACHES

## Miller Birth

Stephen and Jennifer Miller of Wilmington (23 Stonewall Lane, Ridgewood) announce the birth of their daughter, Amanda Diane on March 16, 1995. Amanda's grandparents are Mrs. Bobby Miller and the late Dr. Alfred D. Miller of Wilmington and Dr. George and Mrs. Syble Boswell of California.

## Rubin-Silverman

Alan and Helen Rubin announce the marriage of their son Jeffrey to Debbie Silverman, daughter of Elliott and Harriet Silverman of Plainview, N.Y.

## Shavuot-Bikkurim Service In ASKE

On Sunday evening, June 4th, 1995, at 7:30 p.m., there will be a Shavuot-Bikkurim Service at Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation. The entire community is cordially invited to join the following participants in this beautiful service: Eric Brown, Elizabeth Cohen, Michelle Lazarus, David Leitch, Jennifer Marzouk, Noah Pevar, Adam Seidel, and Katie Tanzer. A reception in the Social Hall will follow the service.

## Schoenberg Memorial Chapels



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## Kutz Meeting

Continued from page 11

Conner described the new visitor's center, coffee shop and covered portico framing the new main entrance. Plans include doubling the number of private rooms from 12 to 24 each with its own bathroom. House-keeping, lighting, air and heating facilities will also be updated. Resident programs will be expanded through a new "activity mall" featuring rooms for mild dementia programs and physical therapy, a beauty shop, a new employee lounge and a medical records room. The sprinkler system, wall coverings and furniture will be replaced.

Representing the Home's Auxiliary, Phyllis Cobin presented the Home with a \$100,000 check. This contribution is only partial payment on the \$250,000 pledged by the Auxiliary towards the renovation and expansion of the Home.

Steven Willens, the Executive Director of the Home presented awards for meritorious service to Mary Tompkins and Bernice Edwards as Co-Employees of the Year. Mary Tompkins is a twenty year employee of the Kutz Home. She was recognized for her many years of dedicated service to the residents of the Kutz Home. Cassandra Hopkins, Eva Mills and Sheila Mensch were also recognized for their years of excellent service.

Mr. Willens also reported some staff changes during the past year. Dr. Jeffrey Arbuckle, who is board-certified in Family Practice is the Home's new consulting Medical Director. Mollie Epstein is the Home's Social Services Designee and Bernice Edwards our full-time Activities Assistant. Sheila Mensch has been promoted to Director of Admissions and Public Relations.

The final part of the program was a buffet prepared by the Home's dietary staff.

## MAP Walk

Grab your walking shoes, come rain or shine, and join in on Saturday, June 3, for the 6th Annual "M.A.P. Walk For Housing" to kick off in Wilmington's Brandywine Park. Choose a 15K or 5K WALK through scenic areas of the City, passing renovated houses and homeless shelters that benefit from funds raised. The WALK is sponsored by the Methodist Action Program and PNC Bank.

To sign up call the WALK hotline at 654-3101.

## Squeeze Play

Continued from page 3

tic American issue and his priority at this time is the peace process and he does not want to jeopardize that.

There's the rub. His political foes' highest priority is killing that enterprise, and they make no secret of it. The Likud opposition sent a four-man team, led by former Amb. Zalman Shoval, to Washington this month to lobby against Rabin's peace policies and the push the Jerusalem legislation.

The Jewish community is caught in the squeeze as well. With its deep emotional attachment to Jerusalem, it has long worked for moving the Embassy to Jerusalem. Now it is a real possibility, but so is peace, and many fear the embassy legislation could jeopardize the fragile peace talks.

Bipartisan Congressional support does not negate the cynicism behind

## Brandywine Kickers Entertain Kutz Home Residents

April 24th proved a lively day for residents at the Milton & Hattie Kutz Home. The "Brandywine Kickers" dancing and aerobics group "dancercized" at the Home. The group formed in 1984 at the YMCA performs at area nursing homes, senior centers and for any group or organization that invites them.

Residents moved with the lively music, clapped, whistled and snapped their fingers. They even requested an encore dance. The kickers are always a welcome addition

to the Home's full and fun-filled activities program.



Brandywine Kickers strut their stuff at the Kutz Home April 24th.



Mollie Epstein conducting a Yom HaShoah Service at the Kutz Home.



Phyllis Cobin of the Kutz Home Auxiliary presenting a check for \$100,000 (partial payment of the Auxiliary's \$250,000 contribution) to Eileen Conner, President of the Kutz Home for the renovation and expansion of the Home.

the embassy bill. Once launched, such legislation becomes hard for any politician to resist, especially when they can find protective cover from a large number of cosponsors from both parties. At that point there is greater risk in not cosponsoring the measure. As so often happens on such matters, lawmakers sign on to a bill they know is flawed and then pray the law-making process or the president will rescue them from both the results and the responsibility.

Those who engineered the Jerusalem squeeze play recognize that a frontal assault on the peace process would fail. So they turned to the emotionally-charged Jerusalem issue to advance their agenda of blocking Rabin's peace initiatives toward the Palestinians and Syrians and bringing down his government. The Israeli opposition and their American supporters scored a coup by winning Dole and Gingrich to their cause.

That's not to say the majority leader or the speaker want to see the peace process fail or Rabin fall, but it is certainly the motivation of many of those behind their legislation.

His supporters say the senator who introduced the Jerusalem bill is a new Bob Dole. His past hostility was the result of the strong influence of aides no longer with him, and he has mellowed, they explain.

If Bob Dole does indeed feel differently and better about Israel these days, whether it is because of a change of staff or change of heart, or both, there are more constructive ways to show it. At a time when the peace process is under assault by its opponents here, there is a need for a powerful voice in support of the negotiations and Arab-Israeli reconciliation, one which will reject divisive efforts to toss a wrench in the peace works and oppose turning Capitol Hill into a Labor-Likud battlefield.

(Douglas M. Bloomfield a former AIPAC official writes frequently for The Jewish Voice and other publications from his home in suburban Maryland)



## Shavuot Confirmation Service At Beth Emeth

The 1995 Confirmation Class of Beth Emeth cordially invites the community to the Shavuot Confirmation Service on Sunday, June 3, at 3 p.m.

The twenty-eight students have written and will be conducting the service, which is the culmination of their years of Religious School education at Congregation Beth Emeth.

The students are: Jon C. Amsterdam, Gregory Adam Berman, Sarah Berman, Aaron Cohen, Emily Ann Davis, Brian Steven Eng, Julia Gayduk, Julia S. Gelman, Joshua M. Goldfeder, Eliza-

beth C. Cross, Alexander Cary Grumbacher, Adam J. Hebbel, Stacy Renee Jacobs, Michelle M. Jonas, Adam Gordon Joseph, Michelle Lynn Kramer, Jacob Ryan LaPorte, Matthew K. Lipson, Amanda Kate Lukoff, Jessica Eve Lukoff, Samantha Jill Lukoff, Daniel Ben Medwin, Robyn Julie Pollack, David Allen Rapkin, Adam Jeremy Ruben, Sarah Elayne Tartack, Scott Franklin Travis, and Ari Ross Wishkoff, "Please join the Confirmands and their families for this simcha," said a Beth Emeth spokesperson.

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