



Israel

Civil d

Demonstrators disrupt traffic,
protest disengagement

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Serving the Greater Pittsburgh Area

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Holy bonds



Mesivta photo

Rabbis Tzvi Perecman, left, Nachum Langsner and Moshe Heineman check the newly constructed White Oak eruv.

Working eruv approved in White Oak

BY LEE CHOTTINER
Executive Editor

It's official, White Oak's Jewish community now has a functioning eruv of its own.

Rabbi Moshe Heineman, head of Baltimore's Star-K, a kosher certification organization, visited the borough last week to approve the eruv. He signed off on the religious boundary after hours of inspection.

"There were a few things he wanted to make better, which they did, and he gave the OK," Gemilas Chesed Rabbi Irvin Chinn said. "Last week, I think, was the first week we were able to use it."

"It covers almost all of White Oak," Chinn added, "which means people can buy [houses in] hamlets far away and walk their baby carriages to shul."

Seven years in the making, the Schulhof Community Eruv, as it's being called, was dedicated in memory of Moishe and Sarah Schulhof by the couple's children. They gave a \$10,000 grant to the project, which covered materials, surveying and installation.

The work had to overcome some hurdles, including negotiations with Duquesne Light for use of its utility poles.

Surveying the land for the eruv borders also proved time consuming, people involved with the project said.

"It's a very complicated task," Chinn said, "plus every week you have to go around checking to make sure everything is OK."

The eruv is a perimeter formed by existing utility poles and crosswires designated to create a greater private domain. Since observant Jews don't carry things on Shabbat in public domains — areas such as busy thoroughfares — the eruv permits them to carry prayerbooks and tallitot within its confines.

In addition to poles and wires — lechim and lintels as they're called — hillsides too steep to walk can be designated as part of the boundary, and some hills do

Please see Eruv, page 31.

Frim to build bridges at AJL

BY LEE CHOTTINER
Executive Editor

To Ed Frim, educating a Jewish community — young, old, child, adult — is largely about filling niches.

There's the niche of the special needs children.

The niche of the empty nesters.

The niche of the parents to be.

And so many others.

By themselves, he said, many of these niches may not comprise too many Jews. Put them together, though, and you're talking real numbers.

It's how a Jewish community reaches out to those niches, meets their needs, that could determine how successful its education program is.

"If there's no place for my child, there's no place for me; that's an area we have to work on," Frim said. "If put together, six or seven niches add up to a population of people that feel alienated."

Frim, 46, will get a chance to reach out to those niches in Jewish Pittsburgh starting on Aug. 1. That's when he starts work as the first director of the Agency for Jewish Learning (AJL). He got the job following an 18-month, nationwide

Please see Frim, page 31.

Hard at work



Chronicle photo by Christopher Rolinson

Sam Levinson, 12, braves the rain while working on his bar mitzvah project — volunteering with the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy garden planting at the Point on May 14. Levinson, a member of Dor Hadash, said he wanted his project to help benefit the earth.

Pittsburgh police chief studies Israeli security tactics

BY LEE CHOTTINER
Executive Editor

When authorities on May 7 simulated a terrorist attack on PNC Park, most participants in the drill probably didn't realize the role Israel had played.

But Pittsburgh Police Chief Robert McNeilly did, and he claims security at the ballpark, and throughout the city, is the better for it.

Remembering that terrorists in Israel have been known to use ambulances to conceal their movements, "I stressed to

my people to check every ambulance coming into the area," McNeilly said. "Even as part of a drill they could use an ambulance as a suicide device."

There was no real bomb, of course, but police did discover that some ambulance drivers weren't carrying proper identification. "That was a learning experience for us," he said.

McNeilly learned these lessons from a recent eight-day training mission that he and other U.S. law enforcement officials made to Israel. The Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs (JIN-

SA) sponsored the trip.

McNeilly, who was in the country from April 10 to 18, spent the time either in a classroom, riding along with Israeli police, or visiting hot zones for anti-terrorist activity.

He learned from officials from the Israel National Police, YAMAM (the Israeli anti-terror unit), Shabak (the Israeli security agency) and the Bomb Disposal Division.

Some of the things McNeilly learned

Please see McNeilly, page 31.

Inside

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Metro

Synagogue, funeral home strike deal on discounted funerals

By SUSAN JACOBS
Associate Editor

While most Jewish life cycles — births, b'nai mitzvah and weddings — are celebrated in the midst of the Jewish community, life's final stage, death and burial, is often handled out of sight, leaving many people unaware of its rituals.

Because of state regulations on the handling of dead bodies, funeral homes — not synagogues — usually take the lead in making burial arrangements.

Rabbi Daniel Wasserman wants to change that.

The spiritual leader of Shaare Torah Congregation wants congregations to take a greater role in the rituals surrounding death.

"Death has become detached and sanitized," Wasserman said. "Funerals belong in the community."

As one step toward that goal, Wasserman has been in contact with a handful of local funeral homes to negotiate low-cost burial packages that would welcome increased participation from rabbis and community members.

The Burton L. Hirsch funeral home is the first to offer such a package. In April, the Squirrel Hill funeral home began offering a funeral package that involves congregations more directly in the care

and burial of the dead.

The package, which right now is only available to members of Shaare Torah and Congregation Poale Zedeck, offers a flat rate for the funeral and burial, not including fees to the Chevra Kadisha burial society or the cemetery involved. The package includes burial in a simple casket and shroud, and offers the same options to anyone who selects the package. The package does not include visitation before the ceremony, and does not allow family members to choose a more ornate casket. If the family wishes to deviate from the package, it will not be eligible for the flat fee.

Rabbi Yisroel Miller of Poale Zedeck stressed that while the Hirsch funeral package is available to members of his synagogue, the congregation does not endorse one funeral home over any others.

"Poale Zedeck has no arrangement with any particular funeral home nor do we endorse any funeral home," he said. "Anything that provides more choices to a consumer is to be applauded."

The Lubavitch Center is looking into offering a similar option to its members, according to Rabbi Yisroel Rosenfeld.

"It seems it's a very great plan," he said. "It makes having a Jewish funeral much more affordable and makes it simpler."

According to Deborah Prise, manager and supervisor at Burton Hirsch, the package being offered by the funeral home is similar to those available at non-Jewish funeral homes for members of secular burial societies. Such groups stress modesty and simplicity and have negotiated discounted funeral packages.

After learning more about these burial societies, Prise thought, "Why not offer what the secular market has, but fine-tune it to halacha?"

The new package is partly modeled upon an agreement reached between a division of the Orthodox Union and a chain of funeral homes in New York City. Levaya, as the program is called, offers a fixed rate for a chapel service or for a graveside service.

Prise said the funeral home is willing to meet with other congregations to discuss developing similar packages. However, she said the discounted package is not likely to become the funeral home's most popular option, in part because many of the burials it performs are for unaffiliated families.

Rather, the package helps the funeral home attract business from segments of the community it had not been serving.

"I was trying to find out how can we be

the only funeral home in Squirrel Hill and miss core parts of the Jewish community," she said.

Several families have taken advantage of the discounted package since it began in April, Prise said.

The program has attracted the interest of other local rabbis.

"I am hoping to raise the issue in my own congregation," said Rabbi Shoshana Kaminsky of the Beth Samuel Jewish Center in Ambridge. "Anything that draws awareness to end-of-life issues is good for our community."

Several local rabbis declined comment on the package, saying that they did not want to comment on an issue that involves private businesses.

Wasserman said that he does not question the right of funeral homes or other private businesses to set their own rates.

On the other hand, he said it is important for the community to provide options.

"We need to provide people with support and services at a difficult time without it having to cost a lot," Wasserman said. "That's what community is for."

(Susan Jacobs can be reached online at sjacobs@pittchron.com.)

Correction

The name of Rabbi Eugene Lipman, a late U.S. military chaplain, was misspelled in a correction in the May 12 edition. The name is spelled with one p, not two.

"The Portion of the Week" for the May 12 edition was provided by the United Synagogue for Conservative Judaism, not the Greater Pittsburgh Rabbinic Association, as was incorrectly noted beneath the column.

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Rackoff to receive JNF Guardian of Israel Award

Nancy L. Rackoff will receive the 2005 Jewish National Fund Guardian of Israel Award at a wine reception at 6 p.m., June 7, at Rodef Shalom Congregation.

Established in 1988 by Stanley G. Cohen, the award recognizes individuals who exemplify the highest standard of devotion and service to the community and the State of Israel.

Rackoff is a partner/shareholder of the law firm of Tener, Van Kirk, Wolf & Moore, P.C., where she specializes in estate and trust planning administration. She currently is the president of the board of directors of Forward Housing Corporation and past chair of Magee-Womens Health Foundation.

She also serves on numerous community boards and committees including American Jewish Committee, United Jewish Federation, UPMC Health System, Gateway Bank and Carnegie Hero Commission.

Rackoff and her husband, Bill, have two children, Peter and Sarah.

Eva Tansky Blum, Judy and David Ehrenwerth and Pat and Alan Siger are co-chairs for the event, which will raise



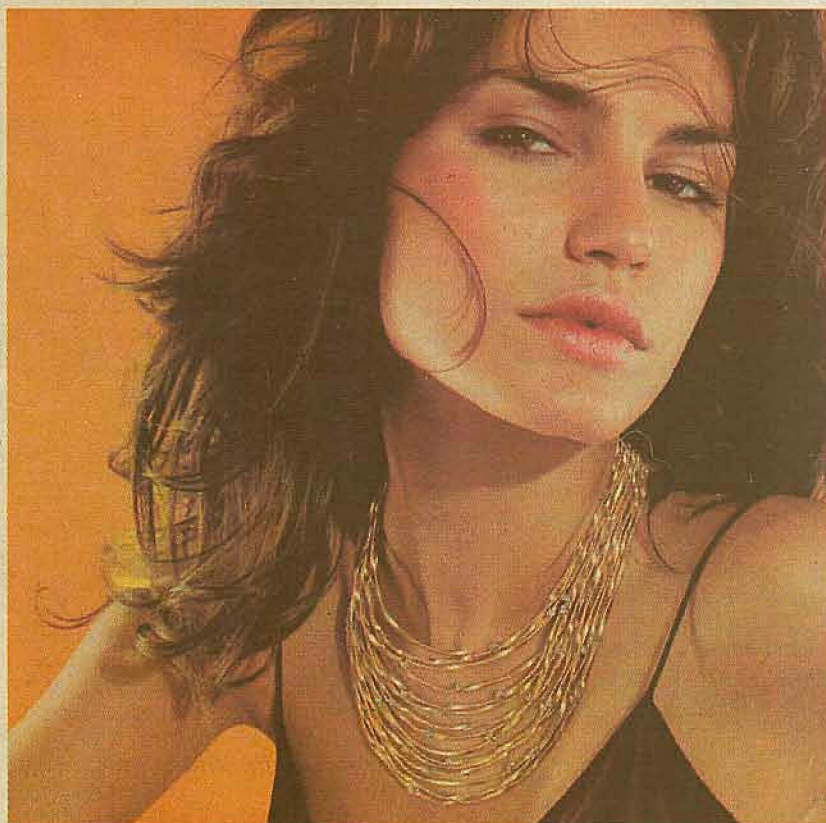
Nancy L. Rackoff

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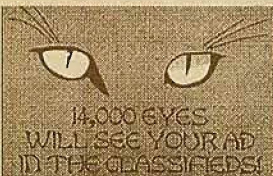
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THE JEWISH CHRONICLE

Shtulman leaves American Jewish Committee for UJF

By Jo MARKS RIFKIN
Staff Writer

David Shtulman has left his post as director of the American Jewish Committee in Pittsburgh to become director of Agency Endowment Development for the United Jewish Federation Foundation.

What goes around comes around.

Shtulman left the UJF in 1997 for the AJC job. He was replaced by Brian Eglash. In an ironic turn, his new position, which began on May 17, was most recently held by Eglash, the UJF's campaign director.

"It's such a powerful job, a gratifying position," Eglash said. "Knowing David — I've seen him in action — he's going to do a great job. He has all the right skills."

Shtulman will now direct one of the UJF's most successful new programs. The Agency Endowment Development program facilitates the creation of permanent endowment funds that benefit the UJF's beneficiary agencies. Since its establishment in 2003, it has led to the creation of 56 endowments.

"David is one of the most respected and recognized Jewish professionals in Pittsburgh and we are thrilled that he decided to rejoin our organization in this very important capacity," UJF president and CEO Jeffrey Finkelstein said in a prepared statement.

Shtulman, who resigned from the AJC, said he left because he wanted the opportunity to do something different.

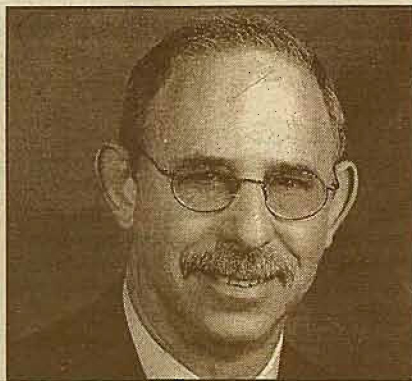
"The hole I have in my resume is in development," he said. "This new position helps fill that void. I'm excited about it."

From 1990 to 1997, Shtulman was UJF's assistant director of planning and allocations and community relations associate.

He also served as the first staff person on the federation's Partnership 2000 program with Pittsburgh's sister communities of Karmiel and Misgav in Israel.

Shtulman will report to Daniel Brandeis, UJF director of foundation and resource development.

"David will really be able to hit the



David Shtulman

ground running because of his experience with federation and the agencies and the general community," Brandeis said.

Agency Endowment Development enables donors to provide essential support to the human service programs, populations and/or service areas that hold special meaning for donors and their families.

Donors may choose, for example, to enhance Jewish education, underwrite programming at the summer camp of their childhood or support services at an agency that provides care for an elderly parent.

"The programs are the substance of our communal life," Shtulman said. "They support people from the time they are born until they die and everywhere in between."

Looking back, Jonathan Levin, AJC national director of Community Services said Shtulman's most important work for the organization involved inter-religious programming.

"He did some excellent, excellent work," Levine said. "That was one of his strengths."

When developing Jewish-Muslim dialogue, Shtulman introduced a well-attended discussion between Judea Pearl, father of murdered Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl, and Akbar Ahmed, chairman of Islamic Studies at American University in Washington, D.C.

Pearl and Ahmed later took their dialogue nationwide.

Shtulman also strengthened Christian-Jewish relations, addressing such challenges as the Presbyterian Church USA's proposal for divestment from Israel.

He also started the Catholic Jewish Education Enrichment Project (CJEEP) with the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh, through which rabbis and priests spoke at each religion's day schools as a way of developing understanding. "Bishop Weurl's approval and cooperation with the (CJEEP) program allowed us to move forward," said the superintendent of Catholic Schools, Robert Paserba.

Shtulman also is proud of the AJC's Israeli advocacy.

"I think AJC does that enormously effectively," said Shtulman, whose articles have appeared in The Jewish Chronicle and Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.

He also takes pride in AJC's partnering with the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission, which fights hatred and bigotry throughout the state.

"David was extremely good at what he did," said Mark Frank, president of the Pittsburgh chapter of AJC. "I think he was the face of the Jewish community to all other groups and to the Jewish community. He knew how far to push and how to build bridges. I learned a lot from him."

A Penn State graduate, Shtulman holds two master's degrees, one in social work and the other in Jewish studies.

He and his family lived in Israel from 1981 to 1988, where they helped found Moshav Shorashim in Misgav. While there, he worked in the medical electronics field and participated in programs to foster better Arab-Jewish relations in the Galilee. He also served as a combat engineer in the Israel Defense Forces.

Shtulman and his wife Debbie live in Mt. Lebanon. They have two grown children.

The AJC is conducting a national search for Shtulman's successor, Frank said.

(Jo Marks Rifkin can be reached online at jrifkin@pittchron.com.)

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METRO

Chabad's Fox Chapel Hebrew school enjoys growth

BY HILARY DANINHIRSCH
Chronicle Correspondent

On a typical Sunday morning during the school year, approximately 32 children come to FunFest Entertainment Center for a morning of fun, but not in the way you might think.

Due to the tremendous growth and popularity of the Hebrew school run by Chabad of Fox Chapel, the staff and children have outgrown their original space at the home of Rabbi Ely and Shternie Rosenfeld and have moved their classes into a party room at FunFest, a bowling, Laser Storm and arcade facility in Harmarville. The Rudolph family, owners of FunFest, have ensured that the facility is quiet on those Sundays when Hebrew school is in session so that the kids do not get distracted.

Shternie Rosenfeld, the director of Chabad of Fox Chapel's Hebrew School, credited its success with the desire to make every child feel special.

"We have a genuine love for each child, and they can sense that and it is reciprocated," she said.

The Rosenfelds tried to develop programs that the children would enjoy.

"We wanted to create a curriculum in an environment in which children develop a sense of pride and love of Judaism, not just something they are forced to do until their bar or bat mitzvah," said Rabbi Ely Rosenfeld.

In this vein, the school developed a hands-on mitzvah series of activities designed to make the holidays more meaningful.

During a recent havdalah workshop,

for instance, the children made their own havdalah candles as well as the accompanying spices. They also made their own shofars on Rosh Hashanah, and homemade olive oil on Chanukah.

This year, the Hebrew school implemented Aleph Champion — a program conceived by Shternie Rosenfeld. The program has since been adopted by other Chabad Hebrew schools.

Aleph Champion is a system of learning Hebrew based upon the principles in karate: the children earn different colored "belts" as they move through the Hebrew language learning process. They ultimately as-

Rabbi Ely Rosenfeld

pire to become black belts, giving them a motivation to progress in their learning.

When Chabad first arrived in Fox Chapel, there were no immediate plans to establish a Hebrew school. The idea came about, Rabbi Rosenfeld said, when about five unaffiliated families requested a Hebrew School.

It took off from there.

At its inception two years ago, eight children were enrolled. Now, the school caters to 32 children, ranging in age from 4 through b'nai mitzvah age.

While most of the enrolled children live in the Fox Chapel area, Libbie and Michael Rockman make the trek from Penn Hills every week so that their 10-year-old son, Ethan, can attend.

"He absolutely adores it," Libbie Rockman said. "I would not think of putting him anywhere else now."

(Hilary Daninhirsch can be reached online at hilarysd@comcast.net.)

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Moving on out?

The opening of the Schulhoff Community Eruv in White Oak gives Pittsburgh's Orthodox Jewish community something it has had precious little of for decades — mobility.

While Reform, Conservative and Reconstructionist Jews can choose to live in the city or the suburbs — and many have done so — the Orthodox have generally remained in Squirrel Hill, close to their synagogues, schools and markets — and within an eruv that gives observant Jews more freedom of movement on the Sabbath.

There have been some efforts to extend the Orthodox community to the suburbs. Congregation Adath Jeshurun moved from the East End to Monroeville in the 1990s, but that congregation recently closed its doors. And while the Chabad Lubavitch have established presences in the South Hills and Fox Chapel, few Orthodox Jews have followed them to these areas.

With the opening last week of the Schulhoff eruv — only the second eruv in the area — White Oak becomes more of an inviting suburban option for Orthodox Jews who might prefer suburban life to the city. The community has an established Orthodox congregation; it has a high school for boys; it has a mikvah and its Orthodox Jews can now live practically anywhere in the borough and carry books and holy objects on the Sabbath.

These may seem like little things, but they offer a certain freedom to the Orthodox — something to which they are no less entitled.

We are not suggesting that Orthodox Jews move out of Squirrel Hill, itself a vibrant community and rightly the center of Jewish life in western Pennsylvania. We are saying that the Orthodox, like everyone else, deserve the right to choose what place they call home.

The Constitution question

Israel's Knesset committee, charged with coming up with a constitution for the Jewish state, came to North America last week on a fact-finding tour. What they heard from American and Canadian jurists and lawmakers is that the Israeli system may not be perfect, but they admire it.

In other words, they said, leave well enough alone. We agree.

Israel is currently governed by a body of law known as the Basic Laws. It is hardly a codified constitution, but where there are gaps, Israel's high court has been more than willing to step into the breach.

The court overturned a legislative ban on the sale of pork, citing a basic law guaranteeing freedom of commerce, and it ordered the military to reroute the West Bank security barrier to protect basic rights of Palestinians.

Such judicial activism would probably shock conservative Americans, but the court has served as a counterweight to governments that frequently strike special-interest deals with small political parties to gain a majority in the Knesset — not such a bad thing.

Besides, a constitution is not necessary for democracy. Britain has never had one, and several Third World nations that do, have flouted and rewritten them many times over.

Leave well enough alone? Please do.



steve@greenberg-art.com

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2005, JULIA GREENBERG

Madonna shows who the real diplomacy boss is in Israel



JAY
BUSHINSKY

JERUSALEM — Madonna has unwittingly become the portal to an open secret of Israeli diplomacy: the fact that the Jewish state's crucial relationship with the United States is controlled by the prime minister's office, and not by the foreign ministry.

It came out in the usual way. An obscure official with his or her own political agenda told a local television correspondent that Foreign Minister Sylvan Shalom's starry-eyed wife, Judy, is enraged at the staff of Israel's embassy in Washington because it failed to nail down a meeting or photo-op for her here with the American singer.

Judy Nir Mozes Shalom, who is independently wealthy due to her family's control of this country's biggest and most lucrative newspaper, Yediot Aharonot, evidently wanted very much to be seen with Madonna on her low-brow, gossip-oriented television show.

Bad diplomatic blood began to boil over between the foreign minister and Ambassador Daniel Ayalon culminating in the dispatch of a special investigator assigned to uncover alleged mistreatment of the embassy's domestic staff by the envoy's American wife, Anne.

Less than 24 hours after this conundrum made headlines all over the world and preoccupied the electronic news media as well, word came that Shalom decided to recall the ambassador immediately and not to extend his personal contract due to expire in August.

That was the cue for Prime Minister Ariel Sharon to get into the act. Ayalon, who previously served as one of his security advisers, was Sharon's choice as ambassador. The Israeli leader is in no hurry to see his

protege step aside less than a week before his own impending trip to the United States, which Ayalon was supposed to prepare.

The foreign ministry softened its stance somewhat by authorizing its spokesperson, Mark Regev, a veteran of extensive and successful service at the Washington embassy, to say that Ayalon will either stay put or come home depending on the special investigator's findings.

What really matters, though, is Sharon's quiet, but effective intervention. It was par for the course.

Since Israel's birth as an independent Jewish state 57 years ago, diplomatic relations with the United States were the prime minister's exclusive domain. This was as true of its first prime minister, David Ben-Gurion, as it is with Sharon.

The foreign ministry's exclusion from the Jerusalem-Washington channel, except as an occasional means to further the goals of the serving prime minister, was epitomized during the late Yitzhak Rabin's stint as ambassador. He virtually ignored then-Foreign Minister Abba Eban, frustrating and infuriating him, flouting his Cambridge-bred erudition and eloquence and restricting his communications to his then-boss, Prime Minister Golda Meir.

Shalom's reported decision to blow the whistle on Ayalon may have been designed to get the Washington embassy back into its diplomatic orbit. And being that he is an outspoken foe of Sharon on the most burning issue of the day, disengagement from the Gaza Strip (he is against it), he had no compunctions about having a highly publicized run-in.

In the end, Madonna may find the ensuing political drama as fascinating as the kabbalah. And maybe she will draw some satisfaction from the fact that some of the biggest movers and shakers of Israeli society are willing to move political mountains to get into her act, or at least have a photo-op with her.

(Jay Bushinsky is *The Chronicle's* political correspondent in Israel. He can be reached online at Jay@actcom.co.il.)

Letters to the editor

We invite you to submit letters for publication. Letters must include name, address and daytime phone number; addresses and phone numbers will not be published. Letters may not exceed 300 words and may be edited for length and clarity; they cannot be returned. Mail, fax or e-mail letters to:

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via e-mail
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(412) 687-5119

Web site address www.pittchron.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Theater Sundays?

We saw the last performance of the 2004-05 series of the Jewish Theatre of Pittsburgh, "That's Life." Like all the performances since its inception in 2001, they have been very professional, thought provoking, and have provided us an opportunity to have a wonderful evening with friends. It is really the best kept secret around.

How wonderful it would be if all the synagogues and women's and men's organizations especially in the suburbs could offer "Sunday afternoon at Jewish Theatre." Providing transportation and/or familiar faces to people who would look forward to spending a few hours together and have the benefit of seeing good theater would be a mitzvah.

Tickets are very reasonably priced so no one would be hard pressed to order a subscription. Thanks to Tito Braunstein for his insight in producing Jewish Theatre. Let's hope the Jewish community appreciates his efforts by going to the plays.

Jeff and Nanette Simon
Upper St. Clair

Our out-of-touch senator

I had heard the rumors that our Republican U.S. Senator from Penn Hills was out of touch with his constituents. I had heard the comments that his preferring to visit an ill Florida woman over helping those who had elected him

Please see Letters, next page.

OP-ED

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Continued from previous page.

in Pennsylvania was misplaced. I had listened to people question his priorities or lack thereof regarding religion, flood victims, Supreme Court filibuster issues, NRA guns, etc.

Through all of this, I had thought that Sen. Rick Santorum was on top of things

for us Pennsylvanians and that he was a valuable asset to our commonwealth due to his seniority in the Senate. I now have to reluctantly admit that his recent mis-spent taxpayer time and money on such minutiae as weather forecasting company issues does leave me a bit concerned about how much of a benefit he is to the Keystone State's citizens.

Jeffrey L. Pollock
Squirrel Hill

Business as usual in the Palestinian Authority

GUEST COLUMNIST
DANIEL PIPES

PHILADELPHIA — Yasser Arafat's demise last November excited great hopes among those who saw his malign personality as the main reason for Palestinian intransigence.

But those of us who saw the problem as larger than Arafat — as resulting, rather, from the deep radicalization of the Palestinian body politic — expected little change. Indeed, I wrote at the time of Mahmoud Abbas' election to head the Palestinian Authority (P.A.) that, "He is potentially a far more formidable enemy to Israel" than was Arafat.

How do things look a half year after Arafat's death? About as awful as anyone might have expected. Specifically, Abbas is unambiguously leading the Palestinians to war after the Israeli retreat from Gaza in August 2005. Consider some recent developments.

- Rather than arrest terrorists, as required by the informal February cease-fire between Israel and the Palestinians, Abbas has instituted a unique employment program for them, incorporating them into his security forces. The Associated Press explains the charming point system to determine who gets what rank: "A high school diploma is worth eight points, while a year in an Israeli prison or on the run counts for two points each. Gunmen don't get credit for time served in Palestinian lockups, but they win extra points if they were wounded by Israeli army fire or had their homes demolished." Israeli authorities have accepted that even convicted Palestinian killers carry weapons.

- The Palestinian military intelligence agency facilitates terrorist groups smuggling SA-7 Strela shoulder-fired missiles into the Gaza Strip to use against Israeli aircraft.

- As Palestinian Media Watch, the Center for Special Studies and Michael Widlanski have exhaustively detailed, the political speeches, media content, mosque sermons, school textbooks, and wall posters remain as rabidly anti-Israel and anti-Semitic as during the worst days of Arafat's rule. For example, Ahmed Qureia, the P.A.'s so-called prime minister, has threatened "an explosion" over Israel's handling of Al-Aqsa Mosque.

- As under Arafat, the P.A. plays the

charade of arresting terrorists with fanfare and then allowing them quietly to "escape" from prison. Two examples of these revolving-door arrests: two perpetrators who assisted a suicide bombing in Tel Aviv in February left jail in April; and the Palestinian police arrested their first Hamas terrorist on May 2, but promptly released him one day later.

As a result of these steps, Palestinian terrorism, especially coming out of Gaza, has dramatically increased since April. Things have reached such a low point that one analyst, Leslie Susser, finds that the February cease-fire "may be on the verge of collapse."

It is hard to argue with Caroline Glick's conclusion that the Sharon government and the Bush administration were both "horribly wrong" in betting on Abbas. And yet, neither of them concedes this error because, having stressed Abbas' good intentions, both now find themselves deeply invested in the success of his political career.

The planned Israeli withdrawal from Gaza in August is likely to precipitate new rounds of violence. One could come in July, as the Israel Defense Forces engage in a massive sweep of Gaza to ensure that the forthcoming retreat takes place not under Palestinian fire.

More violence will likely follow in September as the Palestinians, Gaza now under their belt, begin a new assault on Israel. That round presumably will feature the substantial rocket arsenal that Hamas has been amassing. Israel's chief of staff, Moshe Ya'alon, is on record predicting, "Immediately after the disengagement we can expect a burst of terrorism."

Thus has Ariel Sharon neatly arranged all the elements for a massive train wreck.

Ironically, the one thing that might prevent this scenario from playing out would be a Hamas victory in the Palestinian council elections scheduled for mid-July. Increasing numbers of Israeli voices are calling for the Gaza withdrawal to be postponed or even annulled should Hamas do well, as seems likely. For example, Foreign Minister Silvan Shalom has said if Hamas wins the elections, it would be "unreasonable" to implement the disengagement plan and allow Hamas to create a "Hamas-stan" in Gaza.

So, there are many possibilities in the next four months. Their common element is that by September, the Arab-Israeli theater will be in yet worse shape than it is today.

(Daniel Pipes is director of the Middle East Forum.)

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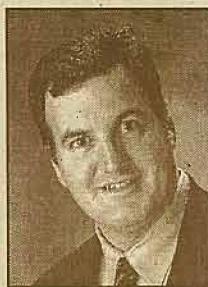
ASK AN EXPERT

PEYRONIE'S DISEASE

I am 56 and have Peyronie's disease. Is this rare, what is the cause, and is there good treatment?

Peyronie's disease is more common than is generally known. A French surgeon named Peyronie first described it several centuries ago. Peyronie's disease usually

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To learn what course of treatment is best for you, consult a urologist.

develops in middle-aged men, although it can also develop in older and younger men. It occurs when a plaque, or hardened tissue, forms on the shaft of the penis. The plaque is under the skin and not visible.

With mild or early Peyronie's disease, the plaque can be felt. Because the plaque is inflexible and does not expand, it can cause pain during erections. If the disease progresses, the increasing plaque may cause the erect penis to curve. With curvature, there can be pain with erections and a loss of rigidity. Sexual intercourse often becomes more and more difficult. Peyronie's does not always cause erectile dysfunction, but it can.

What causes the plaque to form is still not clear. The leading current theory is that a traumatic injury to the shaft of the penis during sexual

activity can lead to the development of a plaque. There is also an association between a condition called Dupuytren's contracture of the hand and Peyronie's disease. Both of these conditions are connective tissue disorders. In a few cases, hereditary factors seem to be involved.

For 20 percent of men with early-stage Peyronie's disease, the condition resolves by itself without treatment. Among the many medical treatments available, only vitamin E has been shown to help improve the condition if taken early in the disease. Injections, ultrasound, and creams are advertised but do not work particularly well. Surgical treatment can be helpful, but is reserved for men who cannot have intercourse because of curvature or loss of rigidity. Surgery is performed after plaque formation has stabilized and therefore may require a wait of several years. Surgical options include procedures to straighten the penis, restore rigidity, or both. To learn what course of treatment is best for you, consult a urologist for an evaluation.

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Readers may call Ask an Expert at 412-647-9738 to suggest a health question for the column. Ask an Expert provides general health information and cannot answer questions individually. Be sure to see your doctor for specific medical advice.

Bach, Beethoven and Brunch is back

By RON KAPLAN

Chronicle Correspondent

The popular Bach, Beethoven and Brunch concert series, a Sunday morning ritual for many Pittsburghers, will resume on July 3 at Mellon Park, following a one-year hiatus. The season will consist of nine concerts — five in July and four in August.

The concerts will start at 10:30 a.m. and last until noon.

The series is a joint effort between the Pittsburgh Department of Parks and the Squirrel Hill Urban Coalition. Funding is to be provided by a \$10,000 grant from state Rep. Paul Costa's office and \$6,000 from Starbucks Coffee, which replaces

Bruegger's as the principal vendor for the concerts.

The resumption of the concerts started with the efforts of Squirrel Hill resident Dr. Charles Coffey, who spoke with SHUC members to see what they could do to restore the series.

SHUC member Steven Hawkins helped secure funding and a vendor.

Hawkins noted that the musical groups scheduled to perform won't be as prominent as the ones from previous years, but this will permit organizers to afford five more concerts than usual. The Pittsburgh Musicians Union will pay 40 percent of the wages of union musicians performing in the concerts.

The program for the concerts will be

posted on the Citiparks Web site, www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/parks, and in its annual summer magazine. The concerts usually attract between 600 and 1,000 people.

Coffey worked hard to bring back the concerts not so much for the music but for the benefits to the community.

"I don't even like classical music," he said. "The concerts are an opportunity for the community to come together."

Coffey also wants to attract young peo-

ple to the concerts, and is trying to involve other organizations, such as Pittsburgh Urban Magnet Project (PUMP) — and the Sprout fund.

"Anything that brings together young people is good," he said.

Coffey is also exploring ways to tweak the concerts, such as seeking out talented teenage musicians and local musical celebrities as well as restoring the children's play area.

Schloss to speak in East Liberty

Eva Schloss, an author and Auschwitz survivor, will speak at the East Liberty Presbyterian Church on May 22. The event, which is free to the public, will begin at 5 p.m. with a reception followed by a presentation in the church sanctuary.

An advocate for Holocaust education since 1985, Schloss will share her experiences hiding from the Nazis in Holland, the betrayal of her family, the transport

to Auschwitz, her mother's marriage to Otto Frank — the father of Anne Frank — and life after the war.

Schloss is the author of "Eva's Story," an autobiography about her experiences during and after World War II.

B'nai B'rith Allegheny/Ohio Valley Region is hosting the program. Call Lynne Feinberg at (412) 521-2390 for more information.

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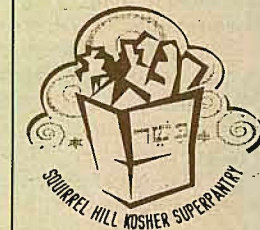
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Marlene Silverman
Anna R. Kohn

Co-chairs, 2005 Feinstein Campaign

METRO

Daniel Krifcher, technology exec, is chosen as JTA's next president

By JTA Staff

NEW YORK — Daniel Krifcher, a Pittsburgh native, has been chosen as the next president of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency board of directors.

Krifcher, 43, of Potomac, Md., will succeed Howard Friedman, who will become chairman of the board, in October. JTA's board voted Krifcher into the position at its spring meeting on May 11 in New York.

Krifcher, who brings with him a wealth of corporate and technological experience, was an executive at America Online from 1994 until this year. His last job with AOL was chief operating officer for the Internet giant's dial-up business.

Krifcher currently is a JTA vice president and chairman of the organization's product development and marketing committee. Before that, he led a task force charged with drafting a strategic plan for the agency.

He's enthusiastic about his new position.

"I look forward to partnering with the JTA professional and volunteer team to help JTA take even greater advantage of the many new technologies and distribution channels that are now becoming available," Krifcher said.

Norman Lipoff, chairman of JTA's board and its nominating committee, praised the incoming president.

"It's very exciting to have this young, energetic, highly skilled individual take the helm," Lipoff said.

Krifcher also serves on the boards of Harvard Hillel, the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington, the United Jewish Endowment Fund of Greater Washington, and the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School. He serves on the marketing committee of the United Jewish Communities federation umbrella organization, is active in the American Israel Public Affairs Committee and is a Wexner Heritage Fellow.

Elson to receive the 2005 Mermelstein award

Robin Elson will receive the 2005 Dr. Howard A. Mermelstein Leadership Award at the Jewish Family & Children's Service annual meeting on May 19.

Elson was selected based on her commitment to JF&CS and the community. She currently serves as treasurer of JF&CS and a member of the Central Scholarship and Loan Referral Service of the United Jewish Federation, which is administered by JF&CS.

In addition, Elson serves on the boards of Tree of Life Congregation, Hillel Jewish University Center, Na-

tional Council of Jewish Women Pittsburgh Section and is treasurer of the Jewish Theatre of Pittsburgh.

She and husband, Howard, have two children, Philip and Lauren. She is a certified public accountant employed by the Pittsburgh firm of Epstein, Tabor & Schorr.

The Dr. Howard A. Mermelstein Leadership Award is presented annually to a JF&CS board member displaying outstanding leadership and commitment to the community and dedication to the mission of JF&CS.

Dining Guide

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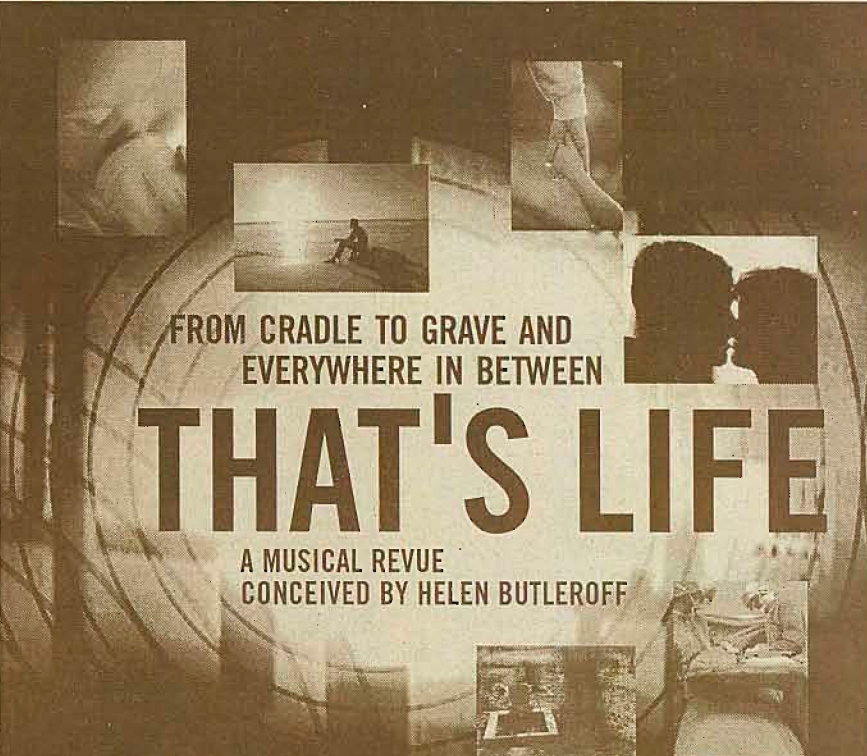
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Israel

As Gaza withdrawal nears, protests in Israel take on edge

BY DAN BARON

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Political tensions in Israel, simmering over the plan to withdraw this summer from the Gaza Strip, appear close to boiling over.

In their most sweeping and coordinated protest yet, hundreds of right-wing activists flooded key road junctions across Israel Monday, burning tires and paralyzing traffic despite a heavy police deployment. Some 40 people were arrested.

A separate case that came to light suggested there might be deadlier violence in the works: The Shin Bet announced it had arrested five Israelis suspected of planning to attack the main Muslim shrine on the Temple Mount.

"We are on alert for any and all worst-case scenarios," Internal Security Minister Gideon Ezra said.

Having overcome all the parliamentary hurdles and ministerial infighting, and having received the blessing of President Bush, Prime Minister Ariel Sharon seems intent on carrying out the "disengagement" from the Palestinians by withdrawing from Gaza and the northern West Bank in August.

But Sharon's certainty might prompt opponents of the plan to opt for extreme measures, officials fear. Right-wing leaders dismiss such

statements as politically loaded alarmism, but admit that no one can predict what deranged loners might attempt.

Topping the list of potential targets is the Al-Aksa Mosque on the Temple Mount. The five Israelis arrested last month are suspected of planning to fire an anti-tank rocket at the shrine, then fend off security forces with grenades before committing suicide. They denied any wrongdoing.

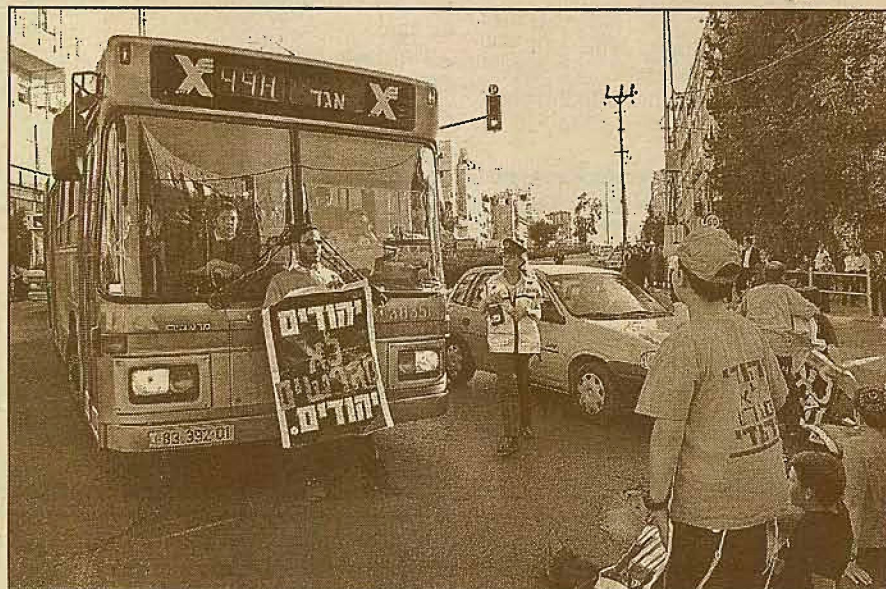
"I am against any action that would cause innocent casualties," Eyal Karamani, one of the suspects, told reporters at a Jerusalem courthouse.

Karamani and the four others were released from custody pending a decision on whether to press charges. Israeli media quoted Justice Ministry officials as saying there may not be enough evidence for an indictment.

The suspects accused the Shin Bet of arresting them on the strength of an agent provocateur, known as "Baruch," whom they alleged had urged them to mount an attack on the Temple Mount.

While such an action would draw the wrath of millions of Muslims against the Jewish state, the tactic of blocking traffic appeared aimed more at fomenting internal strife.

In the Tel Aviv suburb of Givat Shmuel, stalled motorists and sit-down protestors almost came to blows in the absence of an ade-



Brian Hendler/JTA photo

Demonstrators hold signs and lie down in a busy Jerusalem street during a protest against Israel's Gaza withdrawal that disrupts rush-hour traffic across the country on Tuesday.

quate police response.

"You're not Jews, you're scum!" one middle-aged man screamed at the young men sprawled in front of his car.

The events highlighted the limitations of Israel's security forces in handling nationwide


demonstrations. Many of the junctions were blocked despite the fact that police had deployed in advance, tipped off by leaflets distributed by a far-right political group called "The National Home" that called for mass demonstrations.



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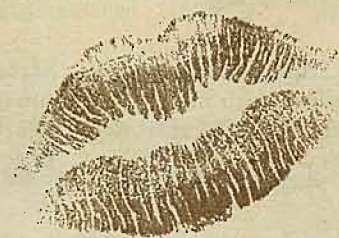
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Elizabeth Downer, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette



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ISRAEL

Briefly

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

Ariel Sharon's candidate for the next chairman of the Jewish Agency for Israel received preliminary approval. On Monday, the Jewish Agency's Advice and Consent Committee unanimously approved Ze'ev Bielski, mayor of Ra'anana, as the candidate for the JAFI chairmanship. Bielski is expected to be approved by the Zionist General Council, which meets in Jerusalem on June 21, and the agency's assembly, which meets June 26. Bielski would succeed the current JAFI chairman, Sallai Meridor, who announced his early resignation from the post last week.

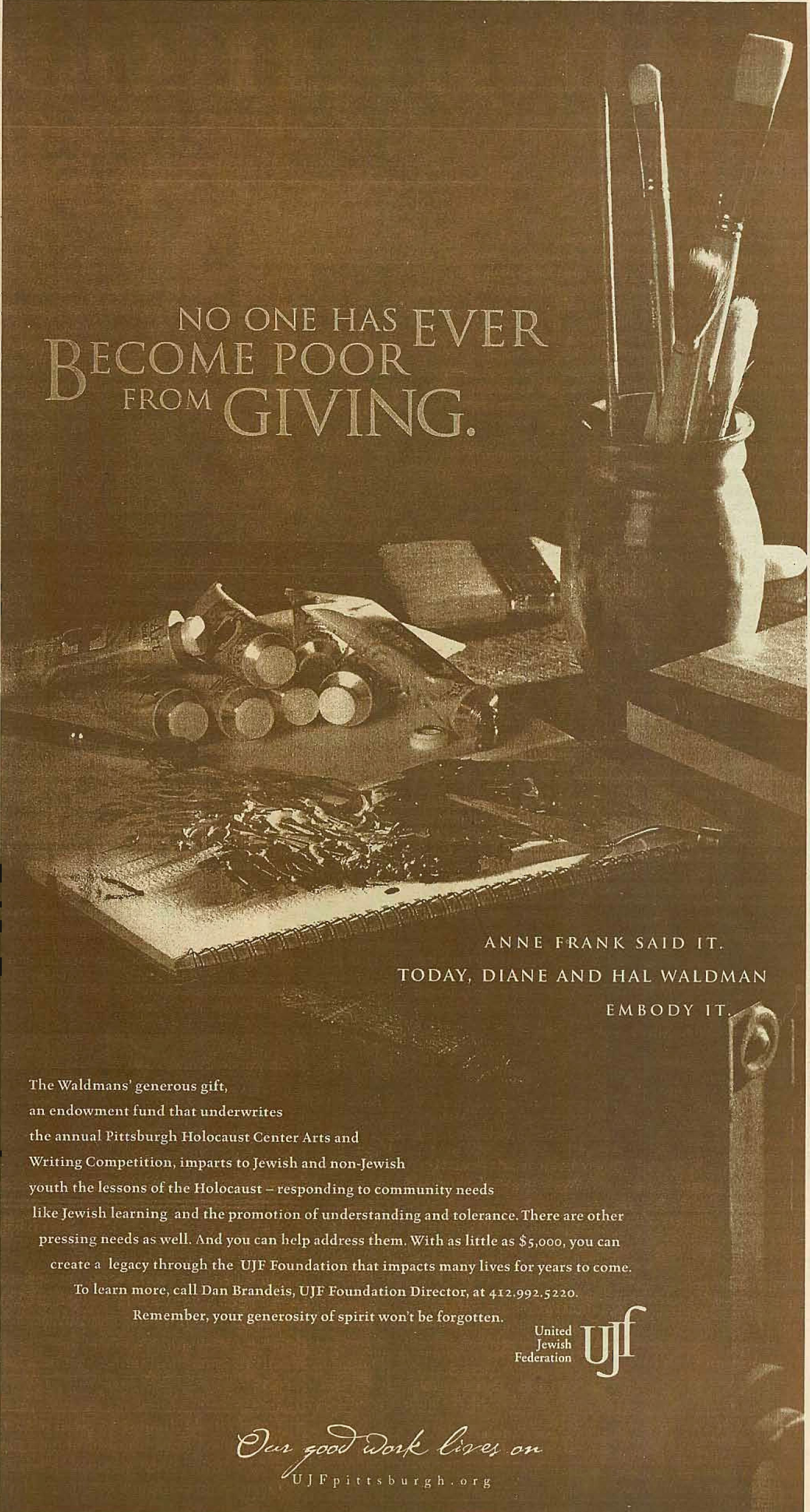
Jewish terrorism is a leading Israeli security concern, Israel's new Shin Bet chief said. "There are right-wing groups that are growing in strength and want to carry out a terrorist attack against the Temple Mount as well as against the prime minister. We are very worried by this," Yuval Diskin said Tuesday in his first briefing to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. He said the potential for Jew-on-Jew violence would increase as the mid-August date for Israeli withdrawals from the Gaza Strip and northern West Bank nears. Asked about the security service's arrest of five Israelis on suspicion of planning to attack Muslim shrines on the Temple Mount — a case apparently so weak that the detainees were released from custody — Diskin made no apologies. "We check and continue to check every report that reaches us regarding plans to attack the Temple Mount. This is no joke."

Israel's upcoming withdrawal from the Gaza Strip will boost tourism to the Jewish state, a Cabinet minister said. "When people talk about disengagement, they talk about a process that will bring calm to the area, not trauma," Tourism Minister Avraham Herschson told the Jerusalem Post on Tuesday. "So I don't think it will influence for the worse, but rather for the better." With right-wing anger mounting at the planned withdrawals from Gaza and the northern West Bank, slated to begin in mid-August, some officials fear tourists will be dissuaded. But Herschson said any public disorder would be fleeting and that tourism, on the rise since Israel and the Palestinian Authority declared a cease-fire in February, would continue to boom.

German and Israeli naval cadets toured Yad Vashem. During Tuesday's visit to Israel's Holocaust memorial, the cadets laid wreaths in honor of the 6 million Jews killed during the Holocaust. The German sailors have been docked in Haifa's port since last week.

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Nation

Israeli legislators hear views both for and against constitution

By Ron Kampeas

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — Members of a Knesset committee charged with coming up with a constitution for the Jewish state got some unexpected advice on a tour of the United States and Canada: Israel's checks and balances are coming along just fine.

Canvassing Canadian and American legislators, Supreme Court judges and top lawyers in both countries, they often heard the same message: Israel's current system, haphazard and jury-rigged as it is, has much that is praiseworthy.

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's first words to the group were, "I admire Israel and I admire Aharon Barak," its chief justice.

To be sure, the committee got plenty of advice anyway, particularly regarding how Israel leaves judicial appointments mostly to standing judges. Barak's activist role — he has advised legislators about pending legislation — was seen by some on this side of the ocean as untoward.

Still, the overall warm impressions of Israel's legal system raised questions about whether the constitutional project was necessary — or whether existing problems could be tweaked through conventional legislation.

It's precisely the role Barak and his Supreme Court have played in filling in

the gaps between Israel's Basic Laws — a body of laws that function as an interim constitution — that prodded the creation in the 1990s of a committee to establish whether Israel should formalize a constitution.

Israel's high court overturns legislation with greater frequency than its U.S. counterpart, and at times legislates in a way that U.S. courts would never consider.

In recent years, the high court overturned a legislative ban on the sale of pork, citing a basic law guaranteeing freedom of commerce. It also ordered the military to reroute Israel's West Bank security barrier.

Such interventions are admirable, said Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., who met with the group as the ranking member of the U.S. House of Representatives Judiciary Committee's constitution subcommittee.

"One thing that struck me was the ability of the Israeli Supreme Court to make rulings based on reasonableness," he said.

Regarding the security barrier, "A court in the United States would say it violates rights in constitutional ways and cannot be put there, or it would say it doesn't, or it would say the route of the fence is a political matter and not for the courts," Nadler said.

Instead, Israel's court delved into the



Photo courtesy of AJCongress

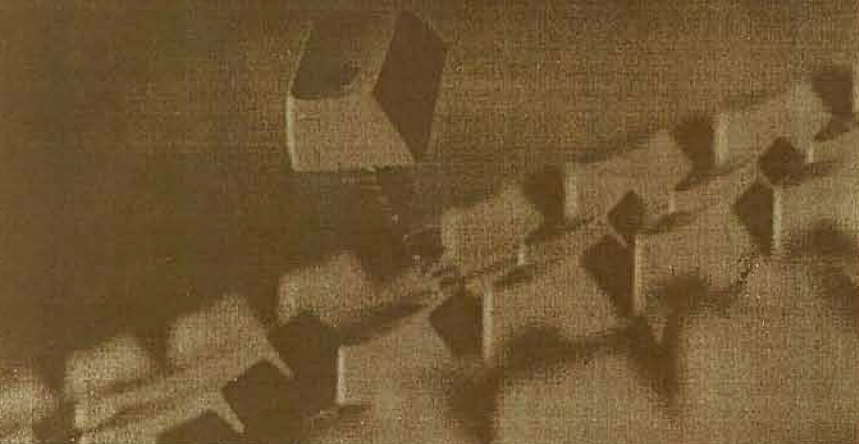
Taking part in a discussion about constitutions are, from left, Knesset member Yuli Edelstein, AJCongress board member Carol Handler, AJCongress President Paul Miller and Knesset member Eti Livni in New York on May 9.

issue and noted areas where it said Palestinian rights carry more weight than Israel's security needs.

Many Israelis and their political representatives embraced the idea of a constitution when it was first raised in the early

1990s, seeing it as a way to establish the outlines of how the Jewish state defines itself and as a way to tame a political system that seemed increasingly beholden to special interests.

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Agency for Jewish Learning

NATION

At its conference, AIPAC will try to keep focus on policy priorities

BY RON KAMPEAS AND
MATTHEW E. BERGER

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — Inside the massive Washington Convention Center, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice will be talking about the Gaza Strip withdrawal and the Iranian nuclear threat.

But in the hallways and the social gatherings of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee's annual policy conference next week, talk is likely to focus on the investigation into two former AIPAC staffers and the effect it could have on AIPAC's ability to lobby for Israel.

AIPAC will be tasked with keeping its members focused on the important issues facing Israel and maintaining support in Congress if the Gaza pullout, planned for this summer, goes awry. The effort to keep attention focused on Iran's presumed drive for nuclear weapons is also high on its agenda.

The organization is still perceived as a "behemoth," congressional officials say, and will be taken seriously when it meets May 22-24 — but a cloud will linger over the proceedings.

"You deal with them as you would normally deal with them," one congressional staffer said. He compared it to a friend who has a health problem: You don't talk about the problem, and you hope that it resolves itself quickly.

There are two traditional success markers to an AIPAC policy conference. One is a roll call of members of Congress, diplomats and administration officials attending the Monday night dinner — last year there were nearly 200, including more than 40 senators — and the other is a lobbying day Tuesday, when thousands of AIPAC members descend on Capitol Hill.

How many lawmakers turn up Monday night and how the lobbyists fare Tuesday will be closely watched by the organization, its supporters and its critics.

Some insiders, who asked not to be identified, say there may be apprehension about working with AIPAC because of the FBI probe.

"I think most members of Congress and staffers who are invited to meet with AIPAC constituents and go to the dinner will still go," a congressional aide said. "But I'm convinced, in the back of every-

body's mind, there is a kernel of concern and doubt that maybe we shouldn't be playing ball with AIPAC the way we always have."

AIPAC's problems stem from an FBI investigation into Lawrence Franklin, a Pentagon analyst arrested earlier this month and accused of verbally passing classified information to Steve Rosen, AIPAC's research director, and Keith Weissman, a top Iran analyst at AIPAC.

AIPAC fired both men last month, and Rosen associates tell JTA he expects to be indicted.

AIPAC officials claim they have been assured the probe is not targeting the organization or any other staffers.

"Nobody knows what the implications of this legal situation are," a congressional staffer said. "It could be a blip, and AIPAC has had blips before."

AIPAC has gone to great lengths to stress its bona fides, publicizing Rice, Sharon and other scheduled speakers, including leaders of both congressional chambers from both parties.

Sharon's presence is considered particularly significant. Israeli prime ministers rarely travel to the United States if they don't have an audience with the president. Sharon is expected to meet with the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations in New York before heading to Washington, but has planned no political meetings, a spokesman for the Israeli Embassy in Washington said.

Sharon also is expected to be welcomed in New York at a rally Sunday, a measure of American Jewish support for the disengagement plan.

"Prime Minister Sharon is coming to stand with the American pro-Israel community at a crucial moment in the history of the U.S.-Israel relationship," AIPAC spokesman Andrew Schwartz said.

AIPAC also is boasting about attendance at the conference, which is expected to top 5,000 people, including nearly 1,000 students. In an e-mail to reporters this week, a spokesman noted that 26,000 glatt kosher meals will be needed for the conference, including 125 gallons of hummus.

Such self-promotion is unusual for the organization, which generally feels it can be most effective if it keeps its achievements behind the scenes.

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Presentation by Dr. Ellen S. Cannon*



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* Dr. Cannon replaces Steve Emerson who is unable to attend.

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World

With Canadian aliyah on the rise, Nefesh B'Nefesh plane set to fly

By SUZANNE WINTROB
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

TORONTO — It used to be that so few people made aliyah from Canada that almost no one paid attention to them when tallying immigration totals from North America. But times are changing.

With a wave of Canadians preparing to move to Israel, Nefesh B'Nefesh, an organization that helps North American Jews make aliyah, has chartered an airplane to help take them to the Jewish state.

This summer a plane will leave Toronto for Israel with more than 250 new immigrants. They will represent a cross section of the Canadian Jewish community, including single people and families, college students and seniors, observant and secular Jews.

The Canadian plane is one of at least seven immigrant flights scheduled to leave North America during 2005. Another plane-load may leave from Toronto in December.

"It's a breakthrough, milestone event in Canadian Jewish history," said Nefesh B'Nefesh spokesperson Charley Levine, who is based in Jerusalem. "Up until now, as with certain other things in life, Canadian aliyah has always been an afterthought or a postscript to what's going on in the United States. It's always, 'These are the numbers. Oh yeah, plus Canada.'"

"We see the summer of 2005 as being a



David Karp photo

Kids from North American families play at JFK International Airport while they wait for their flight to Israel, sponsored by Nefesh B'Nefesh and the Jewish Agency for Israel.

real watermark where that's going to change," he added.

According to the Jewish Agency for Israel's Toronto-based Israel Aliyah Center, which caters to Canadians and pushed for the Toronto flight, 3,000 people made aliyah from North America in 2004. Of them, 10

percent — or 312 people — came from Canada.

That's a significant number, given that "there are only 300,000 Canadian Jews, vs. 5 million American Jews," said Dina Gidron, the center's regional director for central and western Canada.

It's expected that more than 400 Canadians will move to Israel by the end of 2005. Of Canadians making aliyah, two-thirds usually come from Toronto and another 30 percent from Montreal.

Gidron attributes the rising Canadian aliyah to birthright Israel, the free, 10-day Israel trip that was made available to young Canadian adults several years ago. Many who go on birthright get "bitten by the Israel bug" and consider moving there, Gidron says.

Another factor influencing aliyah is the Israeli government's offer of free college tuition for up to three years. In addition, the aliyah figures include some people whose parents moved away from Israel, but who are now returning to their roots.

Nefesh B'Nefesh, which began in 2002, has made it easier for North Americans to make aliyah: The organization provides new olim with financial assistance, employment resources, social services and guidance through the bureaucratic maze.

The group helps to "knock down red tape, knock down bureaucracy and make lower hurdles for any North American Jew who wants to come on aliyah," as Levine puts it.

Amir and Nicole Bem and their four young children plan to be on this summer's flight from Canada. The Bems, who live in Toronto and run several Internet portals related to women's health issues, are moving to Ra'anana.

They can't wait to get there.

"We feel that Israel can provide a stronger Jewish foundation for our children," said Amir Bem, 42. "There is an inexplicable, deep sense of meaning to life in Israel if you are a practicing Jew."

"We are excited to be living in a place where every child, from secular to religious, runs around excitedly in costumes on Purim and not on Halloween, and where the streets are hushed on Yom Kippur," he said.

Bem, who trekked through the Himalayas and across Southeast Asia with his wife before they became parents, says he also welcomes Israelis' focus on children and family.

He said he and his wife chose Ra'anana for several reasons: The many English speakers there will help reduce the anticipated culture shock, the weather is great and the beach is close by.

Immigrants from North America can have a positive impact on the Jewish state, he said.

"North Americans will exert some cultural influence in Israel with respect to such things as higher standards of customer service, a greater level of civility and maybe even improved driving etiquette," Bem said.

Genny Van Der Elst of Vancouver Island, B.C., also hopes to be on the Nefesh B'Nefesh flight this summer. Van Der Elst, 24, who comes from a traditional Jewish family, has taught English in Korea and danced at a ballet school in Belgium.

Her first trip to Israel was in 2003, with birthright. She later returned to Israel on her own, spending six months in Haifa as an assistant with Magen David Adom. It wasn't until she returned to Canada after that experience that Van Der Elst realized she now considered Israel home.

She plans to learn Hebrew through an Ulpan program in Jerusalem, then wants to study at university and work with orphans.

"There are difficulties there and different struggles," Van Der Elst said. There's a "language barrier and so many different things that you don't have over here in Canada. But there is a sense of accomplishment that you have as a Jew when you're there."

Levine of Nefesh B'Nefesh thinks Canadian aliyah is about to enter its second phase. The first began at Israel's birth, and the second, he said, is starting this summer with the flight from Toronto.

This new wave of immigration "represents a much higher awareness and enthusiasm" than organizations like his have seen until now, he said.

"There's no better way to build a bridge between Israel and Canada than through this wonderful kind of newcomer who has so much to contribute in terms of education, contribution to the economy and contribution to the democratic values," Levine adds. "And if you're talking multiculturalism, Israel is the mother of all multiculturalism. The Canadian experience with that will resonate in Israel and have a wonderful role to play here."

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WORLD

Briefly

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

Israel's Foreign Ministry is investigating the country's ambassador to Hungary. According to a report filed by ministry logistics officer Amikam Levi, David Admon spends much of his time cultivating ties with local business people in order to get involved in private real estate ventures and other local business enterprises. The report also says Admon has limited knowledge of Hungarian and English, and that the embassy spent as much as \$100,000 on an Independence Day party. The report is based on testimony by embassy employees. In an interview Monday with Israeli Radio, Admon denied the allegations against him and said that they are a part of a larger fight within the ministry, and noted that Hungarian is his mother tongue.

An appearance by a Brazilian soccer star in Israel ended early after he was mobbed by fans. Ronaldo was escorted out of a side entrance in a Herzliya stadium after fans and media pressed to get closer to him, Ha'aretz reported. A visit earlier in the day in the West Bank city of Ramallah was more orderly, the paper reported. Ronaldo is visiting the region as a goodwill ambassador.

Fifty percent of Berliners want to see Germany's new Holocaust memorial, according to a new survey. According to the poll, another 24 percent of Berliners hadn't decided if they would visit the memorial, and 26 percent said they would not. The memorial opened to the public on May 12. While interest was virtually identical between former resi-

dents of East and West Berlin, there was greater interest among those younger than 30. The Forsa polling institute conducted the survey of 1,005 Berliners for the Berliner Zeitung newspaper between May 9-12.

The UJA Federation of Greater Toronto officially broke ground Sunday on a 50-acre state-of-the-art community development. The nearly \$79 million Joseph and Wolf Lebovic Jewish Community Campus, which will take five years to complete, will feature a diverse range of family and social services as well as fitness, sports and health programs. It also will house a number of cultural agencies plus facilities for child care, camping, conferences and meetings. Also included will be a new campus for the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto and up to four new elementary schools, which UJA says will make the Lebovic site the world's largest Jewish day school outside of Israel. The school is scheduled to open in September 2006. The development was made possible through gifts from private donors, particularly a gift from brothers Joseph and Wolf Lebovic.

Jews are the world's oldest population, a new study found. According to data released Tuesday by the Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute, around 16 percent of Jews in Israel and the Diaspora are over 65, more than twice the average proportion of elderly worldwide. The Jerusalem Post quoted one of the study's editors as citing the tendency of younger Jews to assimilate or have fewer children. Another possible factor is the relative affluence of Jews in most parts of the world, meaning that more survive into old age.

THIS WEEK

SUN 15 MAY

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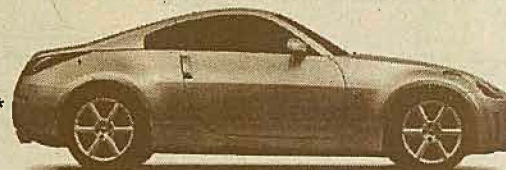
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As withdrawal approaches, Labor faces key party leadership ballot

By LESLIE SUSSER

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — After a new membership drive that almost tripled its ranks, Israel's Labor Party is gearing up for a crucial leadership race that will decide its ideological direction for the next few years — and, to a large extent, whether it can mount a serious challenge for national power.

The outcome of the Labor leadership primary, set for June 28, also could determine how long Labor remains in Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's coalition government. Most candidates are bent on leaving the government right after the planned withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and the northern West Bank this summer, but incumbent party leader Shimon Peres, who at 81 is still the front-runner, is prepared to remain in the coalition indefinitely.

Some Labor candidates are seeking a brief postponement of the vote to give them more time to garner support, but a delay of a few weeks or even months will not change the big picture: Labor and Likud, now in a coalition, soon will be working against each other in the run-up to national elections scheduled for November 2006 but widely expected to take place at least five months earlier.

Even with Peres at the helm, Labor is unlikely to allow next year's national budget to pass, triggering elections by June 2006 at the latest, many observers believe.

The five Labor leadership candidates are former prime ministers Peres and Ehud Barak; Histadrut labor federation boss Amir Peretz; Benjamin Ben-Eliezer, a former defense minister and party chairman; and Matan Vilnai, a minister without portfolio and the army's former



Shimon Peres

deputy chief of staff.

Peres, the most popular and experienced of the candidates, is least likely to make radical ideological or structural changes. Polls show that he fares the best of any candidate in a race against Sharon's Likud, raising Labor's projected total in the Knesset from its current 21 seats to at least 25.

But Peres has a "loser" image when it comes to national elections — he has lost four times — and many of Labor's younger generation suggest that it's time for sweeping changes to make the party more relevant.

Paradoxically, though, Peres still could win support from would-be reformers who might see him as a stopgap candidate for perhaps a year or two. After that, one of them — perhaps Interior Minister Ophir Pines-Paz — could be ready to challenge him for the party leadership.

Barak, 63, says Labor needs a tough



Ehud Barak

leader able to stand up to Sharon, the Likud and the Arabs, and that he is that man. Over the past few months he has been trying to cultivate the strongman image, grabbing a microphone at a Labor Party meeting and more recently using tough, unparliamentary language to slam Sharon and his sons.

But no one rouses as much antagonism as Barak inside Labor: Many party members resent him for his inability to admit mistakes, for his cavalier treatment of people close to him, and most of all, for his failure to deliver when he served as prime minister from 1999 to 2001.

Peretz, 53, is deliberately targeting Barak. If the former prime minister is returned as Labor's head, there would be little difference between Labor and Likud, says Peretz, arguing that Barak is as conservative on economic policy as Finance Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Likud.

For Labor to be relevant, the party must

become a true social democratic party, caring for the poor and committed to a fairer distribution of wealth, Peretz says.

Peretz claims that polls he has conducted show that the large Sephardi working class no longer sees Likud as its automatic political home. With Sephardi working-class credentials of his own, Peretz says he's the man to remake Israeli politics by bringing masses of disgruntled Likudniks over to Labor.

Vilnai, 62, son of a renowned Israeli geographer, has a reputation for straight talk and integrity. He was virtually alone in pushing for leadership primaries and was able to bring the party around to his position.

Vilnai is a bluff, honest soldier in the Yitzhak Rabin mold, with the same heavy delivery as Rabin but without the late prime minister's analytical brilliance. Vilnai has surveys showing that Labor under his leadership would win almost as many seats as under Peres.

Ben-Eliezer, 69, is considered as hawkish as Barak on the peace process, with Vilnai in the center and Peres and Peretz more dovish. Trailing badly in early polls, Ben-Eliezer says he'll nevertheless be the surprise in the leadership race.

And well he might be: In the membership drive that closed Sunday, Ben-Eliezer brought in 36,000 new members, 8,000 more than Peretz and more than twice as many as Peres, Barak and Vilnai.

Moreover, polls that show Peres in the lead, followed by Vilnai, Barak, Peretz and Ben-Eliezer, were conducted among the old party membership of 48,000. Critics say that only surveys of the 130,000 or so newly recruited members will give an accurate reflection of the balance of power in the party.

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METRO

Competing for Israel



UJF photo
Ohav Shalom students
compete in Sunday's
Israel Competition at
the JCC.

100 students participate in Israel competition

More than 100 5th and 6th grade students from seven synagogue schools participated in a communitywide Israel Competition on Sunday at the Jewish Community Center in Squirrel Hill.

The competition, sponsored by the Agency for Jewish Learning and the United Jewish Federation and funded through the i-connect project of the North American Coalition for Israel Engagement, involved the students participating in a variety of events testing their knowledge of Israel.

Yareden and Tamara Tenenboim, the community's Young Shlichim, developed the program and worked closely with the synagogue schools to prepare for the event. The competition involved a multimedia format and all the schools received a study guide in advance.

The Young Schlichim program is designed to provide greater informal Israel education services to synagogue schools, with a special emphasis on work within the suburban communities.

The synagogue schools that participated in Sunday's competition were Adat Shalom, Beth El Congregation, Congregation Beth Shalom, Dor Hadash, Temple Ohav Shalom, Temple Emanuel and Tree of Life Congregation.

Students from Beth El won first place in the competition with each receiving a \$200 State of Israel Bond. The student winners were Emily Mostow, Hannah Seigel, and Lauren Ungar.

Students from Dor Hadash won second place, each receiving a \$100 State of Israel Bond. The winners were Aaron Budd, Tal Kroger, and Elan Rosenfeld.

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Wednesday, June 22, 2005**

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- Attend lecture and Q&A from a high-ranking Government Official
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Style

Listen to the music Jewish Music Festival a Sephardic celebration

By LEE CHOTTINER
Executive Editor

When it comes to Jewish music, the second annual Pittsburgh Jewish Music Festival is out to prove that it isn't all about Yiddish.

This year's festival, titled "A Sephardic Celebration," is devoted to the music of Sephardic Jews, bringing a taste of Ladino to a Jewish community that is overwhelmingly Ashkenazic.

But Aron Zelkowitz isn't concerned.

"I think they'll love it," said Zelkowitz, director of the music festival.

"The theme of Sephardic music makes the festival unique, and the music festival was founded with the intention of bringing music off the beaten path of Jewish music to Pittsburgh audiences."

As a genre, Sephardic music is hard to pin down. While the texts of the songs date back to 15th century Spain and Portugal, the music has



Shira Adler

been influenced by countries all around the Mediterranean Sea.

"Sephardic can be considered Ladino songs," Zelkowitz said. "It can be considered Yemenite music; it can be considered any of the music from the Jewish communities in Greece and Turkey (the Ottoman Empire). It's a very general category."

Even today Sephardic music is taking on new forms; some can be classified as baroque, or chamber music; others, rock or jazz.

Zelkowitz played off that diversity in planning this year's festival. There are four concerts this year.

"An Evening with Chatham Baroque and Brio" on May 25 features soprano Anna Levenstein. "Ladino Love Songs" on June 1 has soprano Katherine Soroka and members of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. "Showcase Night" on June 2 introduces the Sarah Aroeste band. The New York group plays traditional

Sephardic Ladino music laced with rock and blues.

"Sephardic Suites," on June 7 has soprano Shira Adler, a soloist at Tree of Life Congregation, singing Sephardic songs. She will be accompanied by a full orchestra led by conductor Lucas Richman.

"You'll never hear the same version twice," Zelkowitz said of the concerts, which will be staged at Rodef Shalom Congregation, the Jewish Community

the June-7 finale.

Though he grew up in Israel listening to Yemenite music in his grandfather's synagogue and incorporated elements of the music in his earlier work, this 12-minute piece for cello and orchestra marks the first time he's actually quoted from Yemenite songs; in this case, one song about a princess waiting aboard a ship for her wedding (the princess is a metaphor for the Sabbath), the other about a beautiful city — Jerusalem.

He plans to incorporate one traditional Yemenite instrument — a tin drum — into the arrangement.

"I spent my childhood with these old timers in the synagogues gathering the music," Leibovich said. "Only now do I realize how rich was the musical heritage. I learned how to read the Bible in the Yemenite tradition, learned the song; it's part of me, and now it comes out."

(Lee Chottiner can be reached online at lchottiner@pittchron.com.)



Sarah Aroeste

Center and Club Café on the South Side.

The highlight of this year's festival may be a composition by Pittsburgh composer Nizan Leibovich. Commissioned by the festival, the piece — "a serious, complex work for full orchestra" as Zelkowitz described it — is making its world premiere at the festival.

Leibovich, who is half-Yemenite, titled his piece "Saperi" ("tell me," in Hebrew) and he dedicated it to his 2-year-old daughter, Amital. It will be performed at



Nizan Leibovich

Cool Jews

BY ANGELA LEIBOWICZ

Name: Levi Tewner

Occupation: Auto mechanic

Favorite quote: "A lot of guys who should go into it (auto mechanics) are smart enough not to go into it. It's hard work. At the end of the day, I enjoy hard work. I really like getting the problem cars that no one else can fix."

Imagine doing your job all day long, coming home and then choosing to spend time reading about your field.

Lawrence "Levi" Tewner does just that. He is an auto mechanic at Auto Palace, the exotic car dealership in Oakland. He also visits a friend's shop in Bridgeville

twice a week to work on race cars, including vintage British cars.

He took the winding path to his profession. Tewner spent his first two years in Kew Gardens Hills in Queens, N.Y., and then his family moved to Harrisburg. He attended day school there and then went to the Yeshiva High School of Greater Washington. He attended the University of Pittsburgh for engineering but ended up graduating from Yeshiva University with a pre-engineering degree.

Tewner said he started learning about business and finance, both in office work and in college classes. He also had the ul-

timate internship: three summers with PennDOT. Each year was different: There was the roadway survey program, traveling all day and writing down road conditions; next year, he was dropped off daily at a construction site in Middletown, Pa., where he observed contractors so that they could be paid; finally, he observed line-painting sub-contracting crews to make sure lines were painted to specifications contained in a thick book. What big kid wouldn't like riding on a line-painting truck?

"When I went to high school, my dad gave me my grandfather's 1967 Oldsmobile — it was in pretty good shape. I just enjoyed driving that old car. I had to work on it to keep it running. The more I worked on it, the more I enjoyed working on it, and the more I read about cars."

Tewner is mostly a self-taught mechanic, reading technical books and magazines. Making the jump from theoretically fixing cars to actually doing it started

when he went to work at a Volvo dealership. "I learn very quickly and I always learn hands on," he said.

Tewner, 27, and his wife Sarah are expecting their first child at the end of June. Her husband comes home excited about what he does, Sarah said, and people's eyes light up when they hear he is a mechanic.

But Tewner takes the interest in stride. "I'll come home and then start reading a book on race cars or a technical book on cars," he said.

Porsche, Ferrari, Lamborghini — these are the cars Tewner now works on. Porsches are hard to work on, he said, but with Ferrari and Lamborghini, it sometimes feels like banging your head against the wall. Ferraris are built by hand, each one constructed differently.

"Italians have their own very unique way of building cars," he said. But he added, "I enjoy it because every day is a challenge."



Levi Tewner

Liz Berlin releases CD; raises roof at Parkway

By LEE CHOTTINER
Executive Editor

To say rock concerts are rarely used to raise money for Pittsburgh area synagogues would be an understatement.

Yet Liz Berlin, a member of the Pittsburgh rock band Rusted Root, is doing just that. She will hold a release party on May 21 for her new solo CD, "AudioBioGraphical," while raising money for her father's synagogue in the process.

The daughter of Cantor Richard Berlin, spiritual leader of the Parkway Jewish Center in Monroeville, Berlin will launch her new self-produced CD at Mr. Small's Funhouse & Theatre, 400 Lincoln Ave., Millvale.

While the doors open at 7 p.m., Berlin is planning a VIP Cabaret to benefit Parkway Jewish Center that starts at 6 p.m. that same evening and includes autographed copies of the new CD, a wine tasting and a special Cellofourte set featuring Berlin.

The proceeds that go to Parkway will be used for roof repairs at the synagogue.

For Berlin, who is a member of the congregation, combining the CD release with a fund-raising effort seemed like a natural fit.

"I was planning this anyway because I just released my new album," Berlin said. "I had the event all planned and then my mother approached and asked me if I

could work something out as far as a benefit.

"It's a relatively small congregation and there are some things that need to be maintained," she continued, "specifically the roof since there's not a fund yet for the roof."

The roof project is a high priority for the congregation, Cantor Berlin said.

"We're in very great need of repairing our roof," he said, "and since we plan on being around for some time, we want to make sure it stops raining inside."

Once the work is done, Cantor Berlin said the congregation can offer new services at the synagogue.

Parkway is trying to raise \$20,000 to \$25,000, Cantor Berlin said.

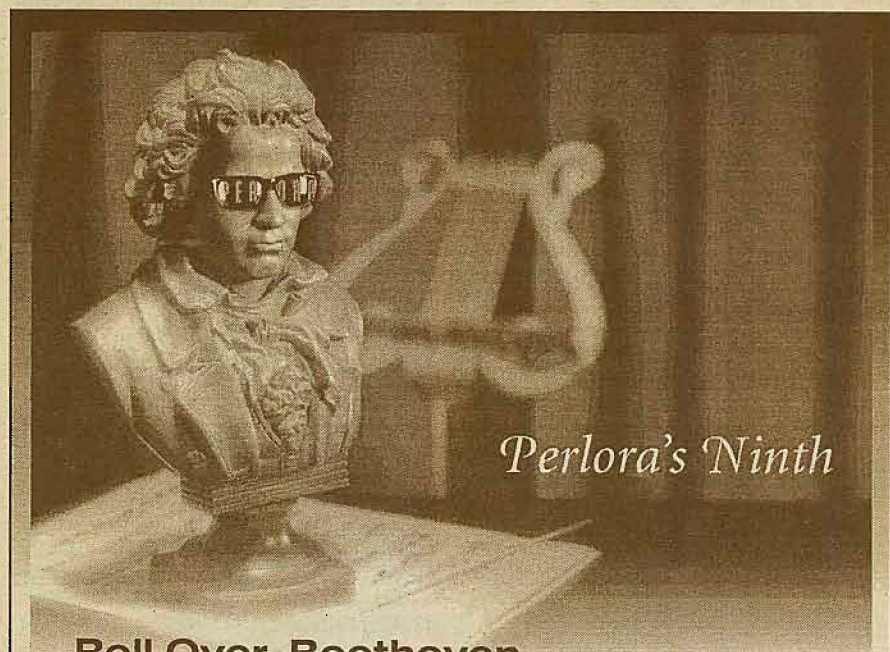
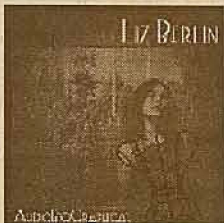
The cabaret will have an eclectic mix of music, Liz Berlin said, including a cello quartet that plays Metallica as well as classical. "They even have the Israeli national anthem in their repertoire, I believe," Berlin said.

Her sister, vocalist Katie Kelly, also will perform at the main party that evening. Cantor Berlin may sing a little, too.

"There's always the chance," he said.

Liz Berlin, a partner in Mr. Small's, said the cabaret show will probably be the first of many at the theater over the next few years.

(Lee Chottiner can be reached online at lechottiner@pittchron.com.)



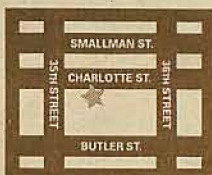
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'Buried by The Times' explores shameful hour of Old Gray Lady

BY JONATHAN POTTS
For The Chronicle

Recently I talked to a dean at the university where I work about the success of a professor's new book, which has been favorably reviewed in several major newspapers and magazines. "But not in The New York Times," the dean said, slightly disappointed.

Despite the waning influence of the traditional media and the scandals the Times has endured, the Old Gray Lady continues to sit at the pinnacle of American journalism and remains the gatekeeper for the mainstream media. Imagine, then, the Olympian influence the paper wielded during the 1930s and '40s. The Times was the nation's unchallenged paper of record, particularly admired for its coverage of foreign affairs, explains Laurel Leff in "Buried by The Times: The Holocaust and America's Most Important Newspaper."

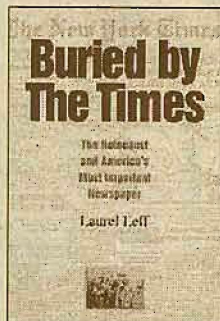
Leff's book chronicles how the Times, despite overwhelming evidence, consistently downplayed the story of the Nazis' persecution and extermination of European Jews. The book is meticulously documented, leavened by Leff's wry prose,

Book Review

"Buried by The Times: The Holocaust and America's Most Important Newspaper," by Laurel Leff, Cambridge University Press 2005.

tracing the Times' coverage of the Holocaust from Hitler's rise to power in 1933 through the end of the war 12 years later.

The evidence is irrefutable.



Only 26 times did stories about the Holocaust make the Times' front page. Stories about the plight of the Jews were buried deep inside the paper, and often Jews were portrayed as one group of victims among many; the singular fate

that befell them was overlooked.

Several factors were to blame, some endemic to objective journalism. Leff writes that "Because the press corps defined news largely as what the government said or did, the fact that the U.S. government said or did little about European Jews meant their plight was not important news." Leff notes, however, that the government used the press to gauge public opinion, and that The New York Times was in a position to influence not only other papers but government policy as well.

Other problems were specific to the Times, and Leff points much of the blame at its publisher, Arthur Hays Sulzberger. He was Jewish, but assimilation was his true religion, Leff writes. He was a follower of Isaac Wise, his wife's grandfather and the father of classical Reform Judaism. Wise preached that after the destruction of the Second Temple "the Jews ceased to be a nation and become solely adherents of a religion."

A zealous anti-Zionist, it offended Sulzberger's sensibilities that Jews would

behave in concert as a minority group. To do so, he believed, was to give credence to anti-Semitism. He took great pains to ensure the Times would not be perceived as a Jewish newspaper, and the men who worked for him took his desires to heart.

Thus it came to be that the nation's most powerful newspaper, venerated for its coverage of world affairs, owned by

Jews and with a large Jewish audience, stood silent in the face of the murder of 6 million Jews. Six million people, as Arthur Hays Sulzberger would have preferred to say.

(Jonathan Potts can be reached online at pottsje@comcast.net.)

'Soldiers and Slaves' casts light on forgotten chapter of WWII

BY JASON TOGYER
For The Chronicle

More than 60 years after V-E Day, it seems almost unfathomable that new information about the inhumanity of the Holocaust continues to come to light. Yet perhaps it speaks to the magnitude of the atrocities that historians are still uncovering the secrets buried in the mountains of Europe.

As recounted by Roger Cohen in his new book, "Soldiers and Slaves," the shameful secret of Berga, Germany, was buried both for reasons of political expediency and because of the Cold War. In this picturesque village on the Elster River, dozens of American prisoners of war died as slaves in a coal mine that the Germans knew would never contribute to the war effort.

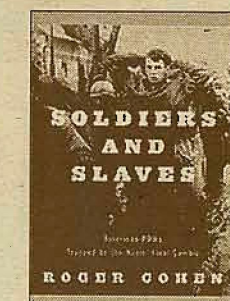
As the Allies bombed German oil refineries in 1944, Nazi scientists made a last-ditch effort to convert coal into a substitute fuel for airplanes and tanks. The grim efficiency of their "final solution" had left them with few concentration camp prisoners strong enough to work in a coal mine, so in February 1945, 350 American POWs were conscripted instead.

Some of the GIs were shipped to Berga because they were Jews; for others, merely "looking Jewish" was enough. Eastern European Jews were sent to Berga as well, and as Cohen writes, they were astonished and disheartened to find

the Americans — whom they expected to soon greet as liberators — being worked to death alongside them.

Book Review


"Soldiers & Slaves," by Roger Cohen, Alfred A. Knopf, New York 2005.



There are tales of great courage in "Soldiers and Slaves" — Germans who defied the Nazis, Americans who escaped their captors — but more pervasive is a sense of hopelessness. By the time the Americans arrived at Berga, most Germans knew the war was lost, and that finishing the mine was futile. Yet Berga's commanders continued to treat their prisoners with appalling cruelty; orders were orders, even if they had been issued by a dying regime. When the surviving POWs were rescued after V-E Day, they expected their tormentors to be punished. But American military prosecutors didn't want folks back home to know how badly these GIs had been treated — they needed public support for Germany's reconstruction, after all — and they downplayed reports of abuse. Besides, since Berga ended up in the Soviet-occupied part of Germany, the evidence was under the control of Communist officials who had little interest in helping American soldiers receive justice.

Cohen's book, inspired in part by a public television documentary, suffers at a few points early on from what could be considered overwrought prose. Still, Cohen can probably be forgiven a few flights into melodrama; in "Soldiers and Slaves," he's made a worthy contribution to our understanding of the Holocaust by creating both an excellent piece of scholarship and a deeply moving narrative.

(Jason Togyer can be reached online at jt3y@lycos.com.)



MOVIE TIMES

May 20th thru May 26th, 2005

CINEMAGIC

Manor - 412-422-7729 DOLBY DIGITAL (C) = Sat., Sun.
**Head On* (NR) (1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 9:55; **Watermarks* (NR) (1:25, 3:25, 5:35, 7:25, 9:25; *The Interpreter* (PG-13) (12:55, 3:10, 5:25, 7:45, 10:00; *Paper Clips* (G) (1:20, 3:20) 5:20, 7:20, 9:20.
Squirrel Hill - 412-421-7900 DOLBY DIGITAL \$4.50 All Shows Before 6 p.m. (C) = Sat., Sun.
**Star Wars: Revenge of the Sith* (PG-13) (12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00; *Crash* (R) (12:40, 2:50, 5:10, 7:25, 9:20; **Kicking and Screaming* (PG) (1:05, 3:00, 5:20, 7:15, 9:15; **Monster In Law* (PG-13) (1:00, 2:45, 5:00, 7:10, 9:10; *Kingdom of Heaven* (R) (12:45, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40; **Enron: The Smartest Guys In The Room* (NR) (12:50, 3:00, 5:45, 7:30, 9:45.

PGH. FILMMAKERS 412-682-4111

Regent Square Theatre - 1035 S. Braddock Ave.
The Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill Fri. 7:00, 9:00; Sat. 5:00, 7:00, 9:00; Sun. 3:00, 5:00; Mon. - Thu. 8:00; *Grand Illusion* Sun. 7:30.
Harris Theatre - 809 Liberty Ave.
Steamboy Fri. - Sat. 7:00, 9:15; Sun. 2:00, 4:15; *Born into Brothels* Mon.-Tue. 5:30, Wed.-Thu. 5:30, 7:30.
Melwood S.R. - 477 Melwood Ave.
Up and Down Fri.-Sat. 8:00, Sun. 3:00, Mon.-Thu. 8:00.

CARMIKE

Carmike 10 - 700 S. Hills Village 412-835-7700 (C)=Fri., Sat.
Star Wars Episode III (PG-13) DTS/Dolby/THX 12:00, 12:20, 12:45, 1:15, 1:45, 3:00, 3:30, 3:50, 4:20, 4:45, 6:00, 6:40, 7:00, 7:25, 7:45, 9:00, 9:45, 10:00, (10:45, 12:00); *Mindhunters* (R) DTS 12:30, 2:55, 5:20, 7:45, 10:10; *Unleashed* (R) Dolby/THX 1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30; *House of Wax* (R) Dolby 1:45, 4:30, 7:05, 9:40; *Crash* (R) DTS 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50; *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* (PG) DTS 12:35, 2:55, 5:15, 7:35, 9:55.
Galleria 6 - Rt. 19 Mt. Lebanon 412-531-5551
The Interpreter (PG-13) DTS 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45; *Kicking and Screaming* (PG) DTS 12:30, 1:00, 2:45, 3:15, 5:00, 5:30, 7:15, 7:45, 9:30, 9:55; *Monster In Law* (PG-13) DTS 12:45, 1:15, 3:05, 3:35, 5:25, 5:55, 7:45, 8:15, 10:05; *Kingdom of Heaven* (R) DTS 1:30, 4:45, 8:00.
Movies and showtimes subject to change. Please call theatre.

WATERWORKS FOX CHAPEL 412-784-1406

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**Star Wars: Episode III* (PG-13) 11:00, 11:30, 12:00, 1:50, 2:20, 3:00, 4:40, 5:10, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 10:15; *Come Away Home* (PG) 11:20, 1:35, 4:20, 7:20, 9:35; *Kicking and Screaming* (PG) 11:15, 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15; *Monster-In-Law* (PG-13) 11:10, 12:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:50, 10:00; *Unleashed* (R) 11:15, 1:25, 3:35, 5:45, 7:55, 10:05; *Kingdom of Heaven* (R) 12:45, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00; *Crash* (R) 11:20, 1:35, 3:45, 5:50, 7:55, 10:10; *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* (PG) 2:50, 7:20; *House of Wax* (R) 11:40; *The Interpreter* (PG-13) 9:40.

SOUTHSIDE WORKS CINEMA 412-381-7335

Times for Mon. & Tue. only; (C) = Fri., Sat., Sun. only
Come Away Home (PG) 1:15, 3:20, 5:20, 7:25, 9:20; *Star Wars: Episode III* (PG-13) 12:30, 1:00, 3:30, 4:00, 7:00, 7:30, 10:00, 10:30; *Kicking and Screaming* (PG) 12:45, 3:10, 5:05, 7:05, 9:05; *Monster-In-Law* (PG-13) 1:05, 3:05, 5:30, 7:35, 9:50; *Unleashed* (R) 12:50, 3:00, 5:15, 7:20, 9:40; *Crash* (R) 1:00, 3:15, 5:25, 7:30, 9:35; *Kingdom of Heaven* (R) 1:20, 4:10, 7:45; *The Interpreter* (PG-13) 12:55, 7:50; *House of Wax* (R) 3:25, 5:40, 10:20; *Millions* (PG) 1:25, 3:30, 5:35; *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* (PG) 7:40, 10:05.

Please Note Times in (C) Parentheses Are for Friday and Saturday only, unless otherwise noted.
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Simchas

Engagements



Gordon/Solin: Barbara and Arthur Solin announce the engagement of their son, David, to Stacy Gordon, daughter of Myrna and Jerry Gordon of Rockville, Md.

Stacy is a nurse practitioner at the National Institute of Health.

An April 2006 wedding is planned in Maryland.

Krupp/Steinfeld: Mr. and Mrs. Alan D. Krupp, formerly of Pittsburgh, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Mindy Krupp, to Hank Steinfeld of Hollywood, Md.

Mindy has a master's degree in social work and is a program director in therapeutic foster care.

Hank is an aeronautics engineer in program management for the Navy in testing and evaluation.

An October wedding is planned.

Weddings



Amanna/Reis: Jenny Antoinette Amanna and Ari Benjamin Reis were married on Sunday, Dec. 26, 2004, in Fairfax, Va. Jenny's parents are Ellise and James Amanna of Fairfax, Va. Ari's parents are Saralouise Reis of Pittsburgh and the late Rabbi Paul S. Reis.

Jenny studied at University of Massachusetts and works in real estate.

Ari has a bachelor's degree from Michigan State University and is completing his master's degree from Hebrew College in Boston. He will be director of education for Congregation Beth Judah in Ventnor City, N.J.

The couple will reside in New Jersey.

Adoptions/Births

Boersma: Michele and John Boersma of Carroll, Ohio, announce the birth of their twin sons, Joseph Paul and Samuel John, on March 25. Grandparents are Betty and Ira Weiss of Pittsburgh; Betty and Robert Boersma of Marietta, Ohio; the late Dorothy Boersma; and Rima and Howard Singer of La Jolla,

Calif. Great-grandparents are Rosalyn Serrins and the late Isaac Serrins, the late Dorothy and Sherman Weiss and the late Rita and Joseph Singer, all of Pittsburgh. Big brother is Isaac Robert Boersma.

Joseph Paul is named in loving memory of his maternal great-grandfather, Joseph Singer; and his paternal aunt, Peggy Hadley.

Samuel John is named in loving memory of his great-grandfather Sherman Weiss; and in honor of his father.

Kaplan: Laura Adelson Kaplan and Stuart R. Kaplan announce the birth of their son, Nathan Max Kaplan, on April 29. Grandparents are Ruth and Jack Adelson of Pittsburgh and Grace and the late Abraham Kaplan of Philadelphia. He is the brother of Abraham Kaplan.

Nathan is named in loving memory of his great-grandmother, Naomi Morris; and his great-uncle, Max Kaplan.

Marcuson: Paul and Sharyn Marcuson of Portland, Ore., announce the adoption of their daughter, Joy Adele Jiangxi Marcuson. Joy was adopted in China on April 4. Grandparents are Yale and Barbara Rosenstein of Squirrel Hill and William and Gertrude Marcuson of Shadyside.

Joy is named in loving memory of her maternal great-grandmother, Adele Freed.

Stern: Dr. and Mrs. James D. Stern of Hollywood, Fla., announce the birth of their son, Jacob Arnold Stern, on Feb. 27. Grandparents are Mrs. Arnold Stern and the late Dr. Stern of Boca Raton, Fla., formerly of Greensburg; and Dr. and Mrs. Fred Dweck of Hollywood, Fla.

Jacob Arnold is named in loving memory of his grandfather, Dr. Arnold Stern.

Weisfield: Jodi and Andrew Weisfield of Cincinnati, formerly of Pittsburgh, announce the birth of their son, David Henry, on April 21. Grandparents are Holly and Burt Wald of Squirrel Hill and Cynthia and Michael Weisfield of Mt. Lebanon. Great-grandparents are Minna and Erwin Pearl of Chevy Chase, Md.; the late Geraldine and David Wald of Pittsburgh; Dorothy Sfarti and the late Julius Sfarti of North Miami Beach; and the late Pearl and Herbert Weisfield of Silver Spring, Md.

David is named in loving memory of his maternal and paternal great-grandfathers.

Anniversaries

Wintner: Harold and Gladys Wintner celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary on May 16.

B'nai Mitzvah



David Arthur Barasch, son of Anne and Larry Barasch, will become a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, May 21, at Congregation Beth Shalom. Grandparents are Ronald and Shirley Barasch, Norma Huntsman-Sicoli and the late Donald Beitem.



late Mr. and Mrs. C.J. O'Friel.

Melissa Nicole Baum, daughter of Sara and Ahmie Baum, will become a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, May 21, at Adat Shalom. Grandparents are Dr. Emanuel Baum and Cheryl Siniakin, Dr. Rae Baum and the



Pittsburgh and Ben and Rhea Green of Las Vegas.

Lindsey Holzer, daughter of Adrienne and Dennis Holzer of Mt. Lebanon, will become a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, May 21, at Beth El Congregation of the South Hills. Grandparents are Charlotte and the late Max Holzer of



Beach, Fla.; Jean and Donald Siegfried of Brookfield, Wis., and Ida and Carroll Dubuar of Portland, Ore.

Steven Rubin, son of Nancy Dubuar Rubin and Richard Rubin and Jill Siegfried, will become a Bar Mitzvah at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 21, at Temple Sinai. Grandparents are Audrey and Joseph Rubin of Del Ray



Lazear of Pittsburgh and Barbara and Harvey Protass of Syosset, N.Y.

Melanie Nicole Protass, daughter of Sharyn and Gary Protass of Roslyn, N.Y., will become a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, May 21, at Shelter Rock Jewish Center in Roslyn. Grandparents are Carol and Paul



Boodman. Paternal grandparents are the late Ruth and Saul Tanner.

Rebecca Tanner, daughter of Terri and Jim Polachek and Gene Tanner, will become a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, May 21, at Tree of Life Congregation. Maternal grandparents are the late Sarah and Norman



and the late Duane Berdahl.

Claire Trellis, daughter of Robin and Dan Trellis, will become a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, May 21, at Rodef Shalom Congregation. Grandparents are Emil and Barbara Trellis, William and Joanne Hubble



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Find all the help you need on Sunday, May 22 inside the West Club House at Heinz Field. It's the First Annual Mitzvah Celebration Showcase from Noon to 4pm. Over 60 Top Mitzvah Professionals will be on hand to help you plan your Special Celebration.

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Inside West Club House in Heinz Field

Community

Congregations

Adat Shalom Shabbat service at 7 p.m. on Friday. Shabbat service at 9:15 a.m. on Saturday. Morning minyan at 9 a.m. on Sunday. Annual board meeting and installation of officers at 7 p.m. on Tuesday. For information call (412) 820-7000 or visit www.goadatshalom.org.

Agudath Achim Synagogue in Beaver Falls Shabbat services at 9 a.m. on Saturday and Yahrzeits as they occur. For information call (724) 846-5696.

Ahavath Achim in Carnegie Saturday morning service at 9:20 a.m. For information call (412) 279-1566 or visit www.thecarnegieshul.org.

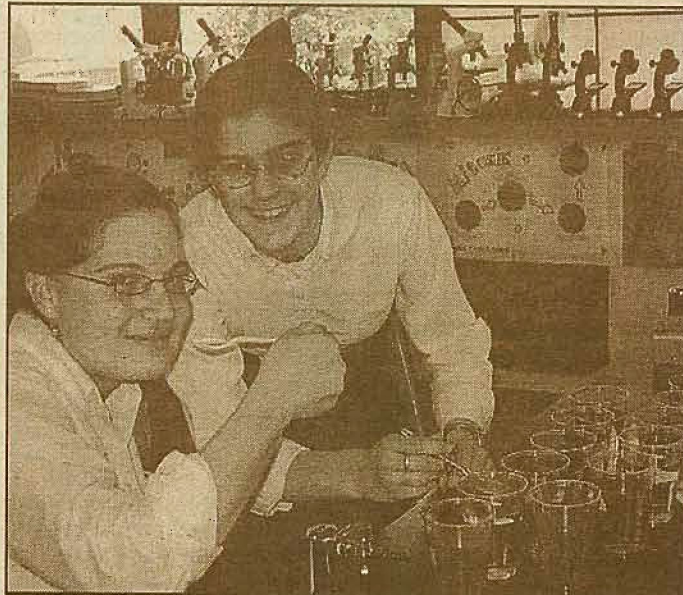
B'nai Abraham in Butler Tri-synagogue Shabbaton on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Torah study group at 2 p.m. on Wednesday. For information call (724) 287-5806.

B'nai Emunoh Congregation Mincha at 7 p.m. on Friday. Shabbat services at 8:55 a.m. and 8 p.m. on Saturday. Pirkei Avot is one hour before Mincha. Daily services: Sunday at 8 a.m. and 8:25 p.m.; Monday through Friday at 6:30 a.m. For information call (412) 521-1477.

Beth El Congregation of the South Hills Shabbat services at 6 p.m. on Friday. Hay class Shabbat. Shabbat service at 9:15 a.m. on Saturday. Junior Congregation at 10:30 a.m. SML at 10:45. Mitzvah day on Sunday. Women's study group off site at 7:15 p.m. on Sunday. Men's Club installation dinner on Sunday. Daily services: Sunday minyan at 8:30 a.m. Monday through Friday minyan at 7 a.m. and Monday through Thursday at 6 p.m. For information call (412) 561-1168 or visit www.bethelcong.org.

Beth Hamedrash Hagodol-Beth Jacob morning services: Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 8 a.m.; Monday, Thursday and Rosh Chodesh at 7:45 a.m.; Saturday at 9 a.m. Afternoon services: Mincha/Maariv at 5:30 p.m. Services are open to all. For information call Rabbi Stanley Savage at (412) 471-4443.

Studying taste



Yeshiva Schools photo

Yeshiva Schools ninth-grade girls, Gitty Blumberger, on left, and Sara Schulman prepare for the annual science fair. Their project included a blind taste test to discover if the color of a liquid influences our sense of taste.

Beth Israel Center Pleasant Hills Shabbat service at 8 p.m. on Friday. Everyone is welcome. For information call the office at (412) 655-2144, Richard Green at (412) 882-5495 or visit www.bethisraelphg.org.

Beth Israel Congregation Latrobe. For information call (724) 539-1450.

Beth Israel Congregation Washington, Pa., Shabbat services at 8 p.m. on Friday. Shabbat services at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday. Services are conducted by Rabbi David Novitsky. For information call (724) 225-7080, visit www.mybethisrael.org or e-mail bisrael@pulsenet.com.

Beth Samuel Jewish Center in Ambridge Tot Shabbat at 6:30 p.m. on Friday. Shabbat services at 7:30 p.m. Pirkei Avot study at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday. Shabbat services at 10 a.m. For information call (724) 266-5238, e-mail info@bethsamuel.org or visit www.bethsamuel.org.

Beth Shalom Congregation Kabbalat Shabbat service at 7 p.m. on Friday. Early Shabbat service at 6:30 a.m. on Saturday. Family service at 9 a.m. Library Minyan at 9:30 a.m. Shabbat Shalom Family Circle at 10:30 a.m. Saturday evening services are at 8:40 p.m. Sisterhood donor featuring Yaacov Chodesh will be on Tuesday. Daily services: are 7:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Sunday service at 8 a.m. For more information call (412) 421-2288.

Beth Shalom Congregation in Johnstown erev Shabbat services at 7:30 p.m. Friday. Shabbat morning service at 9:30 a.m. Saturday. Minyanim at 8 a.m. on alternate Thursdays. For more information call the office or Rabbi Irvin Brandwein at (814) 536-0647 or visit <http://bethsholomjohnstown.org>.

Bet Tikvah serving Pittsburgh's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community. First Friday erev Shabbat service at 7:30 p.m. at Rodef Shalom Congregation. Planning meeting at 7:30 p.m. at GLCC in Squirrel Hill the third Thursday of the month. For information call the hotline at (412) 362-7025, visit www.bettikvah.org, or e-mail info@bettikvah.org.

Chabad of Fox Chapel Shabbat classes and services and adult education classes throughout the week. For more information, call the office at (412) 781-1800; visit www.chabadfoxchapel.com; or e-mail info@chabadfoxchapel.com.

Chabad of the South Hills Jewish Center for Living and Learning, 1600 Bower Hill Rd., holds weekly Shabbat services at 10 a.m. followed by a sit-down Kiddush. Mommy and Me meets every Monday at 10:00 a.m. Hebrew and Sunday school are Sundays and Tuesdays. Talmud Study meets Mondays at 4:00 p.m. Torah class meets on Tuesdays at 8:15 p.m. For information on women's monthly study group or for a complete listing, call (412) 278-3693 or visit chabadsh@comcast.net.

Charles M. Morris Nursing and Rehabilitation Center at Weinberg Village daily morning service at 9:30 a.m. Shabbat morning service at 9 a.m. For information call Rabbi Seidman at (412) 420-4000 or e-mail eseidman@jaapgh.org.

Congregation Emanu-El Israel Family Shabbat services honoring congregation's teachers at 7:30 p.m. on Friday. Minyan at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday in Greensburg. Annual meeting at noon on Sunday. Everyone is welcome at services. For information call (724) 834-0560.

Dor Hadash Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation holds services at Community Day, 6424 Forward Ave. Erev Shabbat service at 8 p.m. on Friday. Service leader and sedra reviewer is Talya Weisbard. Bible and bagels at 11 a.m. on Saturday at Labor Zionist Center, 6328 Forbes Ave., with discussion leader Talya Weisbard. Topic: "And your people shall be my people"; conversion issues and options. Family havdalah and potluck dinner at 6 p.m. For information call (412) 422-5158.

Gemilas Chesed Congregation in White Oak Shabbat Mincha at candle lighting time on Friday. Shabbat services at 9 a.m. Saturday with Rabbi Chinn. Mincha 20 minutes before sunset followed by shalosh seudos. Maariv 60 minutes and havdalah 72 minutes after sunset. Daily services: Minyan at 7 a.m.; Mincha 10 minutes before sunset; Sunday and holidays 8:15 a.m. For information call (412) 678-8859.

Edward and Rose Berman Hillel Jewish University Center invites students and community members to Orthodox, Conservative and Reform services every week at the Hillel JUC, 4607 Forbes Ave. Joint Hillel and Chabad services are at 6:30 p.m. followed by a 7:30 p.m. dinner at Hillel and 8 p.m. dinner at Chabad. Experience the delights of traditional, Israeli and international Jewish fare with students from across Pittsburgh's universities and colleges. There will be scheduled programming events each month and a monthly tish. For more information visit www.hilleljuc.org or contact Jackie Braslawce at jackieb@hilleljuc.org or at (412) 621-8875, Ext. 110.

Kollel Jewish Learning Center. For a full calendar of class events, contact the Kollel at (412) 420-0220, Ext. 203 or mail@kollelphg.org.

Lubavitch Center Synagogue Friday Mincha minyan 10 minutes before sunset followed by Maariv. Saturday Shabbat service at 10 a.m. Shabbat Mincha followed by Maariv 20 minutes before sunset. Sunday Shachrit minyan 9:15 a.m. Sunday Mincha minyan 10 minutes before sunset. Sunday Maariv minyan 25 minutes after sunset. Daily Shachrit minyan 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. Daily Mincha minyan 10 minutes before sunset. Daily Maariv minyan 25 minutes after sunset. For information call (412) 422-7315.

New Light Congregation Shabbat service at 7:30 p.m. on Friday. Shabbat service at 10 a.m. on Saturday. For information call (412) 421-1017.

Parkway Jewish Center Friday Night Fusion at 8 p.m. followed by one. Last Club Shabbat service at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday followed by a kiddush. Lag B'omer bowling party on Sunday. For information call Cantor Richard Berlin or the office at (412) 823-4338, e-mail haz-zanrick@earthlink.net or visit parkway-jewishcenter.com.

Please see Community, Next Page

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CALL FOR CONFIRMANDS, GRADUATES

Lists of confirmands and Hebrew school graduates must be in our office by Thursday, May 26, for publication in the June 9 issue. Identify the school and/or congregation, the time and date of the ceremony and the full name of the confirmand or graduate. List names by first, middle and family name, in that order, in a single column.

Send information in body of e-mail, not as attachment, to Angela Leibowicz, community editor, at aleibowicz@pittchron.com. Call Angela at (412) 687-1003 with questions.

COMMUNITY

Continued from previous page.

Poale Zedeck Congregation Friday Shachrit at 6, 6:55 and 8 a.m. Mincha at 7 p.m. Shabbat Shachrit at 8 a.m. and minyan at 8:45 a.m. Mincha at approximately 8 p.m. Daily services: Sunday at 7:30 and 8:30 a.m.; Monday at 6, 6:45 and 8 a.m. Tuesday and Wednesday at 6, 6:55 and 8 a.m.; Thursday at 6, 6:45 and 8 a.m. Sunday through Thursday Mincha at approximately 8:15 p.m. Everyone is welcome. For information call (412) 421-9786 or visit www.poalezedeck.org.

Riverview Towers Oneg Shabbat at 2 p.m. Friday. Reform services Friday evenings at 7:30 p.m. are sponsored by Rodef Shalom. Saturday Shabbat 10 a.m. Champagne dessert reception honoring Lou Zeiden at 7 p.m. on Sunday. Safety issues for seniors with Deputy Sheriff Jason Tarap at 2 p.m. on Tuesday. Monthly birthday party with Memories Choir at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday. For more information call (412) 521-7876.

Rodef Shalom Congregation Shabbat services at 5:30 p.m. on Friday. Torah study at 9:15 a.m. on Saturday. Shabbat service at 10:30 a.m. Ben Fischer, professor at Carnegie Mellon University Heinz School, will lecture on retirement economics at 7 p.m. on Tuesday. Dr. Walter Jacob will speak on "Conversation with the Pope," at the Discussion Group at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday. Daily minyan: 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 10:30 a.m. on Sunday. For information call (412) 621-6566.

Shaare Torah Congregation Friday services at 7 p.m. Talmud class at 8:25 a.m. on Saturday. Shabbat shachrit at 9 a.m. and youth activities at 10:15 a.m. Daf Yomi at 6:15 p.m. Mincha at 7:35 p.m. followed by Seudah Shlishit and Maariv. Daily services: Sunday at 8:15 a.m.; Monday and Thursday 6:45 a.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 7 a.m.; Mincha 7:40 p.m. For information call (412) 421-8855, visit www.shaaretorah.net or e-mail shaaretora@aol.com.

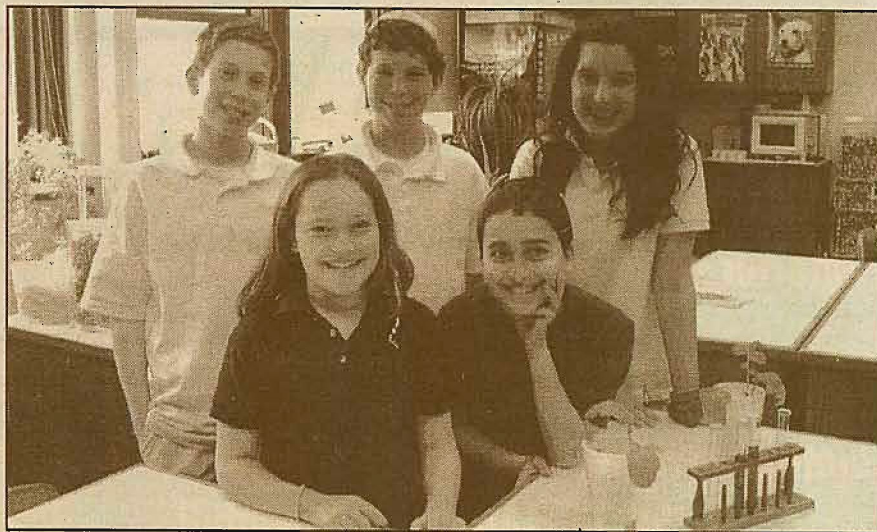
Sukkat Shalom, a member-led congregation in the Reform tradition, meets at the Friends Meeting House, 4836 Ellsworth Ave. Kabbalat Shabbat services at 5:30 p.m. every Friday. Everyone is welcome. For more information call Marcia at (412) 244-8823 or e-mail SukkatShalomPgh@aol.com.

Temple B'nai Israel, 2025 Cypress Drive, White Oak, Pa. Sabbath services are usually held on alternating Friday evenings at 8 p.m. and Saturday mornings at 10 a.m. An Oneg follows each service. Adult education meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the second Sunday each month. Services and adult education meetings are conducted by Rabbi Daniel L. Schiff. For information call (412) 678-6181 or visit www.tbiwhiteoak.org.

Temple Beth Israel in Steubenville Shabbat services at 8 p.m. on Friday with student Rabbi David Young. Study group at 2 p.m. on Saturday followed by Hebrew class at 3 p.m. For information call (740) 264-5514.

Temple David, 4415 Northern Pike, Monroeville. Tot Shabbat at 7 p.m. on Friday. Erev Shabbat service at 8 p.m. Boy Scout Shabbat. Junior Congregation at 9 a.m. on Saturday. Torah study 9 a.m. Shabbat service at 9:45 a.m. ALLEC wine, cheese and music program at 7:30 p.m. Shabbat services are followed by an oneg. Services are led by Rabbi Richard S. Rheins. For information call (412) 372-1200 or visit www.templedavid.org.

Science fair tradition continues



Community Day photo

Some 150 students in grades four through eight at Community Day competed in the school's annual science fair. Pictured, from left to right, are first place winners in each grade: Shane Fischbach, sixth grade; Matthew Abramson, seventh grade; and Molly Weiss, eighth grade. In the front row are Julia Holber, fourth grade; and Daniel Brusilovsky, fifth grade.

Temple Emanuel of South Hills Kabbalat Shabbat service at 6 p.m. on Friday. Torah study at 9 a.m. on Saturday. Torah for Tots at 9:30 a.m. Morning minyan at 9 a.m. on Sunday. For information call (412) 279-7600 or visit www.templeemanuelpgh.org.

Temple Hadar Israel in New Castle, Lawrence County, holds services in the former Tifereth Israel Synagogue. For information call (724) 658-9708.

Temple Ohav Shalom in the North Hills Kabbalat Shabbat services at 7:30 p.m. on Friday. Shabbat service at 10 a.m. on Saturday. Morning service at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday. For information call (412) 369-0900 or visit www.templeohavshalom.org.

Temple Shalom in Wheeling New Member Shabbat at 8 p.m. on Friday. Torah Talk at 9 a.m. on Saturday. For information call (304) 233-4870.

Temple Sinai Shabbat service with Intergenerational Choir at 8 p.m. on Friday. Torah study and informal service at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday. Family Shabbat with fourth-grade class at 9:30 a.m. Shabbat service at 10:30 a.m. Annual meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday. Weekly minyan at 7:45 p.m. on Thursday. For information call (412) 421-9715 or visit www.templesinaipgh.org.

Tree of Life Congregation Tiny Tot Shabbat at 10:30 a.m. on Friday. Shabbat service at 5:45 p.m. on Friday. Shabbat service at 9:45 a.m. on Saturday. Services at 5 p.m. on Saturday. Tri-State Region of Federation of Men's Clubs will honor Larry Cohen at dinner at 6 p.m. on Sunday at Beth El Congregation of the South Hills; contact Dave Edwards. Singles group will go to Pirates game on Sunday; contact Alex Friedman. Sisterhood Chai Time for Tea annual donor luncheon on Wednesday; contact Marcia Stewart. Daily services: Sunday at 9 a.m.; Monday and Thursday at 7:30 a.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 7:45 a.m. Sunday through Thursday at 7:30 p.m. For information, call Michelle at (412) 521-6788 or e-mail tolpgh@aol.com.

Tree of Life Congregation of Uniontown. Shabbat service Friday at 8 p.m. Saturday service 10 a.m. For information call Harold Cohen at (724) 438-0343 or Larry Smith at (724) 438-4197.

Young Israel Congregation, 5831 Bartlett St., Friday night Mincha five minutes after candle lighting but no later than 7:30 p.m. Saturday services 9 a.m. Saturday gemorrah class one hour before Mincha, one hour and five minutes before Maariv. Seudah shlisheet follows. Maariv 10 minutes before end of Shabbat. Sunday service 8 a.m. Daily Shachrit minyan at 6:30 a.m., 6:20 a.m. on Rosh Chodesh. For more information, call Rabbi Shimon Weiss at (412) 222-8582 or visit www.geocities.com/youngisrael.pgh. For shul e-mail announcements contact sherryl_may@yahoo.com.

YPS, a traditional and participatory congregation, meets every Shabbat and Yom Tov at 6404 Forbes Ave., corner of Denniston Avenue, in the Bnai Zion building. Friday Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat at 6:30 p.m. Shabbat services at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday. Mincha and Torah study with Rashi's commentaries. Newcomers are welcome. For information call Marian Salamon at (412) 521-1021 or visit www.youngpeoples.org.

Organizations

Edgewood Symphony Orchestra season finale with conductor Thomas Wesley Douglas at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday at First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood. Call (412) 473-8880 or visit www.edgewoodsymphony.org.

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First Meeting: Tuesday, May 31
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Facilitated by Wendy Levin-Shaw, a
psychotherapist from Jewish Family
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Camp Open House and Shabbat BBQ

Friday, June 17 • 6-8 pm
\$3/person; \$10/family of four

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Mondays, beginning June 20
6:30-8:30 pm
Learn about Excel, PowerPoint,
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Friday, June 10 • 4-7 pm
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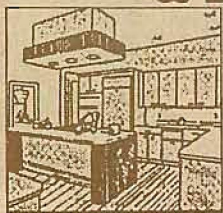
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NPR may be monitored on Israel; Jewish reaction is cautious optimism

BY CHANAN TIGAY

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — Word that the head of the federal corporation overseeing public radio and television is mulling a proposal to begin monitoring National Public Radio's coverage of the Middle East for bias is being met with cautious optimism by Jewish officials and U.S. legislators.

"This is something we've been calling on the Corporation for Public Broadcasting to do for years," said Alex Safian, associate director of the Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America, a media watchdog group. "It's potentially a move in the right direction, depending on what kind of analysis the Corporation for Public Broadcasting does."

Rep. Brad Sherman, D-Calif., recommended the move to monitor NPR's Mideast reportage when the corporation met in Washington last fall. At the time, he suggested that about \$50,000 be earmarked for a study of NPR's Mideast coverage.

Long criticized by some as reflexively anti-Israel, NPR ought to be striving for a balance in its Mideast coverage where "half the story's comments are favorable to the Israeli government and half are opposed," Sherman said.

"Ethnic balance," in which equal numbers of Arabs and Jews are interviewed, is insufficient, he insisted.

"Plenty of Jews are harshly critical of Israel," he said, adding that while there may be Palestinians who support Israeli policies, "they're all dead so you can't interview them."

A spokesman for the corporation told JTA that "no one was available" to comment on the NPR situation.

The spokesman did make available a small portion of congressional testimony about polls on perceptions of public broadcasting, including Middle East coverage, that the corporation had commissioned over the past few years.

Most recently, according to the corporation's testimony, its polling data demonstrated that nearly 80 percent of people who listen to public radio believe Middle East coverage is balanced. Eight percent think it has a pro-Israel bias, while 5 percent say it favors the Arabs.

"Given its polling results, we are surprised that the corporation would be considering additional study on this subject," Andi Sporkin, NPR's vice president of communications, told JTA in an e-mail exchange, referring specifically to surveys conducted for the corporation by two outside firms in 2002 and 2003.

"As the only broadcast news organization that has increased its international news resources in recent years, NPR has always recognized the unique sensitivity among listeners to Middle East coverage," she added. "For that reason, we are committed to doing the best job possible and we present all important views of these subjects with balance, fairness and accuracy."

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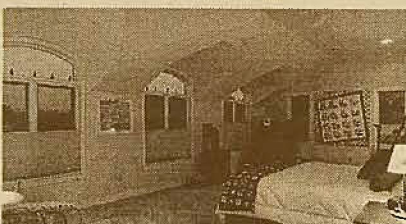
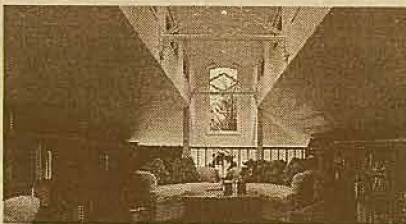
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CONGREGATION

Parshat Behar, Leviticus
25:1-26:2; Haftarah
Jeremiah 32:6-27

This week's Torah portion includes the laws dealing with the sabbatical and jubilee years. Once we entered Eretz Yisrael, we were to cultivate and harvest the land for six years, and then allow the earth to rest during the seventh year. After seven seven-year cycles, there would be another year — the jubilee year — without any agricultural intervention by the residents of the land. Of course, these seven-year cycles reflect the seven-day cycle we observe: six days of work and one day of rest.

We are told, "You shall not sow your field or prune your vineyard. You shall not reap the after growth of your harvest or gather the grapes of your untrimmed vines; it shall be a year of complete rest for the land. But you may eat whatever the land during its Sabbath will produce — you, your male and female slaves, the hired and bound laborers who live with you, and your cattle and the beasts in your land may eat all its yield" (Leviticus 25:4-

7). By demanding that landowners share whatever grows on its own during the sabbatical year, God ensures that for one year, at least, "landowner and landless pauper are to be on an equal footing" (Gunther Plaut, The Torah, p. 940). These idealistic laws helped our ancestors build a just and fair society in Eretz Yisrael.

In addition, these laws helped our people understand that the land is but lent to us. It is God's land, and we are its caretakers. In the same way, all material possessions are limited by time. In Hebrew we say, "yesh li" (there is to me) rather than "I have" or "I own."

On one hand these ideas help us appreciate and enjoy what we have. We are obligated, in fact, to take full advantage of the beauty and the variety in God's world (within, of course, the parameters set by Jewish tradition). But we are, at the same time, called upon to share our gifts. "The Gift of Seven Years," as told by Ellen Frankel in The Five Books of Miriam, teaches, "We are all responsible for each other — those who have for those who have not, those who own for those who are owned, those who gain for those who lose."

Once, a rich man lost all that he had. To support his family, he became a day laborer, working hard from dawn until dusk. One day, Elijah appeared to him in disguise and told him that he was des-

tinued to be blessed with a gift of seven prosperous years. "Do you want them now or at the end of your life?" Elijah asked him.

"I will ask my wife for advice," the man replied. And he ran home and told his wife what had happened.

She answered, "Ask for them now, for if we ask for them at the end of our lives, we will know that we have but seven years to live." And the man did exactly as his wife advised.

That day, his children uncovered a chest of gold coins while they were digging in their yard. The family agreed to use the gift wisely, and so they shared their good fortune generously with those in need.

At the end of the seven years, Elijah returned to take back his gift.

"When you first appeared," the man told Elijah, "I asked my wife for advice,

and I would like to do the same again before returning the gift to you." And when he asked her what he should do, she said, "Tell him that if he can find another couple who has used such a gift more wisely than we have, he can have his treasure back."

And though Elijah traveled from one end of the earth to the other, he failed to find two more generous people. And so he never reclaimed his gift, and the couple lived to a ripe old age, opening their hands to all in need until the day they died.

This Shabbat, upon which we read Behar, may each of us reflect on what "yesh lanu," on what "there is to us," and acknowledge that it is enough — more than enough — and be grateful.

(This column is a service of the Greater Pittsburgh Rabbinic Association.)

A new Israeli moves from grief to joy

BY JONATHAN UDREN

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — It's springtime in Israel, and I'm feeling what I have to call emotional whiplash.

Only a week after the concerts and day trips of the Passover holiday, a wailing siren cuts through the morning air, screaming out the memories of the Holocaust dead. My mind ricochets between images of playful splashing in the cool Mediterranean and the sickening thought of Auschwitz's burning smokestacks.

Just a little more than a week later, it's Memorial Day, Yom Hazikaron. In Israel, Memorial Day is not a day for barbecues, when the white shoes can come out of the closet, but a time for real national mourning. In a country where nearly everyone serves in the army, nearly everyone knows someone who was lost.

Thousands pass through Mount Herzl, the national military cemetery, placing stones or wreaths on graves. Some graves are freshly dug, some have grass growing lushly around them. Television and radio waves are filled with documentaries and stories of our recent battles and of the people we lost along the way.

And suddenly, with the setting of the sun, Independence Day, Yom Ha'atzmaut, arrives with a flash of fireworks popping over the night sky. It continues with the family and friends barbecuing together, celebrating this modern-day miracle.

As if these stark emotional transitions were not enough, three weeks later comes a day that caps off the memorials: Jerusalem Day.

A giant parade wraps itself around the entire circumference of the walls of the Old City of Jerusalem, and then enters into Lion's Gate, the entrance through which the soldiers who reclaimed the Old City burst.

Because Lion's Gate is in the heart of the Muslim Quarter, on a normal day a

Jew would walk there with either great fear or a loaded weapon. But on this day freedom fills the air as we walk past the Temple Mount and wind through the labyrinth of the Old City, emptying out into the Western Wall plaza. Music fills the air, and memories of dancing with strangers celebrating the gift of Jerusalem still replay in my head.

But as I approach the Western Wall itself, its great white stones loom over me. As I look down, I realize how close I was — how close all Israel is — to our spiritual and historical roots. And then I look up and realize how far we have to go.

The nation is at war with terrorists, as well as with factions of the people themselves. We have Jerusalem, but we also have a nation fractured in so many ways, divided on issues ranging from religion to the future of the state. With so much controversy surrounding the plan to uproot Jews from their homes, how can we find peace within and among ourselves, much less with our neighbors?

These days we go from one emotional pole to the other. They cause such pain and joy because they represent the ongoing unfolding of the Jewish future. The battles we fight and the soldiers for whom we mourn and the nation that we celebrate are stories that we all live every day.

But it is because we feel such extremes of emotion that we feel them so deeply. The joy and the tears are bound together permanently. Only after I cried the tears of my nation was I able to feel the true excitement of its victories.

These two days, and their emotions, are so close together that they can overlap, and it can be confusing. On top of Angel's Bakery stand two symbols — the flame of remembrance, for the Holocaust, and right behind it a light display spelling out the number 57, Israel's age. The two together symbolize the range of emotions to which we are subjected.

The emotion is inescapable; even to a new immigrant like me.

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MORNING SERVICES - 9:30 A.M.

SUNDAY, MAY 22: LARRY ABELSON, ROSELLA LILLIAN BAROVSKY, MICHAEL M. CLOSKY, CHARLES COHEN, HARRY COHEN, MORRIS CRYSTAL, RITA MARCUS FABERMAN, EMMA GLUECK FEINBERG, MAX FELDMAN, PAUL M. FIERST, SIMON FRANKLE, FANNIE GLICK, YETTA GOLDSTEIN, JACOB HANDELMAN, SARAH VIOLA HELLER, SAUL I. HELLER, JACOB HERSHMAN, FRANK HOLLANDER, LOUIS KATZ, ADOLPH S. KLEIN, CELIA LANDMAN, LOUIS LEBAU, BENJAMIN LERNER, JACOB I. LEVY, JOSEPH M. LEVY, LIZZIE LITTLE, ROY A. MAGRAM, ANNE MARKS, RELLA SUTTIN MATES, SAMUEL MENDLOW, JOSEPH J. MINSKY, SANDOR MOSKOVITZ, RUTH NUSIN, JOSEPH REIFMAN, FANNIE ROSENTHAL, HARRY SANDSON, LOUIS SIEGAL, DR. JOSEPH R. SIMON, MATILDA SISSMAN, BENJAMIN WEINBERG, PEARL WEINER, SARAH WEINER, JOSEPH YORK, LOUIS NATHANIEL ZIF.

MONDAY, MAY 23: MORRIS M. AZORSKY, SAMUEL BALTER, JOSEPH HARRY BERGER, JACOB BRODY, FREDA CLINE, PHILIP COHEN, SARAH COHEN, FANNIE DENMARK, MORRIS FEIGENBAUM, GRETA GLASSER, RALPH GLICKMAN, BRAYNA GOLDSTEIN, LEWIS E. HAINICK, LEWIS JAFFE, HENRY KALETSKY, EMMA WERTHEIMER KUDER, ISAIAH LEEBOVE, ISRAEL LEFTON, HYMAN LEPTZIG, RACHEL LEVIN, JACOB LEVY, ROSE NATHANSON, NATHAN NEIMAN, MORRIS PASSACK, ABRAHAM PINCUS, JAMES HENRY PODOLNY, ANNA RAPOPORT, PHILIP ROGERS, AARON ROSENBERG, DAVID ROSENFELD, ALEX ROSENTHAL, MEYER RUBIN, JENNIE SHAPINSKY, FANNIE KAPLAN SILVERMAN, CLARA STERN, BEN TAKSA, LOUIS TOBIN, MANUEL WILNER, FAY PALGON WOLF.

TUESDAY, MAY 24: DORA ARONS, JOHN AUSLANDER, NATHAN BERGSTEIN, ANNA BLITZ, SYLVIA BOKSENBAUM, RUTH PEARLMAN BROWARSKY, ALLAN CALMAN, DAVID A. COLKER, RUTH COLTIN, ROSE FICKS, ESTHER FINEBERG, NATHAN FRANK, ESTHER SHEFFLER FRIEDMAN, CHARLES GIFFEN, FANNIE GIRSON, SAMUEL JACOB GOODSTEIN, MINNIE GORDON, JACOB GOULD, HYMAN GREENSTONE, ANNA GROSSMAN, RACHEL L. GROSSMAN, JACOB HALTMAN, HARRY KAPLAN, HYMAN LEVINE, SAMUEL C. LEVY, FANNIE MARCUS, FANNIE MILLER, ABRAHAM MINSKY, EMIL MONORI, MAX OSTROW, JOSEPH PITTNER, ODES PITTNER, BESSIE POLLACK, MINNIE PRELUTSKY, MORRIS REICHLUM, DR. K.I. SANES, ISADORE IRWIN SCHAEFFER, JACOB SCHULMAN, JACOB SCHWARTZ, ELEAZER SEIAVITCH, SARAH B. GOLBITZ SHAER, LENA SHAPIRO, RUTH SOLOMON, EMANUEL STEIN, LOUIS TAKSA, JACK TAUBER, SONIA TRACHTENHARZ, SYLVIA T. WAINSTEIN, LOUIS WILDER.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25: DAVID L. ABELSON, DOROTHY STERN BERGER, SAMUEL HERMAN DYM, CHARLES W. FRANKEL, EDWARD HARRY FRANKEL, ROSE FREIBERGER, LENA GARDNER, HYMAN GLICKMAN, MILLER GOLDBERG, ANNIE B. GOLDSTEIN, SADIE GOLDSTROM, BEULA S. HIRSHMAN, GEORGE JASKOL, HENRY KAMIN, CLARA KAUFMAN, SAMUEL KLEIN, IDA LANGE, IDA LAZIER, SAM LEVY, SOPHIA MALLINGER, MINNIE MARGOLIS, GILBERT M. METOSKY, FREDA HERSCH MILLER, FREDA REBECCA MOOGERMAN, SAMUEL NOVAK, SAMUEL RABINOVITZ, ISRAEL RAFFEL, ROSE ROGALSKY, ISRAEL ROSENBERG, REV. REUVIN YANA RUBIN, JACK E. RYAVE, BENJAMIN J. SCHLESINGER, RUTH HEPPS SCHWADRON, MORRIS SELEKMAN, DANIEL SHAPIRO, BENJAMIN SHEINBERG, MAX SNIDER, CELIA SOLOMON, CHARLES BEN STEWART, LILLIAN TENOR, MAX UNIKEL, NAOMI G. WALK, MARTIN WEISZ, GEORGE WOLK, ROSE BRAND ZINS.

THURSDAY, MAY 26: ARTHUR AMERICUS, JULIUS M. BERG, REBECCA D. BERMAN, SONIA COHEN, EMANUEL E. EISENMAN, MAX ERENSTEIN, ABE FINEGOLD, SAM FRANK, DR. CHARLES M. FRIEDLAND, FLORENCE GERBER, ISRAEL GOLBITZ, SARA FAY SACHS GOODMAN, PEARL GREENBERG, WILLIAM GREENBERG, ISRAEL GREENBERGER, WILLIAM HERZBERG, HARRY HERR, FERNE LAGIN, BENJAMIN NATHAN LAVINTHAL, GOLDIE LERNER, MANUEL LIEBER, GUSTA DICKLER LINETT, SAMUEL LITTMAN, GOLDIE LOVE, DAVID MINTZ, JENNIE ALPERN NEAMAN, ETTA PARANSKY, JULIUS PERLMAN, ABE PICOVSKY, EVA POLEN, SAM PORTNOY, GOLDIE PRASHKER, WILLIAM N. PRICE, HANNAH RICE, HERMAN ROSENBERG, JEAN ROTH, WILLIAM B. ROTH, GERTRUDE ROUTMAN, ROSE M. RUDOV, DORA RUTTENBERG, GOODWIN SABLE, SOPHIE SACKS, FANNIE ANN SAMUELS, SHERMAN HOWARD SCHENK, DOROTHE VERA LEVISON SHAPERA, ALBERT SIEGEL, RACHEL SOLOMON, JULIUS STAHL, SAMUEL E. SWARTZ, RALLY TALROZE, ROSE WEINBERGER, HARRY WEINER, FANNIE WEISBERG.

FRIDAY, MAY 27: ABRAHAM ABEL, ABRAHAM ARRON, CORA G. BARNETT, PHILIP BELANSKY, HENRY BRAUN, ISRAEL BROAD, LENA BROAD, BENJAMIN B. CHOTINER, LOIS RUTH COHEN, LEAH EVANIER, FANNIE FARKAS, SHANE ROSE GELMAN, MAYER GLASER, TILLIE GOLD, GOLDIE GOLDSTEIN, MARY FISHER GORDON, HERMAN GREENSTEIN, PAUL E. GUSKY, ROSE JABLO, ALLAN L. JANOWITZ, P. FRED KAMENS, HARRY KATZ, RUTH KLEIN KAUFMAN, ANNA T. KIRKELL, CHANA SOSHE KRASIK, MORRIS KRASIK, SOL S. KURTZ, MINNIE LATTERMAN, GERSON LEIBOWITZ, ABE LEVENTON, PAUL MAINZER, HYMAN MARCHEL, ABRAHAM MILLER, ELIAS PICK, MAX RICE, REBECCA WESOKY ROBINS, DOROTHY ROSENTHAL, JOSEPH ROSENTHAL, JEROME S. RUBEN, ABREIM SCHLEIFER, HARRY SCHLOSSER, ISADORE SHEFFLER, SOPHIA SILVERMAN, LIBBY SKIRBOLL, RUBIN SOLOMON, JULIA STRASSBURGER, JACOB SULKES, BERNATH WEISS, MAX WEISS, MOLLIE WIND, FRIEDA W. WOLFE, FRIEDA W. WOLFE, MILDRED G. YOUNG.

SATURDAY, MAY 28: HYMAN LOUIS ABRAMS, BESSIE AGRENOVITZ, LEONARD M. ARONS, M.D., SAMUEL BRAUN, DAVID BUSIS, HARRIS COHEN, PAULINE COSLOV, ANNA WANETICK DEAKTOR, LEONA ELENBAUM, HARRY FABERMAN, ANNA K. FARBSSTEIN, ANNA FEIVELSON, OSCAR GREEN, PHILIP GROSSMAN, SADIE HEPPS HERSKOVITZ, SANFORD C. KRAMER, WILLIAM SAMUEL LANDAU, HENRIETTA LEWIN, HAROLD F. MARCUS, CELIA MILLS, DR. OSCAR I. POLK, PEARL RECHT, EDNA ROSENBAUM, FANNY ROSENZWEIG, REGINA SACHS, FANNY C. SCHECHTER, ABRAHAM SIEFF, MAYME SKIRBOLL, JOSEPH SLOMBERG, SARAH SOLOF, KATIE TANUR, CHARLES TEPPER, LIZZIE TOBENFLEIGEL, YETTA H. WHEELER, BESSIE ZEIGER WIESENTHAL, MAURICE WOLK, JULIUS ZELMANOVITZ, DORA ZOLOT.

OBITUARIES

BREMAN: On Thursday, May 12, 2005, Theodore Breman of Boca Raton, FL, formerly of Leechburg, PA; beloved husband of the late Goldye Breman; loving father of Leslie S. and Shirley of Dayton OH and Joseph E. and Jill of Grand Junction, CO; adoring grandfather of Sherri (Michael) Preston, Steven Breman, Jennifer Breman, Michael Breman, and Matthew (Catherine) Breman; proud great-grandfather of Rachel, Alexander, Marcus and Adam; beloved uncle and respected friend of many — especially Diane Abravanel; son of the late Joseph H. and Ida Breman; brother of

the late David, Benjamin, Bertha, Sadie and Sylvia. Services were held at Gutterman Warheit Memorial Chapel, Boca Raton.

HERING: On Tuesday, May 10, 2005, Israel "Izzy" Hering, 91, of Sq. Hill, husband of the late Bessie Hering; father of Kelli Weiss, Shirley (David) Larrick and Julia (Ronald) Katz; grandfather of Johnathan Weiss, Allyson Larrick, Michael Larrick. Stephanie Katz and the late Tracy T.J. Katz. Private graveside services and interment were held at B'nai Emunoh Cemetery. Arrangements by Burton L. Hirsch Funeral Home, Inc.

HERMAN: On Saturday, May 14, 2005, Rosella Herman, beloved wife of the late Norman Herman; beloved mother of Ruthann (Sidney) Shapiro and Susie (Ronald) Meyers; grandmother of Harriet (Alan) Moskowitz, Sharon Shapiro, Jamie Meyers and Gregory Meyers; also survived by nieces and nephews. Graveside services and interment were held at Shaare Torah Cemetery. Arrangements by Ralph Schugar Chapel, Inc.

LEIBOWITZ: On Saturday, May 14, 2005, Aaron Leibowitz, of Las Vegas, NV, formerly of Philadelphia; husband of the late Ethel (Kashoff) Leibowitz; beloved father of Marvin (Faye) Leibowitz of Pgh., Steven Leibowitz of Las Vegas and Beverly Hills, CA and Barbara Spector and dear friend William Kropkoff of Laguna Niguel, CA; cherished grandfather of Cheryl and Ellen Leibowitz, Jeremy, Brett and Shaine Leibowitz and Evan and Corinne Spector; brother of the late Philip Leibowitz and nine other brothers and sisters. Services were held at Joseph Levine & Son, Philadelphia PA. Interment Mt. Lebanon Cemetery. Contributions may be made to Yad Vashem, the Martyrs and Heroes Remembrance Authority, PO Box 3477, Jerusalem, Israel 91034.

SIMON: On Sunday, May 15, 2005, Lee Simon, beloved brother of Idelle Miller, Sandra Snyder, Miriam Smith and Donna Snyder; also survived by nieces and nephews. Services were held at Ralph Schugar Chapel, Inc., 5509 Centre Ave., Shadyside. Interment Shaare Torah Cemetery. Contributions may be made to the family in the name of Lee Simon.

Times To Remember

Kindle Sabbath candles: 8:16 p.m. DST.
Sabbath ends: 9:20 p.m. DST.
Scriptural readings: Sedra Behar;
Leviticus 25:1-26:2; Prophet Jeremiah
32:6-27.

WEISS: On Tuesday, May 10, 2005, Matilda Bellman Weiss; beloved wife of the late Morris B. Weiss; beloved mother of Geri Weiss, Julius Weiss and Edward R. (Sharyn) Weiss; sister of Peggy Laskey, Eileen Gilbert, the late Nettie Adler and the late Albert Wayne; grandmother of Jeffrey Sloan, Ronald Sloan, Dina McIntyre, Julia Toti, Matthew Weiss, Brian Weiss and Michael Weiss; also survived by great-grandchildren. Services were held at Ralph Schugar Chapel, Inc., 5509 Centre Ave., Shadyside. Interment Agudath Achim Cemetery, Forest Hills. Contributions may be made to Sivitz Jewish Hospice, 200 JHF Dr., Pgh., PA 15217.

Unveilings

LEVENSON: A monument in loving memory of Irving Levenson will be unveiled on Sunday, May 22, 2005, at 1:00 p.m. at Homewood Cemetery, Star of David Section. Rabbi Avi Friedman will officiate. Relatives and friends are invited.

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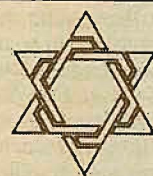
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METRO

Frim: Plan of action to be ready next year

Continued from page 1.

search by the AJL's board of directors.

AJL President James Rudolph said about 20 candidates applied for the job, but the search committee was impressed by Frimm's background in Jewish education, and the "glowing" comments it heard from people who knew him.

And Rudolph liked the way Frimm relates to people. "He has a lot of charisma," he said.

Established last year, the AJL is the central resource for Jewish learning, providing education to children and adults and training for teachers. The School of Advanced Jewish Studies, the Florence

Melton Mini-School, the Jewish Teacher Institute and Israel Education Services are some of its divisions.

The AJL is still in the process of defining itself as an organization, but Frimm, who is currently vice president of Jewish education and identity at the Columbus (Ohio) Jewish Federation, said that was one reason why he wanted the job.

"I love creating new things," said Frimm, a bearded, soft-spoken Boston native. "In Columbus, I was doing a lot of interesting things, but really what I want to do is Jewish learning. This job is going to enable me to have an impact."

"Your gain is our loss," said Marsha Hurwitz, president and CEO of the

Columbus Jewish Federation. "Ed's a very dedicated Jewish communal professional. He has the ability to analyze a situation and assess options — he's also a mensch, a decent well-meaning man as well."

According to Frimm, the problems facing Jewish education in Pittsburgh aren't substantially different from other cities. Too few high school students and adults are enrolled in education programs, parents frequently don't assign a high priority to a Jewish education, paying and retaining quality teachers is problematic and commuting from the suburbs to the city in order to attend the schools is a chore.

But Pittsburgh has good building blocks in place, Frimm said.

"I think there's a real desire to engage people here," he said. "I think there's been significant investment ... I think what's happening with Israel engagement is very exciting."

"The agency is not new," he added. "It was an existing structure that's being re-fashioned, and they've done wonderful work. It really has been doing a lot of innovative things."

As the top administrator for Jewish learning in Pittsburgh, Frimm plans to start work by studying the system he will manage. He said he'll spend the first three to six months talking to people, assembling

lay leaders to discuss education issues and conducting research. Next he will set priorities and have an action plan ready by the next calendar year.

"The key is getting people engaged in the process," he said, "getting them excited about the substance of being Jewish."

A graduate of Hebrew College in Brookline, Mass., Brandeis University and the University of Pennsylvania, Frimm taught at Melton Mini Schools in Toledo and Columbus and at a Jewish day school in Milwaukee while developing his credentials as an administrator.

Before joining the Columbus federation, he was director of the Toledo Board of Jewish Education and director of planning and administration at the Central Agency for Jewish Education of Greater Philadelphia, to name just a few positions.

Asked if he sees himself more as a teacher or an administrator, Frimm gave a one-word answer, "yes."

But he finally elaborated.

"Anyone who works in Jewish education always needs to be learning and always needs to be teaching," he said.

And for administrators, nothing happens without people who know how to draft budgets, secure grants, build partnerships and plan action.

"You have to have those skills," he said.

(Lee Chottiner can be reached online at lechottiner@pittchron.com.)

McNeilly: Lack of attacks are reason to train

Continued from page 1.

surprised him, like the way Israel manages the scene of a terrorist attack.

"They have everything opened up in four hours, so as not to impact on the way of life," he said. "If we had a bombing like that, we would have the streets closed for days."

Pittsburgh hasn't experienced a serious terrorist attack since an explosion at the Gulf Oil Building in 1974, for which the Weather Underground, a radical leftist group, claimed responsibility. McNeilly, though, said that's all the more reason to study Israel's terrorist response.

"I think that's why it's important to train," he said, "so you're not caught lacking because it has been so long."

The time Israeli rescue teams take to recover the wounded and deliver them to hospitals also struck him. One female police officer who spoke to the American police told them she was wounded in a bus attack. The attacker boarded the bus right behind her and detonated his device, ejecting her through the roof.

"But the important part is how quickly, from the time of the bombing, she was in the hospital — within 10 minutes," McNeilly said. "There's no time to waste in a situation like this."

McNeilly said the training program began almost as soon as he got off the plane. His lectures often lasted until 11



Chief Robert McNeilly

p.m. and sometimes went to 1 a.m. He also visited the Old City of Jerusalem and got an education on how police manage crowds and defuse volatile situations with talk.

JINSA spokeswoman Marsha Halteman said the organization began sponsoring police exchange programs with Israel in 2002.

"That was a pilot [project]," she said of the first mission. "We understood there was a huge need for interaction with the Israelis, so we institutionalized it as a permanent program."

(Lee Chottiner can be reached online at lechottiner@pittchron.com.)

Eruv: Takes in everybody in Jewish Community

Continued from page 1.

comprise parts of the eruv in White Oak. Eruv is a Hebrew word that means to mix or join together.

This eruv takes in more than one square mile of White Oak, stretching from Route 48 to State Street, from the woods behind Gemilas Chesed to the Eisenhower School. It includes Gemilas Chesed, the Mesivta of Allegheny County, the mikvah and Temple B'nai Israel.

"It pretty much takes in everybody who is in the Jewish community area for the most part," Mesivta spokesman Eli Greenfeld said.

It's the second community eruv to be

constructed in the Pittsburgh area. The other community eruv, in Squirrel Hill, was established in 1986. Some Jews also assemble smaller private eruvim in their own yards.

"The Schulhof Community Eruv will enable growing families with children access to the shul, friends and the community on Shabbat," Gemilas Chesed President David Sunstein said in a prepared statement.

The Eruv will be checked weekly by Mesivta instructors Rabbis Nachum Langsner and Tzvi Perecman.

(Lee Chottiner can be reached online at lechottiner@pittchron.com.)

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SAM GLICK	ABE GLICK	ISABELLE ROSENBLUM	MAX ROSENBLUM
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MRS. HELENE MANELA	DONALD LESTER LEE		
HAZEL MARKOWITZ	ARTHUR S. MARKOWITZ & ROSELLA BERTENTHAL	GERRY BROWARSKY	SPECIAL BIRTHDAY OF BERT KOSSIS
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