

A REBIRTH OF JEWISH CAMPUS LIFE

By Susan M. Detwiler
Special to the Jewish Voice

Born-again. That's not a phrase usually associated with Judaism, yet that's exactly what's happening on college campuses across the country and around the world. But instead of "born-again" being an individual epiphany, this rebirth is a Jewish renaissance, creating colleges where Jewish campus life is as exciting and vibrant as the universities themselves.

At the heart of this renaissance is the work of Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life. Begun in 1923 as the "Jewish Chapel on Campus" in Champaign, Illinois, Hillel centers across the country remain a spiritual home for many Jewish students. But there's no doubting the message of the recent Jewish population study -- institutions can no longer restrict

themselves to only those who are already comfortable with their Judaism. They must acknowledge and reach the tens of thousands of Jewish individuals who feel no need to identify.

Hillel is no different. Jewish students come to college from many different backgrounds. They are Reform, Reconstructionist, Orthodox, Conservative, secular, humanist, and just plain "Jewish." They have been active in youth group, or they haven't been inside a synagogue since their b'nei mitzvah. They are Jewish because spirituality is important to them, or they are Jewish because they've been told they are. They are comfortable with their Judaism, or they're seeking answers to "Why be Jewish."

In short, Jewish college students reflect the general Jewish population.

In a study of college freshman on campuses across the country, Jewish students professed a need to help promote racial understanding and to influence the political structure. They frequently performed volunteer work. Almost two-thirds expect to help others who are in difficulty; a third expressed a desire to integrate spirituality into their lives.

So many of the core values of Judaism are reflected in these ideals, that it is easy to think students are aware of this relationship. That's not necessarily true. And even if they are aware, we have to remember what it's like to be a college student. They have a limited amount of time to spread among a wide variety of activities. Even those who recognize their desire to learn more about Judaism find it hard to make time to explore their roots. How much harder is it for those who have little

awareness of these roots?

This brings us back to the Jewish renaissance. Hillel recognizes that these students, as well as being Jewish, are just that -- college students. They are studying, playing, partying, and working. Some come to religious services, most do not. But just as adults are Jewish whether or not they are physically in the synagogue, these students can be engaged by Jewish activities whether or not they are in the Hillel building.

Do they enjoy reading? Let's hold book discussions in a coffee house on campus. Do they enjoy working out? Let's create a group of workout buddies, based on the understanding that the body is a temple for the heart and soul of Judaism. Do they enjoy food? Let's try a different cultural Shabbat each month, inviting different groups to help us cook a kosher meal

reflecting their cultures. Are they business majors? Let's invite different Jewish business leaders to network with them at informal dinners. Are they politically active? Let's ask Jewish politicians to speak on campus. Are they confused by their feelings about Israel? Let's extend to them an invitation to hear the Israeli ambassador to the United States.

Programs like these engage students at different points on their Jewish journeys. Although it would be nice to think that it is obvious that Jewish learning is the route to a tzedek or righteous life, we must face reality. Students are like the rest of us. We must be drawn in by our interests.

And so Hillel works to create a vibrant Jewish culture on campuses, engaging students

Continued on page 13

BOMBING LETS ARAFAT OFF HOOK

By Gil Sedan, JTA

The bombs that ripped through crowds of Israelis and foreign workers in Tel Aviv last weekend may have saved Yasser Arafat from making some tough decisions.

Internal and external pressures have been building on Arafat to allow comprehensive reforms of the Palestinian Authority -- reforms that effectively would undermine the P.A. president's grip on power.

But after Sunday's deadly attack by the Al-Aksa Brigade, a terrorist group from Arafat's own Fatah movement, Israel refused to allow Palestinian officials to attend a conference on P.A. reform in London or congregate in Ramallah to consider a draft of a Palestinian constitution.

Israeli Foreign Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Monday that there is no need for Palestinian officials to travel abroad to conferences when they have the power at home to end terrorist attacks, but don't use it.

Unintentionally, however, the Israeli moves may have allowed Arafat to dodge a political bullet, at least temporarily.

The PLO Central Council was scheduled to convene Thursday for



Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, left, looks on during a visit to wounded victims as his family looks on Monday, Jan. 6, 2003, in Tel Aviv's Ichilov hospital. Haimov, a 33-year-old Israeli man, is one of more than 100 people injured in addition to the 22 Israeli and foreign fatalities of a double Palestinian suicide bombing in Tel Aviv the previous night. Credit: BP Images/Pool/JTA

what Palestinians described as a "key step in reforms," ratifying a Palestinian Authority constitution.

The Central Council is made up of 128 members and serves as the bridge between the PLO's executive branch -- chaired by Arafat -- and its parliament, the Palestine National Council.

It would have been the PLO council's first meeting in two years. The draft constitution calls for a

series of reforms, most notably the appointment of a prime minister to serve alongside the president.

The Central Council also was scheduled to study the latest draft of a "road map" toward Israeli-Palestinian peace prepared by the diplomatic "Quartet" of the United States, Russia, United Nations and the European Union.

The plan calls for an

Continued on page 13

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EDITORIAL

Go Green!

Editorial headlines can be misleading. Many of you might think that Go Green! is a cheer for the Philadelphia Eagles as they prepare to take on the Atlanta Falcons in Saturday night's NFL Playoff bid. However, despite the fact that this editor will be decked in green from head to toe and screaming herself hoarse while the Delaware Valley's only professional football team takes the first step towards a Super Bowl victory, the phrase **Go Green** is an admonition to embrace the spirit of Tu B'Shevat.

Tu B'Shevat, known to many as the New Year for the Trees, is a time to reflect upon our role as guardians of the earth. The holiday, which kicks off next Friday night, has evolved from its biblical roots as a day to collect the tax on fruit trees into a festival celebrating the marvels of nature.

It is a traditional time to plant new trees in the State of Israel and to taste the fruits of those trees during a special Tu B'Shevat seder. It is also a time to advocate on behalf of ecological concerns like global warming and air and water pollution that compromise our environment and place all of G-d's creatures at risk.

Jewish environmental groups like COEJL: The Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life, the Jewish National Fund, Shomrei Adamah and the Green Zionists Alliance urge Jews to use the holiday as a springboard for environmental activism by planting a public garden, cleaning up a park or riverbed or writing letters to politicians and/or newspapers about issues of ecological concern.

Jewish tradition teaches us that G-d placed Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden to till it and to tend it, to serve it and to protect it (Genesis 2:15). As their descendants it is up to us to work towards creating a better, cleaner environment for generations to come.

Go Green! on Friday, January 17th. Celebrate the many possibilities of Tu B'Shevat

Lynn B. Edelman

Chag Sameach!
Lynn B. Edelman
Editor

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JANUARY 24TH – 4:54 PM

The JEWISH VOICE

Published semimonthly, and monthly in July and August, by the Jewish Federation of Delaware.

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Printed by Dover Post Company

Periodicals postage paid for The Jewish Voice (USPS-704160) at Wilmington, Delaware. Subscription price: \$18.00. Mailed to subscribers and contributors to the Jewish Federation of Delaware. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Jewish Voice, 100 W. 10th St., Wilmington, DE 19801. (302) 427-2100. The FAX number of The Jewish Voice is (302) 427-2438. E-Mail: lynn.edelman@shalomdel.org



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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Portugal Story Stirs Memories

I enjoyed Ellen Meyers story about her trip to Portugal. A couple of years ago, my wife and I traveled to Portugal and stopped in the town of Belmonte. When we began the walk to the castle, we noticed a house with a large mezuzah. All narrow streets in the surrounding towns lead to the castle, behind whose walls the citizens needed protection.

On the trip back to our hotel, my curiosity got the better of me. I knocked at the "Mezuzah House" and a gentleman came to the door. During a challenging conversation conducted in Spanish and Portuguese we discovered that the owner of the home hosts weekly Shabbat services for some 18 to 25 Jews in his home.

Richard A. Plaut

PARSHA PLACE

Parashat Bo

Exodus 10:1-13:16

ALL LIFE IS SACRED

Cliff Kulwin

Week of January 11

Parashat Bo chronicles the departure of the Israelites from Egypt and the events that led up to the former, which began in last week's portion, Va'era. Indeed, exactly half of the portion—53 of 106 verses by my count—relates the continuing story of the plagues and the negotiations that Moses and Aaron conducted with Pharaoh.

What could be more horrible than the tenth plague that God visits upon the Egyptians, the slaying of the firstborn? Is there anything more tragic than the death of a child, anything an adult fears more than the possibility that a son or daughter who has ventured out into the world may not return?

And not only the firstborn of the leaders or the soldiers were slain. As the text relates, "...every firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sits on his throne to the firstborn of the slave girl who is behind the millstones; and all the firstborn of the cattle." (Exodus, 11:5) How could God do this?

The traditional response, of course, is that only an extreme measure would force Pharaoh to relent. The fault was not God's; the fault was Pharaoh's for being so stupidly, arrogantly hard-hearted. God had no choice. While this answer possesses a certain logic, it does not feel entirely right.

After the tenth plague, the Israelites flee and, in Parashat Beshalach, they celebrate the death of the soldiers and their beasts of burden after the mass drowning that ensues when the waters of the Red Sea come back together. But God, as tradition teaches, rebukes them for celebrating the death of "My creations."

How are we to resolve this contradiction? The text is relatively silent on the presumably greater tragedy of the death of the firstborn, while it is stridently critical of the Israelites for celebrating the deaths of those who sought to do them, to say the least, considerable and violent harm.

The difference, it would appear, is not in the act but in the reaction to it. In other words, using the hermeneutic device of *kal vechomer* (from minor to major), we may infer that if the Israelites had celebrated the death of the firstborn of the Egyptians, they would have received an extremely strong rebuke from God because the deaths in that instance were surely more classically tragic than those that occurred at the Red Sea and did provoke a rebuke.

The lesson, it would seem, is to remind us that all life is equally sacred. Some deaths may surely touch us more than others and may seem and even be more tragic, but ultimately every life is of equal value. In an age in which managed care has resulted in a radical reassessment of how medical resources are allocated, conflict is growing between advocates of victims' rights and prisoners' rights, and the gulf between the haves and have-nots keeps increasing in the majority of nations, this lesson is surely a valuable—if not always comforting—one to remember.

Rabbi Cliff Kulwin is the international director of development and placement for the World Union for Progressive Judaism.

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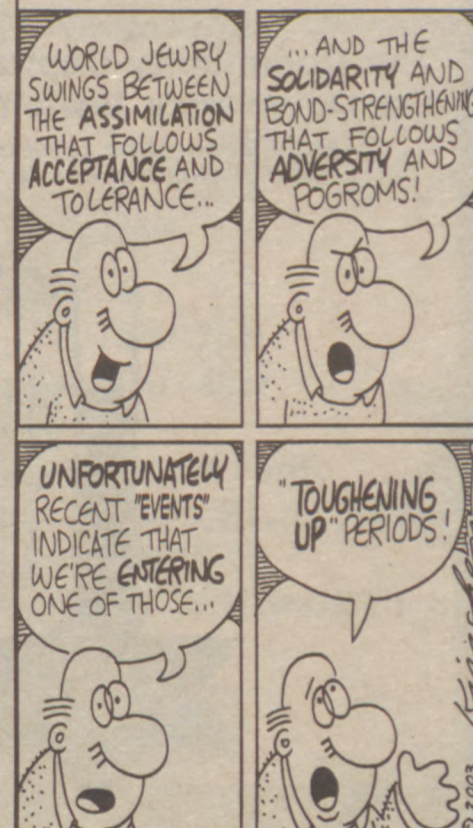
ISSUE	FOCUS	DEADLINE
JAN. 24	2003	JAN. 16
CAMP PLANNING		

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Dry Bones



FEDERATION FOCUS

New Staff For The New Year

By Lynn Edelman

This New Year brings three new faces to the professional staff of the Jewish Federation of Delaware. Federation Executive Vice President Samuel H. Asher is "delighted to announce the appointment of three talented women who will enrich our Delaware Jewish community with their diverse skills and abilities."

DIANE ELSE became JFD's Chief Financial Officer on December 1st-just two weeks before Federation Super Sunday! She brings to this key position more than 6 years experience as Finance Director of the American Cancer Society of Delaware and serves as a volunteer for a number of Delaware non-profit organizations. Diane, a native of West Virginia, received her MBA in Finance from Wayne State University in Michigan and her BA in Business Administration from Hiram College in Ohio. She

lives in Pike Creek, Delaware.

LAUREN SCHULTZ, a native of Margate, New Jersey, began her duties as Campaign Associate on January 5th. She learned about the position during a program at the recent General Assembly in Philadelphia. Lauren, who holds a BA degree in Communications from the University of Maryland in College Park, last worked in marketing for Sea of Life-a line of health and beauty products from Israel's Dead Sea. The company has plants in Arad-Delaware's Partnership 2000 community, and Jordan. Lauren makes her home in Center City, Philadelphia.

JENNIFER YOUNG'S recent appointment as Endowment Director marks her "triumphant return" to Jewish communal work. Jennifer, a Long Island, New York native who moved to Southern Florida as a young child, worked as Assistant Director of Cultural Arts for the Jewish Community



Diane Elser



Lauren Schultz



Jennifer Young

Center of Boca Raton. She did her undergraduate work at Florida State University before moving on to Pittsburgh for graduate studies at Carnegie Mellon University. There, she earned a Masters degree in Arts Management and a position as Project Coordinator on staff at the University.

Jennifer's fundraising experience includes tenure as a Development Associate at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. She recently relocated to Kennett Square, PA and has served as a fundraising consultant to a number of non-profit organizations throughout the Delaware and Brandywine

Valleys.

She looks forward to generating support for the Jewish Fund for the Future, Federation's endowment vehicle. "I feel strongly that contributing to this Fund connects donors to the future needs of the Jewish community-affecting lives into the next century and beyond."

Celebrate Arad This Spring

Arad, Delaware's Partnership 2000 community in Israel will celebrate its 40th anniversary this spring. You are cordially invited to join the festivities! The Delaware Jewish community is sponsoring a delegation to Israel from Sunday, March 23rd through Thursday, March 27th. You will have the opportunity to:

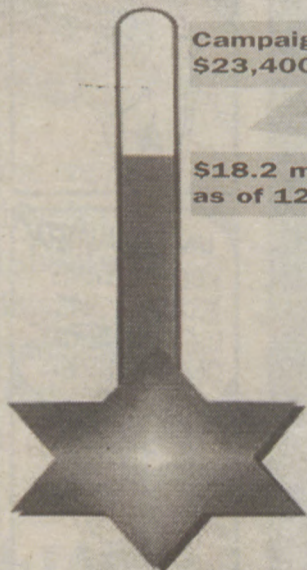
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 - *Visit the fabulous nature preserve at Ein Gedi
 - *Experience a torch-lighting ceremony at Tel Arad
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 - *Tour the projects and facilities funded by Delaware's commitment to Partnership 2000
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For additional information, please call Samuel H. Asher at 427-2100, ext. 14 or Sheila Krinsky, ext 15.

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Linda Scherzer

Linda Scherzer is a former Middle East correspondent for CNN and Israel Television with extensive experience covering the Arab-Israeli conflict. As CNN's correspondent in Jerusalem from 1988 through 1993, she covered the first Palestinian uprising, the Gulf War and the Middle East Peace Process.

At Israel TV, she was Arab Affairs correspondent for Mabat, Israel's Hebrew Language news program. During her travels to Damascus, she produced a series of reports on Arab attitudes towards Israel and the Peace Process.

Linda has also traveled through Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and Egypt to explore the Arabs' readiness to normalize relations with Israel. Her experiences were captured in a one-hour documentary called: "Through the Eyes of Enemies: Is the Middle East Ready for Peace?"

For more information please contact Amalia Snyderman at the Jewish Federation of Delaware at 302-427-2100, ext 30 or amalia@shalomdel.org



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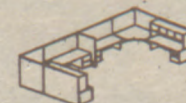
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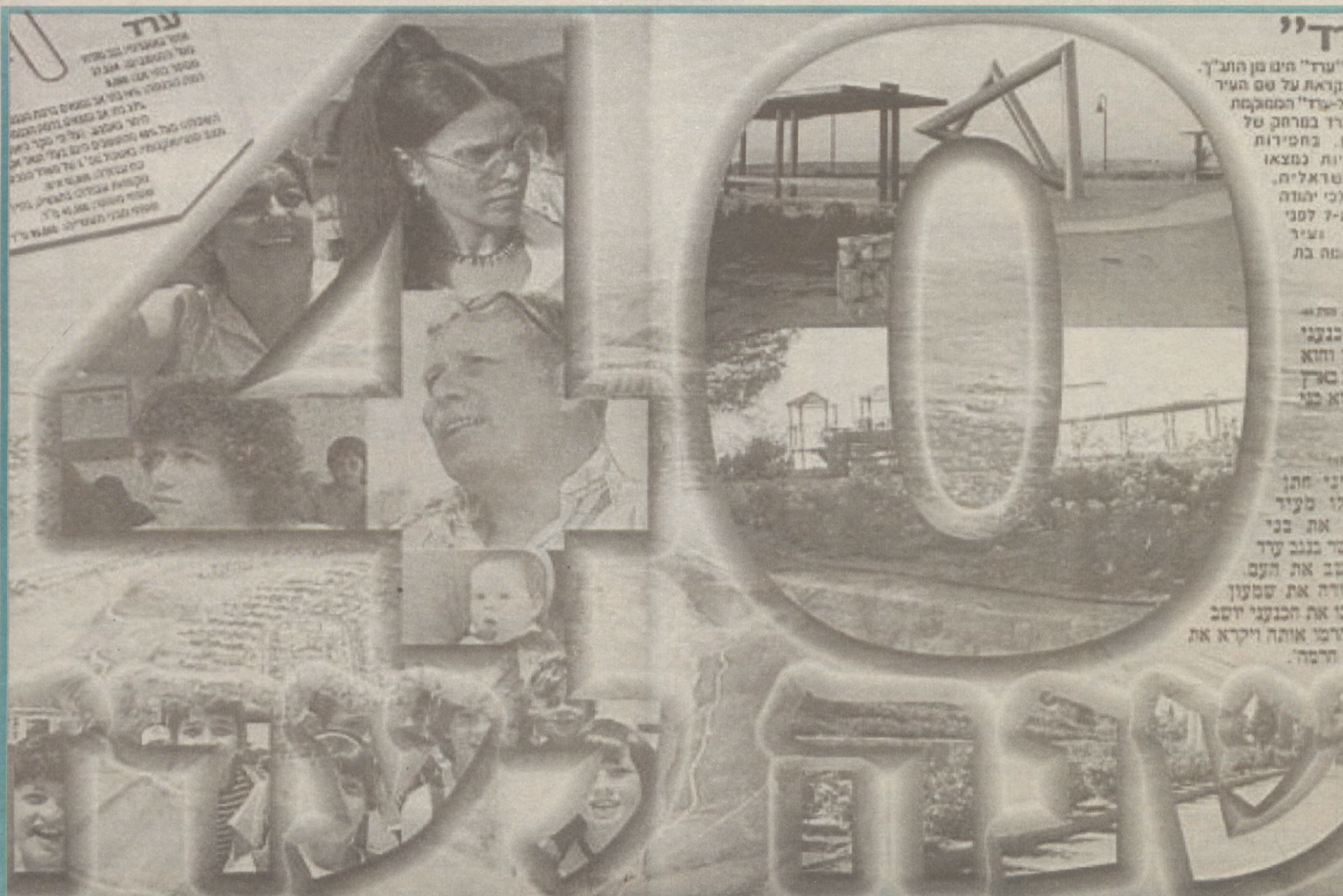
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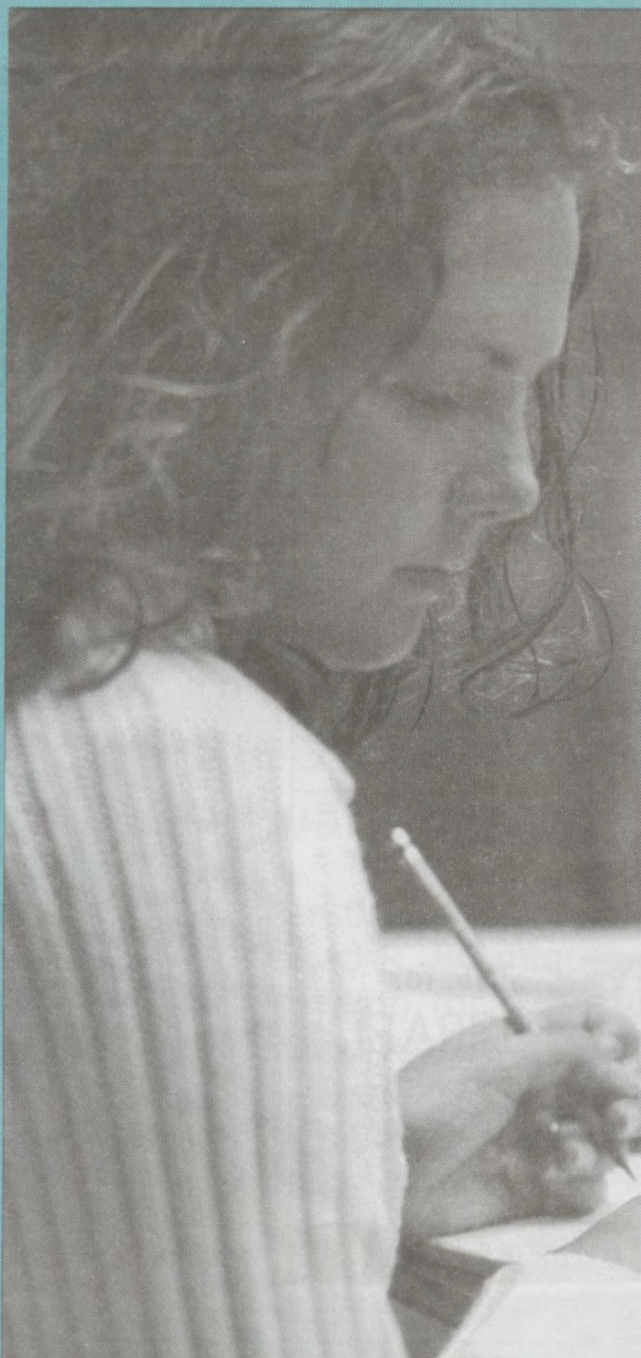
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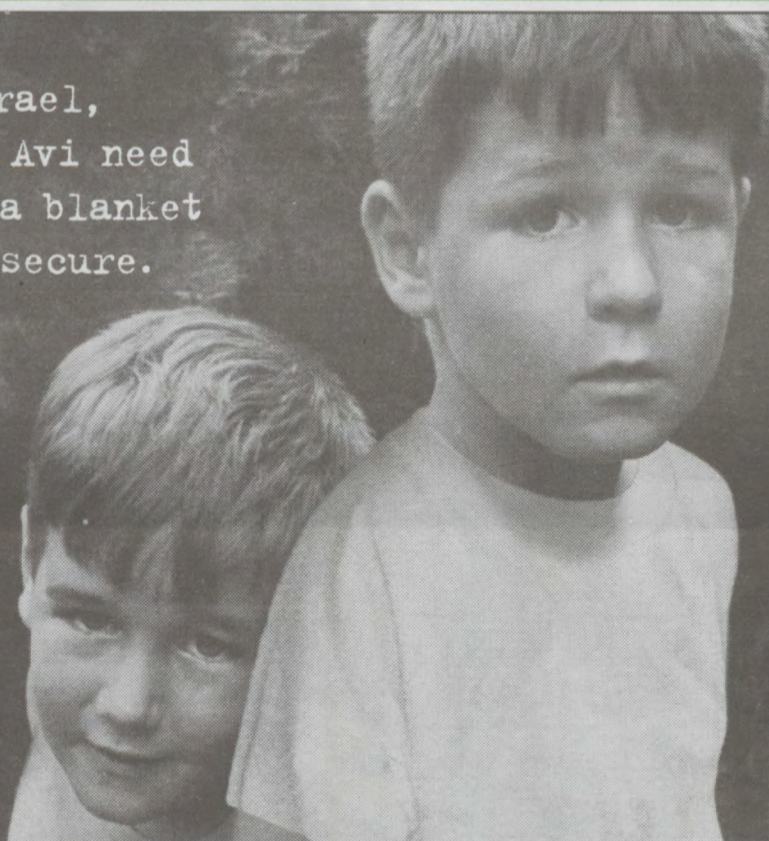
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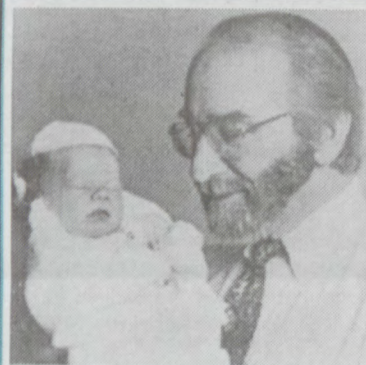
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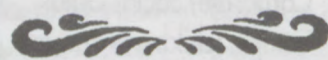
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INSIDE DELAWARE

AEA Back From Break In Full Swing

Winter break is over and students are busily back to school at Albert Einstein Academy, the Brandywine Valley's only Jewish day school. The school's Student Council has selected its officers and are engaged in planning a full calendar of spirit days and other special events.



Melissa Hinspeter, a teacher on staff at Albert Einstein Academy, advises student leaders: Avi Brousell, Sara Downard, Arielle Kahn, Sam Rambo, Will Margules, Rebekah Byer and Jeff Wagman.

Gesher students, girls and boys in the pre-kindergarten class, threw a daytime pajama party in December to celebrate their full "good deed/behavior jar". The children came to school dressed in their favorite sleepwear and carrying their sleeping bags. They enjoyed a special movie matinee, complete with popcorn and punch.



Costumed in their favorite "jammies" are: Jordan Butt, Olivia Garber, Cameryn Rosenblatt, Jacob Horden, Jodi Lessner, Elizabeth Katz and Sylvian Horden. Teachers Lorraine Falkinburg and Arlene Davis wore their work clothes.

The New Year starts a new program initiative at AEA. Students in grades two through six are learning to play musical instruments and will soon form the Albert Einstein Academy Band.



Budding musicians Daniel Goodman, Eliana Glanzberg-Krainin and Stephanie Saran practice their fingering techniques.

Adult Education at Congregation Beth Emeth

Congregation Beth Emeth will be offering a series of adult education classes starting on March 5th.

Each course will be held on Wednesday evenings for one hour and will run for six weeks.

Participants may register for

two courses: "Prayer Book Hebrew" taught by Rabbi Peter H. Grumbacher or "Basic Judaism" taught by Dr. Henry Schenker at 7:00 p.m.; and "Beginning Hebrew" taught by Mrs. Myrna Pollack or "Modern Problems - Ancient Solutions"

presented by Rabbi Grumbacher, Cantor Michael Mandel and Rabbi David Wortman at 8:10 p.m.

The cost of the series is \$10.00.

The registration deadline is February 26th.

All members of the community

are welcome to attend. For further information please call 239-0144.

Following the six-week series of classes, an all day "Shabbat of Discovery" will be held on April 12th.

This event will include a

Shabbat service, as well as lunch, and both morning and afternoon presentations by Dr. Barry M. Gittlen, professor of Biblical Studies and Archeology at Baltimore Hebrew University.

Look for further details in coming issues of the *Jewish Voice*.

Rebirth Of Jewish Campus Life Continued from page 1

where they are now. Once we have captured their attention, they will be more comfortable with their Judaism and more receptive to Jewish learning.

While each campus is different, the concept is the same. With nearly 2000 Jewish students, Hillel at University of Delaware faces a big task. So for the Spring semester, we are eagerly anticipating a visit by Avraham Infeld, the

Israel Consul for Hillel. We are tentatively planning a visit by the author of *Hitler's Jewish Soldiers* for Yom HaShoah, and helping the University bring the award-winning Holocaust movie, *The Pianist*, to campus. We have students planning HavDeli - Havdallah & Deli - in different residence halls on campus. Each student board member is taking responsibility for a different cultur-

al Shabbat. A book discussion of *Jew vs. Jew* is planned for early in the Spring semester. An Alternative Spring Break will take students to help a community in the rural South. Several students are attending the Keshet and Koach conferences, programs sponsored by the college divisions of the Reform and Conservative movements.

Hillel Student Center at

University of Delaware is fortunate in that it enjoys the support of the local Jewish community. Jewish pre-schools, day schools, summer camps, and high schools create strong Jewish identities. When our children leave home, Hillel is there to foster those identities, and offer identity to those students who have fallen through the cracks. The Jewish renaissance on college campuses is a vital ingredient in

the formula for Jewish continuity. One might say, Jewish campus community is being born again.

For more information about the Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life, see <http://www.hillel.org>. For information about Hillel at University of Delaware, see <http://www.udhillel.org>, or contact Susan Detwiler, Hillel Executive Director, at 302-453-0479.

Bombing Lets Arafat Off The Hook Continued from page 1

independent Palestinian state by 2005 - provided the Palestinians end terrorism and establish an accountable government.

After Sunday's double suicide bombing, which killed 23 Israelis and foreign workers and wounded more than 100, Israel decided not to allow the PLO members to convene. It also blocked other Palestinian officials from traveling to London for the conference on reform.

The message was clear: Israel will not allow normal political life to continue in the Palestinian Authority when terrorism disrupts normal life in the heart of Tel Aviv. Yet the postponement was only temporary.

"Sooner or later the council will

convene and deliberate," said Res. Col. Shalom Harari, a research fellow at the Inter-Disciplinary Center in Herzliyah. "The question will be, of course, what kind of decisions it will reach, and how they will be implemented."

The draft of the constitution largely is the product of Nabil Sha'ath, the Palestinian Authority minister of planning. Sha'ath heads a committee that has been working on a Palestinian constitution for three years, with little result until now.

The current draft was prepared under heavy international pressure for reform, primarily from the United States.

"The Americans seem to be saying that if we cannot get rid of

Arafat, and if we cannot guarantee his defeat in the projected elections, then kick him upstairs and sideline him constitutionally by rendering him symbolic or titular, and by appointing a legal prime minister in accordance with the new constitution," Hanan Ashrawi, the Palestinian Authority's former minister of education and a longtime critic of Arafat's style of governance, wrote recently.

Though Arafat says he supports reform, he has been eager to stall the appointment of a prime minister, which could leave Arafat as a figurehead president.

The Palestinian Authority also indefinitely postponed presidential and parliamentary elections set for

Jan. 20, saying it was impossible to conduct a vote while Israeli troops occupy West Bank cities and enforce curfews.

Arafat also faced a challenge over his appointment of a new prosecutor-general. The Palestinian Lawyers Union was incensed by Arafat's decision to appoint his crony Khaled Qidra by presidential decree.

Al-Kidreh was the chief prosecutor in the P.A.'s state security court, which has passed several death sentences on Palestinians accused of collaborating with Israel. Many of the trials began and ended within several hours, without proper defense for the accused and no right of appeal, according to human rights groups.

Palestinian lawyers struggling to set up a proper legal process in the Palestinian Authority say Al-Kidreh is one of the officials largely responsible for the legal chaos apparent even before the outbreak of the intifada two years ago.

"The appointment is a flagrant constitutional violation," the lawyers wrote to Arafat in late December. The lawyers resolved to fight the appointment, warning that Palestinian society was being destroyed because it lacked an authentic judicial system.

The internal political struggle finds Arafat already busy on two other fronts. One is a fragile dialogue in Cairo among representatives of Fatah, Hamas and Islamic

Continued on page 19

MATTER OF OPINION

A Light Touch In These Troubled Times

By Carl Alpert

These are not always pleasant days for Israel. In the background is the very real threat of an Iraqi counterblow in the event of an American attack on that country. Added to this is the excitement of the national elections to be held on January 28, not to speak of the continued acts of Palestinian terrorism. Cafes and restaurants, once a standard locale for relaxation, are poorly frequented, for obvious reasons. Soccer and basketball games still draw throngs, but other forms of entertainment report a fall off in attendance.

Israelis scan the daily news looking for hope and encouragement and even a bit of humor. We don't know about others, but we have found a source of cheer to dissipate gloom, of all places, in the local judicial court system. Here is what we have found in recent reports.

•When Judge Yehezkel Barkley sentenced a man to eight months in jail for beating up his neighbor, he

was surprised to hear the convict thank him profusely. "Free food and lodging," the man explained.

•Ahmed Abu-Fariha, born into a Bedouin tribe in the Negev, used to walk many miles from his encampment to attend school. He was ambitious, persisted, studied law and passed the bar exams, practicing successfully in his area. Not long ago he wound up in the Beersheba court - appointed a judge.

•When attorney Lilia Fishman-Gal, defending her client, raised her voice and shrieked objections in the Rishon LeZion court, Judge Shira Ben-Shlomo admonished her and commented sharply on her voice. The lawyer took this as a compliment and revealed that before she began the study of law, she had been a singer.

•Rafi Elazar closed his restaurant in Haifa and the municipality claimed that he owed thousands of shekels in back taxes. The case went to court which ruled that his

debt amounted to only 2,000 shekels. Rafi denied even this, but as a law abiding citizen he agreed to pay, and showed up with three friends hauling heavy burlap sacks and demanded a receipt. "Two thousand shekels, in ten agurot coins," he explained, with a smile of satisfaction.

•While Judge Ephraim Doron was presiding in the Herzliya Magistrates Court and ruling sternly on parking offenses, his own car was being towed away for illegal parking outside the courthouse. Like any other citizen, the judge paid the towing fee and the parking fine the very next day.

•The divorce case of a couple dragged on in the rabbinical court in Beersheba. Agreement was reached on division of wealth. They had no children. The problem was custody of the family dog, each claiming possession. The presiding judge finally ruled: the dog would spend one week with Abba and one week with Imma, alternatively.

They agreed.

•Mrs. Simcha Moshe, of Tiberias, purchased a high quality oven with a turbo mechanism. She brought claim for 5,000 shekels against the company in Small Claims Court on the grounds that the mechanism did not work, and her products were always unequally baked on one side. The company maintained that the oven was O.K. if instructions were followed. In the near future she is to appear before Judge Yonatan Avraham and will bring him samples of cakes she had baked in the oven in the presence of a company representative. The judge will examine, taste and rule accordingly.

•Rabbi Shlomo Klein, secretary of the rabbinical court in Beersheba, was charged with falsifying divorce documents, a charge he vigorously denied. During the proceedings he died, and in his will requested that his family continue with the case so as to clear his name. Judge David Rosen ruled

that with the death of the defendant the case was automatically closed, and since nothing had been proven, under the law Klein was deemed innocent.

•A Tel Aviv lawyer brought charges against Zvika Piksal who, he claimed, had beaten him up. The lawyer presented his wife as a witness and also produced a medical certificate from Dr. Yosef Elishka who went into details with regard to the wounds inflicted. The court was prepared to throw the case out on the grounds that it was of no public interest, but Piksal insisted that it proceed. The doctor was summoned to testify, but it was reported that he had died. Undeterred, Piksal went to the cemetery, photographed the tombstone and presented the court with the picture, showing that Dr. Elishka has died a year and a half before the alleged incident. The lawyer was suspended from legal practice for four months for forging a document.

Bin Laden's Mein Kampf -

What Do They Want Us To Do?

By Marc Pevar

After 9-11 many Americans asked, "Why did they do it? What do they want from us?" Chilling answers were published November 24 by London's The Observer in "A Letter To America," attributed to Bin Laden and widely published in the Islamic world. My previous article reported Bin Laden's explanation of why they did it and continue to terrorize the world. They are fighting a defensive war to reestablish Islamic control of the Holy Land, all other lands of the Middle East. It goes a bit beyond that, as you will see in this report of what Bin Laden says he wants us to do so he will stop the terrorism.

What do they want from us? Will Islam be satisfied if Christians and Jews return to Islam the few square miles of Palestine that are not part of Jordan? Bin Laden explains that it will not be enough if Jews and Christian civilization leave Israel. What, then, will be enough? "A Letter to America" states with great clarity and directness seven actions that all non-Islamic people must all take:

1. Convert to Islam and abandon Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism, and all other false religions;
 2. Make all governments subservient to religion by submitting to Islamic Law, the Shariah;
 3. Recognize and change national policies that challenge Islamic nations;
 4. Stop supporting Jews in Israel, Hindus in Kashmir, Russians in Chechnya, and the Manila Government against Muslims in the Philippines;
 5. Physically leave all Muslim nations;
 6. Stop supporting corrupt leaders, education and politics in Islamic nations;
 7. Stop subduing and occupying Islamic nations, trading unfairly for oil and supporting Jews.
- Bin Laden's followers will kill everyone who fails to do any of

these seven things. If we only make six of these changes, they will still kill us. It is all seven, or death to us. Where does Bin Laden get his facts and reasoning? He supports every point with accurate Qur'anic quotes.

Perhaps you thought 9-11 was all a horrible misunderstanding, a lunatic fringe of crazy misguided zealots? Think again. The Qur'an, holy to hundreds of millions, is the foundation on which Bin Laden's reasoning rests. Bin Laden states his case in a handful of pages. His argument rests on the Qur'an, accepted by hundreds of millions as the Final Word of Allah. Want to get on Bin Laden's right side? No birthright test. Ancestry is no obstacle. Convert to Islam! Declare yourself a Muslim,

submit to Islamic Law, support and become part of the Muslim Nation.

In contrast, Hitler's Mein Kampf took hundreds of pages to state his plan for world domination. Hitler only appealed to birthright members of the "Teutonic Master Race." Wanted to get on Hitler's right side? Too bad if you had the wrong ancestry! Whose philosophy do you think is more inclusive - Hitler's or Bin Laden's? Which ideas are more destabilizing to civilization?

Bin Laden's ideas, intertwined with the Qur'an, are the weapons we face in today's battlefield with the Islamic world. His ideas appeal to the lowest and most common hatreds of mankind. These scapegoating ideas are like burning sparks

sprinkled into an explosive tinderbox of poverty, intolerance, envy, jealousy, ignorance and greed. You can find and read for yourself Bin Laden's Mein Kampf on the WWW. Go to Google.com and search "Bin Laden letter to America."

Now you know why they want to kill you and what you have to do before they will stop trying to kill you. It may not be politically correct or respectful to even dare to think this next bold thought even in the privacy of your own mind, but does it all make you wonder whether maybe we should not tolerate such an intolerant religion? Look at the reality of what is happening worldwide. Think about the kidnappings, shootings, bombs, rockets, hate-

speech in Mosques and national Islamic media. Can we let self-doubt make us hesitate in our own self-defense while suicidal Islamic murderers ruthlessly and randomly attack and refuse to tolerate the existence of Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism, and Buddhism?

What is this war about if not religion? How can we fight and win such a religious war, a war of ideas, unless we understand and respond more appropriately to the enemy's weaponry? We can win if we are armed with the right weapons and fight battles at times and places that give us the advantage. Another article will analyze how to engage proactively in this war of religious ideas.

Waiting For The Scuds

By Nechemia Meyers

"Residents of this building should remove all their personal belongings from the air raid shelter by Sunday," said a notice on the bulletin board of our apartment house a few days ago. "As you realize," it went on, "we may have to use it for its original purpose in the near future."

The people who live in our apartment house, like other Israelis, don't know whether shelters will be needed if, as anticipated, the Americans and their allies make an attempt to bring down Saddam Hussein. But they remember the Scuds that came raining down on the Jewish State during the previous Gulf War, and now, they fear, Saddam may attempt to bombard us with gas or germs.

Adding to their anxiety is the absence of a clear government assessment of the dangers Israelis might be facing and clear guidelines about how to deal with them. Clarity would provide a much needed antidote to the hysterical headlines in the local tabloids.

There have been some general

statements issued to reassure the population. Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, for example, declared that "if the country is attacked, it will know how to defend itself," adding that "the country is prepared for all possible scenarios."

Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz, speaking more recently, argued that "the citizens of Israel have no reason to lose any sleep over the Iraqi threat." He then went on to claim that "Israel is better prepared than any other country to face such a threat."

Are those preparations adequate? Not everybody thinks so.

Knesset Education Committee Chairman Zevulun Orlev, who has been in contact with teachers and parents, reported that "the school system is totally unprepared for war." He was referring, in particular, to the fact that the shelters in many schools are in disrepair and/or unable to hold a large percentage of the pupils.

Questions have also been raised, in the tabloids and elsewhere, about the quality of the Israeli-produced smallpox vaccine, already used to

inoculate thousands of people. "Yediot Aharonot" quoted Health Ministry official Dr. Rachel Karpel to the effect that the vaccine failed to meet international pharmaceutical standards and should be phased out. "On the contrary," said the Ministry's Director General, Dr. Boas Lev, "it is one of the most effective in the world."

"Ha'aretz", a rather more serious newspaper, published an equally grave charge in regards to the gas masks distributed to the general population. Its source was Defense Ministry official Esther Krasner, an expert on protection against biological and chemical weapons. She charged that only one-third of the masks will provide adequate protection in case of an attack. IDF Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen Moshe Ya'alon subsequently declared that the masks do meet security requirements.

Ordinary Israelis respond in a

variety of manners. Some, particularly people who live in areas hit by Scuds in 1991, are booking hotels in Eilat or overseas, starting in mid-January. Others are doing their best to live normally while simultaneously trying to prepare for any eventuality.

This duality in our lives found expression in what my wife and I did on the evening of December 31. First we attended a talk given by a representative of the Home Front Command about preparations for a possible war. Then, a couple of hours later, we joined some 15 friends at a New Year's party. It was a lovely evening and there was relatively little talk about Saddam and Bush, gas masks and air-raid shelters. But in back of everybody's mind was the question: what will happen between tonight and the next time we sing "Auld Lang Syne"?

MAKE YOUR OPINION KNOWN
Submissions to lynn.edelman@shalomdel.org

PERSPECTIVES

One Jew Left In Alabama Town

By Andrew Muchin, JTA

According to family legend, Julius Rosenbush was a new immigrant living in Alabama when, in the late 1890s, he boarded a train for the countryside, looking for mineral water that he thought would cure his asthma.

The train stopped at a country town, and the conductor asked if Rosenbush was Jewish. Hearing that he was, the conductor told Rosenbush that nearby Demopolis was home to several Jewish businessmen.

Rosenbush made the brief detour and found three Yiddish-speaking merchants who invited him to join their pinochle game. The businessmen convinced their long-awaited fourth-at-cards to stay.

The newcomer opened Rosenbush's, a furniture store that today is Alabama's oldest family-owned business, according to Bert Rosenbush Jr., owner of the store and Julius Rosenbush's grandson.

Some things have changed, though.

If the soft-spoken Rosenbush, 73, wanted to replicate his grandfather's pinochle game today, he'd have to search for three other Jews: Rosenbush is the last Jew in Demopolis.

"We had a temple here and a Jewish community," Rosenbush explains. He remembers 20 to 25 people attending services from the late 1930s until the 1950s.

"Then, in about 1990, we just had a few of us left. Some of the members took it upon themselves

to railroad a deal through to form a corporation to take over the assets of the temple," he explains.

The synagogue was sold to an Episcopal church across the street.

"The last time I went to the temple they had a lawn mower in there," he complains. "It's just a disgraceful thing the way the temple is used. It was built to be a holy place. I wouldn't say it's holy now. I'd say it's abused now."

Empty land that bordered the Jewish cemetery was sold to a scrap yard. Junked cars now loom across the fence and the sounds of auto salvaging fill the air.

Walking through the cemetery, Rosenbush surveys the dozens of graves.

"I knew 'em," he says. He points to the grave of Napoleon Bonaparte Fields, who was mayor of the town. Fields' daughter, Joan, was Bert's high school sweetheart, but she died in a car crash in 1947.

A Demopolis native, Rosenbush attended religious school and was confirmed at the local synagogue.

"There was no rabbi. There was no one to teach Hebrew," he says.

Though he is the only Jew in town, Rosenbush remains active.

"Every year for the past four or five years, during the Days of Remembrance, I fix a nice display at the library to teach people about the Holocaust," he says. He also is a charter member of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, he says.

"Around Passover I buy a few extra boxes of matzah for my bud-

dies to eat when they come in," he adds.

Rosenbush attends synagogue in nearby Tuscaloosa, Ala., with his wife, who isn't Jewish. And he still

uses his grandmother's old Union Prayer Book at home.

"I read from that every week on Friday night. I just read the evening service for the Sabbath," he says.

"And then sometimes I'm here at the store. I sometimes read from the prayer book here. It's just a wealth of information, you might say."



Bert Rosenbush, Jr., seated below family pictures in the furniture store the Rosenbushes have operated for three generations in Demopolis, Ala. Rosenbush is the last Jew in the town of 8,000. Credit: Andrew Muchin/JTA

Yiddish - A Rich Jewish Tradition

By E. E. Jaffe

The 2002 Adult Institute of Jewish Studies, organized and nurtured by Arnold C. Harris of Wilmington, included a course on Yiddish studies. As stated in the description of the course, a significant interest has developed in Yiddish, the unique language born in the Diaspora, which I agreed to teach. Instead of the scheduled five one-hour sessions we held only four because of an electrical failure on November 6th at the local Jewish Community Center.

Even five sessions afford insufficient time to explore this rich language and its literature. In this article, therefore, I would like to summarize what is known about the origins of this language at present.

Today, Yiddish is spoken mainly by survivors of generations who themselves were raised in a Yiddish environment, a dwindling population whose numbers are very difficult to estimate. It must amount to several hundred thousand, perhaps half a million. The orthodox and ultra-religious circles continue to use Yiddish as their vernacular. They usually have little interest in modern Yiddish culture, causing the level of the popular idiom to regress.

Trying to trace the ancient roots of Yiddish is a very difficult, ambitious and uncertain enterprise. Nevertheless, many academics in the USA and Israel continue to study the roots of this language. The problem is magnified because

many of the experts were exterminated in the Holocaust, and since a significant part of Yiddish has a German origin any rational analysis is sometimes overwhelmed by emotion. Several linguists have made it into a real scientific enterprise at several American universities.

Yiddish follows largely Germanic grammar and vocabulary mixed with Hebrew and sprinkled with words of Slavic and ancient Romance languages. The major question is whether Yiddish originated in Western Europe or whether it began further east, as an increasing number of scholars believe. The key question is "where did the Jews of Eastern Europe come from?"

At Columbia University, researchers are mapping the dialects of Yiddish and addressing precisely where on the European continent the many variations of Yiddish were spoken. The entire study will eventually be described in eight volumes. A number have already been published. The study started in the early 1960's under the direction of Dr. Uriel Weinreich and his wife Beatrice. They interviewed some 600 Yiddish speaking immigrants to Israel from various parts of the world. Each interview lasted 15 hours and consisted of 3000 questions, providing an exact picture of the Yiddish dialect and culture. When the massive project is completed it will provide linguists with enough information to separate hypothesis from speculation.

For a long time Yiddish was considered broken German, but 20th century linguists found evidence that Yiddish and modern German were of equal stature, both offshoots of the same Germanic mother tongue. After the catastrophe of WW II, some Jewish scholars set out to distance Yiddish from German, defining the language as a unique cultural creation of the Jews. The key proponent of this view was Max Weinreich, the father of Uriel, who was the driving force behind YIVO, the Yiddish Scientific Institute in Vilna (now Vilnius), Lithuania. The American branch of YIVO, located in New York, became the focus for its post WW II reorganization and devotion to Yiddish studies. Dr. Weinreich believed that Yiddish started out as an offshoot of a Romance language that was later Germanized. Therefore, there are many words derived from Italian and French. This view suggests that Jews who arrived in Europe with the Roman army as traders, and settled in the Rheinland of Germany, invented Yiddish. They mixed Hebrew, Aramaic, Romance and German and produced a unique new language. During the Crusades and the Black Plague the Jews pushed eastward and ultimately established themselves in Poland and surrounding areas where Slavic words were picked up into the vocabulary.

This theory assumes that Yiddish is a Western European phenomenon. However, persua-

sive evidence points to only 30,000 Jews having lived in Western Europe in the Middle Ages, while in the 17th century hundreds of thousands of Jews lived in Eastern Europe. As a consequence, Dr. Robert D. King who holds the Andre and Bernard Rapoport Chair of Jewish Studies at the University of Texas, in a paper published in 1992, argues that Yiddish did not originate in Rheinland but eastward in Bavaria or as far as Hungary or Czechoslovakia, and from there it radiated westward to Rheinland and eastward to Poland and other northeastern countries.

In an earlier study, Dr. King found no similarities between Yiddish and the German dialect spoken in the Rheinland, but a most striking resemblance between Yiddish and Bavarian dialect of German, he provided several persuasive examples. "Yiddish resem-

bles nothing more closely than medieval Bavarian", Dr. King wrote. And he believes that Jews came up from the Middle East to Eastern Europe in biblical times.

Other theories abound. There are several in the linguistic community who suggest other, perhaps less likely scenarios. Dr. Paul Wexler of Tel-Aviv University believes that Yiddish began as a Slavic language whose vocabulary was replaced with German words. He believes that Ashkenazic Jews are predominantly converted Slavs and Turks who merged with a small population group of Palestinian Jews from the Diaspora. And there are others. None of these theories have received any reasonable confirmation. It is hoped that the large Columbia University Study will ultimately provide a finding of greatly enhanced believability about the origin of our mame loshen (mother tongue).

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GLOBAL JEWISH NEWS

NASA To Launch First Sabra Into Space

By Irene Brown, JTA

For 25 years, Ilan Ramon strapped himself into fighter jets to help protect the country of his birth, Israel.

Soon, the Air Force colonel will have a chance to view his embattled homeland from a perspective never before seen by a sabra. Ramon, a 48-year-old father of four, is going to space.

"Every time you are the first, it's meaningful," Ramon said during an interview at the Johnson Space Center in Houston. "Probably the fact that I'm the son of a Holocaust survivor is even more symbolic than usual." "I'm proof that even with all the hard times we are going forward."

Ramon, who is flying as a guest research scientist aboard the space shuttle Columbia, is scheduled to spend 16 days orbiting Earth with six career U.S. astronauts, including an Indian-born engineer and an African American payload commander.

The launch is scheduled for Jan. 16.

Ramon and his crewmates have learned patience.

In the 2 1/2 years since they began training, NASA has had to delay their mission several times to accommodate more pressing flights.

The last delay, triggered by a fleet-wide problem with the space shuttle's fuel systems, lasted six months. NASA's caution, however, sits well with Ramon, who has made a career in risky endeavors.

Upon graduation from high

school in Tel Aviv, Ramon, like most Israeli-born youths, was drafted into the military.

He then attended flight training school.

When he was just 19 and still a pilot-in-training, Ramon was tapped to serve in the 1973 Yom Kippur War.

The danger, however, did nothing to quench his desire for flight.

"I love to fly," said Ramon, who moved on to A-4 and Mirage III-C aircraft training and operations before becoming part of Israel's first F-16 fighter squadron.

"Flying aircraft — fighter aircraft — is great and I was very happy."

Ramon served two stints as deputy commander for F-16 and F-4 squadrons, sandwiching four years of college at Tel Aviv University in between his command posts.

He studied electronics and computer engineering, earning a bachelor's of science degree.

Ramon's last bout of schooling was a Squadron Commanders Course, which prepared him to lead an F-16 squadron and then move up to head the aircraft branch in the Air Force's Operations Requirement Department. Ramon earned the rank of colonel in 1994 and took over control of the Weapon Development and Acquisition department — a post he held until 1997 when a colleague called and asked him if he'd like to become an astronaut.

At first, Ramon thought the offer was a joke.

But with the blessings of the Clinton administration, former NASA administrator Daniel Goldin and the Israeli government ironed out an agreement for cooperative space ventures between the two countries, including the training and flight of an Israeli astronaut.

"When I was a kid growing up, nobody in Israel ever dreamed — well most people wouldn't dream — of being an astronaut because it wasn't on the agenda. So I never thought I would have been an astronaut. When I was selected, I really jumped almost to space. I was very excited," Ramon said.

In 1998, Ramon, his wife, Rona, and their four children, who were between 2 and 10 years old at the time, packed up and relocated to Houston, leaving behind a close extended family.

A few of Ramon's relatives and friends plan to travel to Florida to watch his launch.

"I'm not expecting a lot of people from Israel," said Ramon, who speaks fluent, but slightly accented English. "The hearts and the souls of the people from Israel will be with me, but maybe not the bodies."

Keenly aware that he is flying as a representative of Israel, Ramon, who describes himself as a secular Jew, asked NASA if kosher meals might be available for his flight.

Although several Jewish American astronauts have flown in space before, none had ever requested kosher meals.

"I was amazed how they made the effort to supply me," said Ramon, whose lunch and dinner menus in orbit include such delicacies as kosher old world stew and kosher chicken Mediterranean.

While Ramon won't keep strictly kosher, he won't mix meat and dairy foods and will avoid shellfish and pork while in space. "Personally, I don't keep kosher and my family doesn't follow all the religious rules, but since I feel I represent all kinds of Israeli people and the Jewish community, I thought it would be nice if I could have kosher food."

The observance of Shabbat is another matter. Ramon said he never even thought about marking the day of rest and was surprised when some rabbis raised the issue with him.

The discussion, however, became largely academic, as the impact on Ramon's crewmates if he didn't work Shabbat would be too great a burden.

A small debate began, however, about how to mark the seventh day, when sunsets are occurring every 90 minutes in orbit.

"I think the solution was that since we, the astronauts" go by "Houston time, Central time, then that's when Shabbat will be for me also," Ramon said.

Rather than lighting candles, however, Ramon will have to content himself with running one of the combustion experiments planned during the Columbia mission.

Ramon will be working with

about 140 payloads in all, including an Israeli-sponsored experiment to study dust particles and how they affect Middle East weather.

Discussions to continue the experiment aboard the space station after Ramon's flight are under way. "We have a lot to offer," Ramon says, referring to Israel's budding aerospace program.

As for his own future, Ramon is too focused on his upcoming space-flight to dwell much on what lies ahead. "I would like to see my mission as my first one, not my last," he said.

Mindful, however, that his journey may be a once-in-a-lifetime experience, Ramon took care in choosing the few personal possessions he is allowed to take to space.

Foremost among them is a drawing made by a 14-year-old boy named Peter Ginz, a Holocaust victim.

The boy had drawn his vision of what the Earth would look like from the moon. "It's related to space, of course, and I feel like I'm taking his vision and his spirit of space," said Ramon, who selected the drawing from Israel's Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial after talks with museum directors.

Ramon realizes his own view of the world is likely to change after his flight. "When we go up to space, Earth is one unity and no borders are seen from there."

That's the vision that NASA carries on and that is my vision too," he said.

French Jewish Confidence Shaken

by Philip Carmel
JTA

French Jewish leaders' growing confidence that the threat of anti-Semitic attacks had receded has received a severe jolt after two attacks in recent days on a Paris rabbi.

Rabbi Gabriel Farhi, who runs the Jewish Liberal Movement of France synagogue in Paris, was stabbed twice in the stomach late last Friday afternoon. He was only lightly wounded.

On Monday, his car was set on fire outside his apartment, according to news reports.

"We had the feeling that incidents targeting the Jewish community were decreasing, that it was improving," Roger Cukierman, president of the CRIF umbrella

organization of French Jews, said after Friday's stabbing.

Hours before the attack, the synagogue had received an anonymous letter threatening both Farhi and the building.

"We will skin Rabbi Farhi alive and avenge the blood of our Palestinian brothers," the letter read. "After setting fire to the synagogue, we will take vengeance directly against him."

A wave of anti-Semitic attacks last year was committed predominantly by adolescents and young men of Maghrebin, or North African, descent.

However, Farhi said the man who attacked him Friday spoke with a French accent. The man wore a mask and motorcycle helmet and shouted "God is great" in

Arabic before fleeing the scene, leaving the knife stuck in Farhi.

Farhi, 34, was rushed to a nearby hospital but was allowed to return home later the same evening.

Paris Mayor Bertrand Delanoë denounced the attack as "an odious aggression," and French police officials opened an investigation into the affair.

Together with his Jewish Liberal Movement, which is affiliated with the World Union of Progressive Judaism, Farhi was known for his attempts to foster understanding between French Jews and other religious groups.

He also had called for a peaceful solution to the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians.

"A rabbi, a religious leader, has

been attacked in our country of liberty," France's Chief Rabbi, Joseph Sitruk, said in a statement. He added that "people, regardless of their religion, have a right to security."

This was not the first attack on the synagogue, which is located in Paris's cosmopolitan 11th District. The building was severely damaged in a fire-bombing last year.

French Jewish student leader Patrick Klugman said he was shocked by the attack on Farhi.

So, too, did many official Muslim spokesmen. The rector of Paris' Central Mosque called Farhi an old friend.

France's 500,000-strong Jewish community was hit by a wave of anti-Semitic attacks last year. The attacks peaked last April, when

Israel mounted a massive anti-terror offensive in the West Bank, but had declined steadily in recent months.

Stung by criticism that authorities were not doing enough to protect the Jewish community, France's new government enacted certain measures, most notably by maintaining a visible police presence at Jewish institutions.

When the number of attacks fell, however, the police presence was removed except at the most sensitive locations.

After Friday's attack, French officials did not announce any new major security measures.

However, the Simon Wiesenthal Center upgraded its travel advisory on France to "extreme caution" following the attack.

Vatican Opens Some Nazi-Related Archives

By Ruth E. Gruber
JTA

The Vatican is about to open up secret archives that document its relations with Nazi Germany before World War II.

But it may be years before a full picture of the Vatican's role in the Holocaust is known.

Responding to criticism that the wartime pope, Pius XII, did not do enough to oppose the Holocaust, the Vatican announced Saturday it would release on Feb. 15 diplomatic documents from the tenure of the previous pope, Pius XI, who reigned from 1922 to 1939.

During those years, the future Pope Pius XII served as Vatican ambassador in Berlin and Vatican secretary of state.

The documents to be released include material from the Vatican diplomatic missions in Berlin and Munich as well as a series of documents relating to the rise of Nazism and the "condemnation of racism," papal spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said in a statement.

Of these documents, he said, the Berlin diplomatic archive dating from 1931 to 1934 was "nearly completely destroyed or dispersed" during the 1945 bombing of Berlin and

a fire at the apostolic nuncio's palace.

Brown University scholar David Kertzer, author of the recent book "The Popes Against the Jews," welcomed the release of the material but said it will only provide part of the picture.

"What they are doing is opening certain parts of the material relating to Pius XI, just the archives dealing with the Holy See and Germany," he told JTA.

"But a lot of what was going on in the rest of Europe we won't know. Will they be opening the rest of the archives in stages or will we have to

wait another two years to see anything more?" he said.

"It's a good thing that they will be opened, but until all the rest of the documents relating to Pius XI are available, it will be hard to put them in context."

The Vatican announced last February that it would begin opening archives relating to Pius XII, starting with the prewar years.

Documents relating to Vatican-German relations during Pius XII papacy itself will be made available only starting in 2005.

Pius XII became pope in 1939 and reigned until his death in 1958.

Critics have long accused him of turning a blind eye to the Holocaust and allowing Jews to die because of his silence.

Scholars and particularly Jewish groups have long called for the secret archives to be opened to clarify the matter, particularly as a process to beatify Pius XII is under way.

The issue has clouded Jewish-Vatican relations.

A joint Catholic Jewish team of scholars set up to study already published wartime Vatican archives collapsed last year amid angry recriminations because it did not obtain access to all the archives.

HOLIDAY FUN PAGE



Q: What does a tree do when it wants to check its e-mail? A: It logs on!

Jewish National Fund, 42 East 69th Street, New York, NY 10021 • 212-879-9300 x263 • education@jnf.org

Tu B'Shevat is celebrated just as Spring begins in Israel. We celebrate the beginning of a New Year for the trees, and think about living in harmony with all of nature. Jewish people everywhere celebrate this holiday by planting trees in our homeland, Israel, through Jewish National Fund. People are like trees in many ways. Unscramble the **SCRAMBLED** words below to find out more. (Answers below.)



1. Trees and people both **WORG**.
2. Trees and people both need a **NACEL** environment to stay healthy.
3. There are many different **DINKS** of trees, and also many different **DINKS** of people.
4. Forests and communities are both made of **NAYM** different individuals.
5. Just like the different trees in the forest, every person is unique and has something **PESICAL** to contribute.

1. _____ 7 _____
2. _____ 2 _____
3. _____ 5 1 _____ 6 _____
4. _____ 8 _____
5. _____ 3 4 _____

Like the forest, a community is made of different individuals who each other to live.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Tree Treasures

Every tree gives us something special that we need to live. Try this crossword puzzle to find out more about each tree treasure. Choose from the following trees: almond, eucalyptus, tamarisk, orange, oak, pine, copper beech, maple, elm.

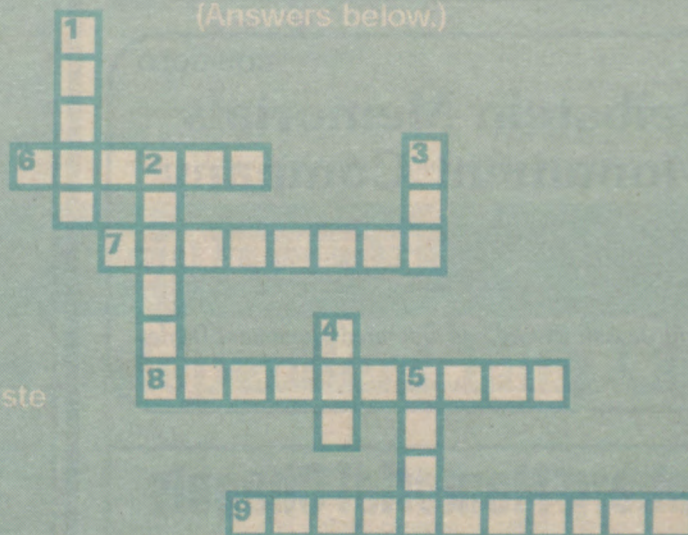
(Answers below.)

Down:

1. The syrup from this tree is great on pancakes.
2. Try this juice in the morning!
3. Wood from this tree burns slowly to make a nice warm fire.
4. Like other trees that lose their leaves, this tree adds nutrients to improve the soil.
5. Animals like to live in this tree which never loses its leaves.

Across:

6. This is the first tree to bloom in the spring in Israel. Its seeds taste delicious by themselves or in recipes.
7. This tree grows well in the desert. Its wood is good for building.
8. Wherever these trees grow there is a wonderful smell. They are used in beauty products and spas.
9. The shade from this tree is wonderful on a warm day.



ANSWERS: (above) 1. grow 2. clean 3. kinds 4. many 5. special on each other to live. (below) 1. maple 2. orange 3. oak 4. elm 5. pine 6. almond 7. tamarisk 8. eucalyptus 9. copper beech

To plant trees in Israel call 1-800-542-TREE (8733) • www.jnf.org

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MILESTONES

In Memoriam

GOLBY

Adam Golby, 48, a lifetime resident of Wilmington and Newark, died suddenly of cardiac arrest on December 29th while on vacation in Marietta, Ohio.

He graduated from Mt. Pleasant High School, where he was a stand-out track athlete, in 1972. Despite his long battle with health problems, he remained active and athletic. Upon graduation from Colgate University in 1976, he returned to Wilmington, where he was employed by the State of Delaware Office of Court Administration for 25 years, until his death. Mr. Golby was active in many political campaigns on behalf of the Democratic Party.

He is remembered as a devoted son to his late parents, Honey and

Morton Golby and as a loving uncle to his niece, Julia Carp and his nephew, Daniel Carp. Survivors include his longtime companion, Janet Mason of Newark; his brother, Jonathan Golby of New York City; his sister, Kate Carp of Penn Valley, PA; his brother-in-law, Dr. Ned Carp and his aunt, Judith Melman, of Wilmington.

The family requests that contributions in his memory be made to the Honey F. Golby Memorial Scholarship, Widener University School of Law, 4601 Concord Pike, P.O. Box 7474, Wilmington, DE 19803.

GREENHOUSE

Bernard Greenhouse, 80, died January 6. He was a member of Congregation Beth Shalom in Wilmington. A former Worthy Patron

of the Delaware Link, his Masonic involvement included membership in the Granite-Corinthian Lodge #34 AF&AM, Delaware Consistory and Nur Temple Shrine. Mr. Greenhouse was also involved in his community as a former Democratic Committeeman and as a past commander of the Harry Fineman Post of the Jewish War Veterans and a former junior vice commander of the Department of Delaware JWV. An accomplished musician, he was a member of the local musicians union for more than 50 years.

He is survived by his wife, Sylvia; son, Dennis, a former New Castle County executive and his wife, Elizabeth of Rockville, MD; daughter, Linda and her husband, Gerald Harwitz of Wilmington; two brothers,

Daniel of Stoneybrook, NY and Abraham of Passaic, NJ; a sister, Ruth Lash of Boca Raton, FL; two grandchildren, Steve Harwitz and his wife, Tina of Harrison, NY and Marc Harwitz of Atlanta, GA.

He was interred in the Jewish Community Cemetery on Foulk Road. Contributions in his memory would be appreciated to either Congregation Beth Shalom, 18th and Baynard Blvd., Wilmington, DE 19802 or to a charity of the donor's choice.

KRASOWITZ

Helen Krasowitz, 88, died January 1. She was preceded in death by her husband, Jack; her son, Harvey and daughter Abreana Wheeler. She will be missed by her sisters, Ruth, Honey and Gloria Fischer; five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Krasowitz was interred in the Jewish Community Cemetery on

Foulk Road. Contributions in her memory may be directed to the Diabetes Association, 100 West 10th Street, Wilmington, DE 19801.

ROTHSCHILD

Louis H. Rothschild, born February 27, 1902 in Birmingham, England, died on January 2nd. Mr. Rothschild, who moved as a teenager to Brooklyn, New York, was a resident of B'nai B'rith House in Claymont before his admission to Gilpin Hall in 2001. He was employed as a sales manager for Metropolitan Life from 1931 to 1963.

Mr. Rothschild was married to Sarah Haft Rothschild for 57 years. He had three sons, Lawrence of Lake Worth, FL, Joseph of Reston, VA and Everett of Tampa, FL. Survivors also include his grandchildren, P.J. Facciolo, Karen Zyons and James, Jodi and David Rothschild. He also is survived by four great grandchildren.

BUSINESS NEWS

Hershman Assumes Key Leadership Role



Douglas M. Hershman

Douglas M. Hershman, a partner at The Bayard Firm in Wilmington, has been elected secretary of the Home Builders Association of Delaware. Hershman, who heads the Real Estate department for the law firm, was the first non-builder member appointed to the Legislative Committee for the HBA. In 1996, Hershman was awarded the President's Distinguished Service Award for his contributions to the organization.

A resident of Garnet Oaks in Bethel Township, PA, Hershman plays a leadership role in

Wilmington's Congregation Beth Emeth where he serves on the Board of Trustees, the Executive Committee and as co-chair of the Youth Programming Committee. He also is a member of the Editorial Committee of *The Jewish Voice*.

NACHAS NOOK

A New Daughter Of Israel Is Born



Deena (Panitz) and Mark Bleich of Gaithersburg, Maryland announce the birth of their daughter, Kayla Rose, on November 10th at Shady Grove Hospital. Big sisters are Ilana and Jessica. Celebrating her arrival are her grandparents, Sylvia and Bernie Panitz, Rita Bleich and the late Walter Bleich.

Kushner Lands New Position

Marian Lundy extends heartfelt best wishes to her granddaughter, Dr. Tammy B. Kushner, as she begins a new position. Dr. Kushner was recently named Director of the Criminal Justice Institute of Nova University.

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We would like to thank
everyone for the tremendous
outpouring of love and
support, in our time of grief
and sorrow, during
Suzanne's illness
and passing.

With love to all,
Randy Rosenthal and Family

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THIS SUNDAY AT AKSE...

Learn about the issues facing Jewish college students on campus. The community is invited to hear Rabbi James S. Diamond, executive director of the Center for Jewish Life at Princeton University. Rabbi Diamond will discuss the challenges that students face when they make independent decisions on Jewish participation for the first time in their lives. Rabbi Diamond will speak on Sunday, January 12th, 10:00 a.m. immediately following a 9:30 a.m. breakfast. The cost of the program, which is sponsored by the synagogue's Men's Club, is \$4 per person, including breakfast. All are invited!

INTERFAITH DIALOGUE AND PRAYER

The community is invited to a Jewish-Christian-Muslim gathering for dialogue and prayer on Thursday, January 23, 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. at St. Catherine of Siena Church, 2503 Centerville Road, just 3.4 of a mile north of Prices Corner. Rabbi David Wortman will present the Jewish perspective on "God's Plan for the Human Family. Joining him will be Pastor Richard Staszkesy and Imam Yahia Hashem. All are welcome.

WINTER IS FUN AT THE NEWARK JCC

For additional information about any of the following programs, please call Lynda Bell at 302-368-9173 or email her at lbell@jccdelaware.org. The

Newark JCC is located at 318 South College Avenue in Newark.

CHESS LESSONS AND CHESS CLUB, AGES 8 to 12, Tuesday, February 4th 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. Learn the Strategies of Chess. Come to JCC, Newark Campus and learn to play and/or join the Chess club. Cost: \$40 Members/\$55 Non-members

KIDS NIGHT OUT (WITH-OUT Parents)-Saturday, Feb. 15, 2003, Grades K-6. Cost: \$10 Members/ \$15 Non-Members. Come join us at the "J" for a fun night of Pizza, games, swimming, and much more.

SEWING WITH CRYSTAL-MAKING SLIPCOVERS-6 Week workshop to be held at Temple Beth El on Wednesdays, starting January 15th 10:00 to 12:00 p.m. Cost: \$325. This hands-on workshop helps participants learn all about fabrics, measurements, fittings and more...All participants will receive a packet describing supply needs, equipment and directions to workshop.

GENERATING VALUES FOR THE NEW MILLENIUM-Don't miss the last two parts of this three part series! Members \$10 per session, Non-members \$15 per session.

GYM FOR HOME SCHOOLERS: Come join the Physical fitness program at JCC, Newark Campus. Weekly activities include sports skills, gymnastics and swimming. Mondays 1:15-2:00-January 13- March 10, 2003. 1st grade through middle

school Cost: \$45 Members, \$60 Non-members, 8 classes.

LEARN TO SWIM: JCC Newark Campus offers swim lessons from ages 6 months to adult. Call now to get information on our different lessons or to join our swim team.

PASSOVER - IS IT WORTH THE HASSLE? February 5th at 7:00 p.m. Learn how to create your own traditions and lifelong memories for your children as they grow.

RAISING A "MENSCH" IN A MATERIAL WORLD: March 5th at 7:00 p.m. Social pressures make it harder to raise kind and considerate children. Learn what our Jewish heritage teach us about raising up children into adulthood?

BUBBES & BUBBELES YOGA-(Parent/Grandparent & Child Yoga) Spend some quality time with your special child in a playful class focusing on stretching and breathing ending with a relaxation period. Tuesdays, January 14th - March 4 from 9:00 to 9:45 a.m. 8 Sessions per pair. Members \$55, Non Members \$80

JEWISH WAR VETERANS PLAN TRIP TO NEW YORK

The Delaware Department of the Jewish War Veterans invites the community to join them on their April 6th bus trip to the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. The bus will leave at 8:00 a.m. from the rear of the B'nai B'rith building on Society Hill Drive, Claymont. The cost of \$28.75 for

adults, \$26.75 for seniors and \$22.75 for children ages 4-12 includes bus transportation, admission to both attractions and box lunches. To make your reservations, please call Department Commander Art Samuelsohn at 302-762-5519.

ALBERT EINSTEIN ACADEMY OFFERS ENRICHMENT FOR 4 YEAR OLDS

Albert Einstein Academy, the Brandywine Valley's only Jewish day school, is offering afternoon Judaic Enrichment classes for children 4 years of age. Taught by Karen Moss, the classes introduce children to Hebrew music, Bible stories and Jewish holidays. Children will also learn Torah through the "heroes" following the Jewish holiday calendar. The Winter session runs now through March 20th. Classes are held on Thursdays from 12 Noon through 3:15 p.m. For more information, please call Pauline Day at 302-478-5026, ext 33. Visit the school's website at www.aeacademy.org.

SEASIDE SLATES COMING EVENTS

Join members of the Seaside Jewish community for a Tu B'Shevat Seder and Israeli Lunch on Sunday, January 26th, 12 Noon at the Seaside Jewish Community Center on Holland Glade Road in Rehoboth. The cost of \$10 for adults and \$5 for children includes wine and a festive dairy luncheon. Make checks payable to Seaside Jewish

Community and send to Allison Colker, 13019 Bridger Drive, Germantown, MD 20874. The community holds Shabbat services on the third Saturday of each month. For dates and times visit their web calendar at www.calnet.net/seasidejewish.

JFS SPONSORS BEREAVEMENT GROUP

Jewish Family Service of Delaware sponsors an eight-week Bereavement Support Group at Congregation Beth Emeth on Mondays from 10-11 a.m. Meeting dates are: January 13th and 27th, February 10th and 24th, March 10th, 24th and 31st and April 14th. For more information, please call Karen Townsend at the JFS Relationship Center, 302-286-1402.

KLEZMER BAND COMES TO WILMINGTON

The Hester Street Troupe, a Klezmer Band from Cranford, New Jersey, will be in concert at Congregation Beth Emeth on Saturday, February 1 from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Tickets are \$18.50 in advance, \$20.00 at the door. For additional information, please call Chuck Marcus at 302-791-9118.

AKSE CHESS CLUB RECRUITING PLAYERS

Chess players of all ages and all levels of expertise are invited to the next meeting of the AKSE Chess Club on Monday, January 20, 7 p.m. For more information, please call Cantor Joel at 762-2705.

Bombing Lets Arafat Off The Hook Continued from page 13

Jihad. Some statements have said the talks are aimed at temporarily halting terrorist attacks against Israelis or at least limiting them geographically, while others have said the aim is to improve coordination among the various terrorist groups.

The talks, which were scheduled to resume Thursday after a break of several days, have been tendentious.

But even if they were meant to achieve a temporary cease-fire — bolstering the Labor Party's chances in Israel's Jan. 28 elections, as several Arab politicians

have urged — terrorist attacks and attempted attacks are only escalating, Israeli security sources say.

Israel has accused Arafat of sabotaging previous attempts at a cease-fire. This time, though, he would seem to have a vested interest in preventing attacks: Labor Party leader Amram Mitzna has declared that if Labor wins the elections he will negotiate with the Palestinians "without recon-ditions."

For Arafat, who has been completely boycotted by Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, a Labor win could be a new lease on life.

Indeed, the Palestinian Authority condemned Sunday's attack in unusually harsh terms. The fact that his own group carried out the bombing doesn't necessarily mean Arafat was behind it, Israeli officials say, but rather shows the extent of his impotence: He can't enforce his will on his own people in Ramallah and Gaza, let alone on his negotiating partners in Cairo.

But Israeli military restraint right now might help the Palestinian groups agree to at least scale back their attacks, Ziad Abu

Ziad, a member of the P.A.'s legislative council, told JTA this week.

"Cairo could lead to a positive result, if the Israelis contribute to calming down the atmosphere," he said.

"The Israelis have an influence on our politics, just like we influence your politics."

What now? Suppose the PLO Central Council does eventually convene?

Abu Ziad estimated that it would like to take at least several weeks before the draft constitution could be ratified.

But Harari of the Inter-

Disciplinary Center was skeptical.

"Had they really wanted a constitution they would have passed one a long time ago," he said. "It's simply that so far Arafat managed to prevent the reform."

Besides, he added, "the question is not what will be decided, but whether it will be implemented."

The bottom line is that the constitution, and the accompanying reforms, will have to wait. It will take at least until after the Israeli elections, possibly until after the war in Iraq — and probably until Arafat is no longer around.

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

Expanded Schedule for Wilmington's Independent Film Cinema

Wilmington Mayor James M. Baker and City Cultural Affairs Director Tina Betz announced recently that Theatre N at Nemours, the City of Wilmington's only independent film cinema, has added a Sunday matinee to its schedule and a once-a-month after-film discussion program. The theatre, which opened on October 4, 2002, currently offers two film showings each weekend of 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday nights.

"We are extremely pleased with the support being shown week after week for the City's effort to present quality films in a downtown location," Mayor Baker said. "Expanding the number of showings each week had always been

part of our overall plan and now it is time to move forward with that plan."

"The demand for a matinee performance has been building since Theatre N opened late last year," said Tina Betz, the Director of Cultural Affairs for the City of Wilmington. "We have been working to get the theatre and an audience established before approaching the Buccini/Pollin Group, which owns the building in which Theatre N is housed, with a request to expand the schedule. Rob buccini was very receptive to the idea, so we were ready to begin a Sunday matinee immediately." The matinees will begin at 2 p.m. each Sunday. Another addition to the

Theatre N schedule is the introduction of an After-Film Discussion Program that will take place the first Friday and Saturday night of each month.

Theatre N at Nemours is located in the Nemours Building, which is bordered by 10th, 11th, Orange,

and Tatnall Streets in Downtown Wilmington. Discounted parking is available at the City Center parking garage at 11th and Tatnall Streets, across the street from the Theatre N entrance.

The owner and theatre co-sponsor, the Buccini/Pollin Group, ren-

ovated the theatre last year. Theatre N seats 221 people and feature a 35-mm projector, perforated movie screen, and state-of-the-art dolby surround sound system. Theatre N is the only movie theatre in New Castle County showing independent films.

New Engineering Practice Opens

Structural Engineering Associates, Inc. announces the opening of its new engineering practice. The firm works on a wide range of project types such as commercial, residential, institutional, waterfront and industrial-type structures. Client types range from architects, devel-

opers and contractors, to government and state agencies and owners.

With nearly three decades of professional design experience the firm, based in Montchanin, also offers services such as feasibility studies, pre-settlement reports and

inspections for realtors and professional witness service for attorneys.

Structural Engineering Associates, Inc. offers at no additional charge evening and weekend hours. Please call Bryan W. Duszak, Vice-President, 302-571-1330.

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