

THE COMMUNITY NEWS



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Jewish Community Council

Partners
For Life

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April 1985

NISAN-IYAR 5745

Vol. 49 No. 4

You're In Store For An Exciting Program

Arthur Kurzweil

NOTED JEWISH GENEALOGIST

WILL BE FEATURED AT THE J.C.C. APRIL 28 AT 6 P.M.

Author of two books "**From Generation To Generation: How To Trace Your Jewish Genealogy and Personal History**" and "**My Generations: A Course In Jewish Family History.**"

Pastries and beverages will be served. Advance reservations are urged as food must be ordered.

Donation: General Public - \$5.00; Center Members & Senior Citizens 60+ \$4.00; Children under 12 \$3.00.

Among Mr. Kurzweil topics will be "JEWISH ROOTS". Won't you join us for a truly unique program?

CALL 945-5631 FOR RESERVATIONS

*Partial funding for this program made available by the Jewish Community Endowment Associates.



Partners For Life: 1985 Campaign Jewish Federation of Bangor



Stephen T. Emery - 1985 Federation/UJA Campaign Chairman.

The designation of the 1985 Campaign of the Jewish Federation of Bangor, "Partners for Life", symbolizes our identity and concern for all Jews everywhere. Our fellow Jews in Israel are facing not only the rigors of being surrounded by their enemies but also a severe and demoralizing re-structuring of their economy. Those Jews lucky enough to have escaped from Ethiopia face cultural shock and the strain of not knowing the fates of their families who did not escape. In the Soviet Union, the repression of Jews continues and in Eastern Europe and elsewhere small enclaves of Jews cling to their identities against all odds. These Jews know what it means to struggle just

for the basics and life and they depend upon and richly deserve our support.

1985 is a pivotal year for our Campaign locally. The Federation supports not only national and international charities, but local charities and institutions that directly and significantly affect the lives of each Jew in the greater Bangor area, and which signify and identify this area as having an active and committed Jewish community.

Due to the loss of some major corporate gifts over the years as economic conditions have changed, our Community increasingly must be supported by individual gifts and commitments.

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YOU ARE INVITED
TO THE JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S
ANNUAL MEETING
ON

**THURSDAY EVENING, APRIL 18
AT 7:30 P.M.**

With Italian flavor, the Agenda will include:
Election of Officers and Directors
Committee Reports
Awards

So come and enjoy a "Kosher" slice of pizza (from The Bagel Shop)
and a glass of wine

As they say "No charge" but please let us know if you are coming.

Encore!

The Jewish Community Center has planned another Big Band Dance Party for Saturday night, April 13 from 9:00 P.M. to midnight featuring the sounds of Artie Shaw, Glenn Miller, Benny Goodman, Les Brown, Sammy Kaye and other of your favorite bands.

Put on your dancing shoes for the Fox-Trot, Swing, Waltz, Cha-Cha, Tango and join the merriment.

Advance reservations may be made at the JCC, 945-5631. \$6.00 per couple, \$8.00 at the door. Singles are welcome.

•Partners For Life...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

When your Federation representative contacts you with a request to contribute money and/or time, please remember that if we as Jews don't do it, nobody will. Through your gifts of time and money you can re-assert your status with the rest of world Jewry as a "Partner for Life."

Stephen T. Emery

Local "Operation Moses" Campaign Exceeds Expectations

You all remember the headlines - "Secret Airlift of Ethiopian Jews to Israel Revealed." What a privilege to be a Jew to see the history of an entire nation of fellow Jews being changed. On very short notice, the Bangor Area Jewish Community was called upon to raise and contribute \$18,000.00 to the airlift and resettlement effort. A breakfast was held at which nearly \$13,000.00 in pledges were received. A telephone and mail campaign brought in another \$8,000. and the Bangor Area Community exceeded its goal by \$3,000.00. We collected 100 percent of the pledges, a clear sign of the sincerity and commitment with which the pledges were made.

Nationwide, the figures are equally impressive. It is estimated that the cost of airlifting and absorbing each Ethiopian Jew into Israeli society will be \$6,000.00. The Bangor Area Jewish Community saved and forever changed the destinies of 3½ Jews, the equivalent of a father, a pregnant mother and a child. Mazel-Tov to you all! Thank you for your generosity and your concern for and commitment to your fellow Jews.

2nd Family Bowling Planned

April 21 is the date, 10:00 AM is the time, Brewer Bowling Lanes on Wilson Street is the place. . . Come and join us for another exciting Family Bowling morning.

This time, we are using the small bowling ball. The cost includes two games of bowling, shoe rental and refreshments.

The cost is \$1.00 for adults, and 50c for children.

Points will be awarded to winners in the different age categories culminating in awards to be presented at the First Annual JCC Sports Awards Breakfast to be held on May 5th.

To plan accurately, please call us at 945-5631 to reserve a place at the bowling alley. The last family bowling day was immensely enjoyed by all who participated.

"SATURDAY AT 8" Presents



SATURDAY, April 20th at the JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

Tickets: Adults \$2.50; Center Members \$2.00; Students and Senior Citizens \$1.00.



Mim Viner holding her cake and candle celebrating her 80th birthday at the Senior Citizens Friendship Club. May we celebrate many more and may you look as radiant as you do today.

Sharon Offenberg Wins Law Honors

Sharon Lynne Offenberg, was a member of the Suffolk University Law School Constitutional Law Moot Court team that captured the J. Braxton Craven Memorial Moot Competition at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Suffolk won over 32 other teams in the competition.

Sharon was chosen outstanding oral advocate in the competition. She is a graduate of Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, Mass. and is a third year law student at Suffolk.

Sharon is the daughter of Nancy Offenberg and the late Al Offenberg.

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B'nai B'rith Offers New Book

The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith has just published a new, important and informative book - THE ADL HANDBOOK ON ISRAEL.

All of us who have been seriously involved with Israel in any way have been looking for material that is concise, current and full of pertinent data on Israel's history, politics, geopolitical and military situation, etc. The HANDBOOK's contributors include some of the best writers and thinkers on the Middle East, and in our judgment this is the single most effective document

presently available on a myriad of issues.

A quick perusal of the introduction by the United States Ambassador to Israel, Samuel Lewis, as well as the table of contents, will immediately confirm for you its scope and usability.

The HANDBOOK is an effective tool in communicating solid information about Israel and the Middle East. Cost is \$9.95 per book. Add \$2.00 shipping and handling and send check to Jewish Community Center, 28 Somerset St., Bangor, Maine 04401.

Holders of 1971 Israel Bonds Who Reinvest Can Receive Interest In Advance

Holders of State of Israel Fifth Development Issue Bonds which mature beginning in March, 1986 can receive their interest up to a full year early by reinvesting the entire proceeds of their Bonds in new Israel Current Income Bonds.

Bernard Pemstein, Chairman of the Worcester area Israel Bond campaign explained that a large number of Fifth Development Issue Savings and Coupon Bonds which were purchased in the period beginning in March, 1971, will mature beginning in March, 1986.

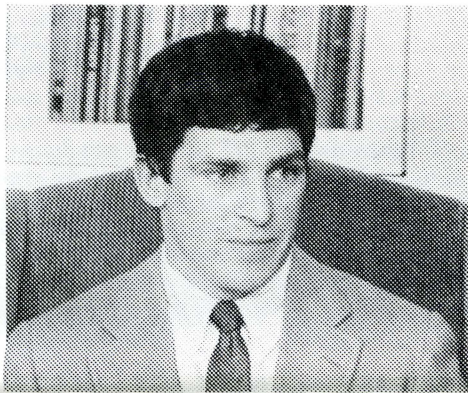
"The Government of Israel has agreed to permit holders of these Bonds to reinvest the maturity value of their Bonds toward the purchase of new Israel Bonds a full year before the maturity date," Pemstein said. "This means that Bonds maturing in March, 1986, will be available for reinvestment in March, 1985, and so on."

Because of this special privilege, the Bond Organization has launched an intensive reinvestment effort in our community. Holders of Bonds due to mature next year will soon be contacted by the Reinvestment Committee or the local Bond Office.

Mr. Pemstein pointed out that, although Israel currently faces economic difficulties, the nation's economy is basically sound.

"By reinvesting maturing Israel Bonds, friends of Israel can demonstrate their confidence in the nation's underlying economic strength. They can help to provide research and development funds for Israel's high-technology industries, thus improving the nation's exports and putting Israel back on the road to economic stability."

Teevens To Speak At 1st Annual JCC Sports Award Breakfast



University in August, 1980, as offensive backfield coach and recruiting coordinator and in 1982 became the offensive coordinator, quarterback and receiver coach.

His recruiting area has included Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Vermont and Massachusetts. Since 1981 he has been a dormitory director at B.U., responsible for counseling and educational programming for University students. In the summers from 1982-1984 he has been the director of the National Youth Sports Program, a federally funded sports program for 400 disadvantaged city children.

At Dartmouth Teevens was not only an outstanding football player, serving as captain and most valuable player on the 1978 Ivy League championship team, but was also a three-year letterman with the hockey team.

Teevens was a quarterback in the Blue-Grey Football Classic in his senior year and had a tryout with the Montreal Alouettes. In 1978 he was selected for the Manners Makyth Man Award for sportsmanship, friendliness and good humor.

Since his graduation he has worked at summer football camps for high school athletes at Dartmouth, Riverside, Calif., and at the New England Patriots Football Camp.

A brother, Scott Teevens was a defensive back for the University of Maine football team in 1980 and 1981.

JCC SPORTS AWARD BREAKFAST SUNDAY, MAY 5th 9 A.M.

Bill Cohen, Chairman of the 1st Annual Sports Awards Breakfast on May 5th has announced that Buddy Teevens, the new head football coach for UMO will be the guest speaker.

Teevens, a graduate of Dartmouth College where he was an All Ivy League quarterback and ECAC Division 1A Player of the Year, succeeds Ron Rogerson, who resigned from the post last December to accept the head football coaching position at Princeton University. A total of 54 people applied for the job and Teevens was among seven candidates who were interviewed by a University search committee.

Following his graduation from Dartmouth Teevens enrolled in a masters program in history at Depauw University and as a graduate assistant there he coached the offensive backfield. He went to Boston

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Youth Aliyah

- Orly Zamir: The Chance to "Make It" -

"My father had five daughters," explains Orly Zamir, "and each time, he wanted a son. I grew up convinced that I could never do anything to please him. I guess I just gave up."

The youngest child of Iraqi immigrants who came to Israel in 1960, Orly lived in Ramat Gan, near Tel Aviv. Only six months after Orly was born, her mother suffered a painful miscarriage and withdrew into stony silence - a "nervous condition," the neighbors called it.

Rejected by her father and receiving no support from her mother, Orly grew up overdependent on her sisters, a clinging child, easily driven to tears and unable to establish friendships on her own. Depression and lack of confidence interfered with her ability to learn, and she did poorly in school.

When the school social worker visited the Zamir home, she found it clean but cold and uninviting. Orly was referred to the residential Youth Aliyah school of Kiryat Yearim. Her first hurdle was acute home-

sickness and loneliness for her sisters. But eventually, she settled in and made her first tentative approach to some girls in the group. Two years later, having overcome emotional and learning difficulties, Orly left Kiryat Yearim for an agricultural high school.

While she was there, Orly learned that her mother had recovered. Orly went home for a while, to prove to her father that "a girl can also do something, and he should no longer be sorry that he doesn't have sons."

Orly has now completed her IDF service and is studying painting at Tel Aviv University. A serious student, poised, in control of herself and in command of her life, Orly remains profoundly grateful to Youth Aliyah, the Youth Aliyah of the 1980's, for guiding her to emotional and intellectual maturity.

Contributions to Youth Aliyah is always needed. Send or call Marlene Allen 942-2010, Ida Gopan at the JCC 945-5631, Julie Kominsky 942-7956 or call me at 942-4201.

Mildred Kominsky, Chairman

The Myth of Israel South A

Every year, UN committees go through the ritual of adopting resolutions condemning Israel for its trade with South Africa. This Israel-baiting takes place despite statistics from the International Monetary Fund showing that Israel's trade with South Africa constitutes less than one-half of one percent of the latter's exports and three-quarters of one percent of its imports. Total Israel exports to South Africa are a paltry 120 million dollars. By contrast, U.S. exports to South Africa in 1983 totalled \$2.2 billion, Japan's \$1.76 billion, W. Germany, \$2 billion, and U.K., \$1.69 billion.

Many of the black African nations, while proclaiming themselves fierce foes of apartheid, nevertheless continue to trade with South Africa, sometimes openly, more often clandestinely. Never cited in the UN debates is a front-page article in The New York Times dates April 8, 1979 which was headlined: Pretoria is Pressing Secret Trade With Its Black African Opponents.

An Unforgettable Winter

Volunteers Work in JNF Forests: A New Direction

by Yehonathan Tommer

Spending a winter in Israel was an unforgettable experience for some one hundred retirees from the United States and Canada. They were participants in a four-month pilot program jointly conducted by the Jewish National Fund and the Jewish Agency's Aliyah Department. All felt that as recent retirees volunteer work in JNF forests would give their lives fresh direction and purpose.

During their stay the volunteers lived at the seaside vacation resort of Netanya. Two mornings a week they went to nearby JNF forests to help with seasonal work—preparing tree saplings, hoeing, cleaning picnic areas, and burning off dry undergrowth. The rest of their busy schedule was devoted to Hebrew lessons and to social work in hospitals, municipal libraries, and schools for handicapped children. Many also tutored Israeli students in English. Evenings and weekends were spent in sightseeing, visits with relatives, and guided tours of JNF projects throughout Israel.

Back to Basics

Sixty-two year old Sylvia Georgou of New Jersey, a psychiatric social worker recently retired from New York State's Rockland Research Center, said that forest work got her "back to basics." "Planting trees and pruning them doesn't require cutting through red tape, and the results are immediately visible in the fresh beauty of Israel's forests."

Jean Small, an active worker in many Jewish organizations in Montreal, was

enraptured with the program. "We all met in Israel for the first time, and after two months of living together and working together on the JNF projects, we became great friends—and really part of Israel's growth."

Informed Ambassadors

Bernard Bill, a 66-year old chemical engineer and computer programmer from Bergenfield, N.J., expressed similar views. "Forest work helped me appreciate the labor that lay behind the JNF honor

plaques," he said. "Until now, I had no idea of the work that was involved in creating a forest."

According to its sponsors, the volunteer program has provided its participants with an excellent first-hand knowledge of Israel's society and development needs. They return to their homes as "informed ambassadors," better equipped to contribute to the work of the Jewish National Fund.

Reprinted from Land & Life, Winter 1985.



If you are curious as to who that shlepper Bag Lady is at the Beth Abraham Fashion Show - wonder no more, it is none other than Barbara Podolsky who gave a rendition of "Second Hand Rose" and pulled out a beautiful skirt from the bag to the delight of the audience.

's Collusion With Africa

The Times reported that the semi-secret trade between South Africa and 25 black African states amounted to a billion dollars a year. By 1981, such trade had increased to \$1.4 billion, according to the Associated Press. SAA, the South African airline is frequently seen parked in the airports of black countries that profess to be boycotting the apartheid state.

Some of the Arab states that loudly proclaim their adherence to the boycott of South Africa are not above selling oil secretly to that country at prices which are of course higher than the official OPEC benchmark. Some years ago, the New York-based Journal of Commerce reported that the United Arab Emirates were delivering from 250,000 to 400,000 barrels a day to South Africa. Arab oil exports alone to South Africa are at least ten times greater than Israel's total exports to South Africa, according to Israel's UN Ambassador Bin-yamin Netanyahu.

The latest indication of this clandestine air traffic is the account in Mid-East Report of an indirect air route linking South Africa to Saudi Arabia. South African Airways (SAA) has made a deal with the tiny African state of Comoro Islands, a volcanic archipelago off the coast of Southwest Africa. It has placed at the disposal of Air Comores, a Boeing 737 jetliner painted in the Air Comores colors. The disguised SAA plane starts from Smuts airport near Johannesburg, stops in Moroni, the Comoran capital, and Mogadisho, Somalia — but not to pick up passengers — then flies on to Jedda. What is puzzling is that the South African Moslem population is only 177,000. Who then flies from Johannesburg to Jedda?

Reprinted from Boycott Report, March 1985.

The Long Wait

For Iranian Jewish refugees, escaping the oppression of the Khomeini regime entails risk and frustration beyond anything they had ever imagined. The circuitous route they must take to an immigration processing point in Western Europe is perilous and fraught with enormous risk and the possibility of physical danger, and, worse yet, a forced return to Iran.

With the worst over, having survived the rigors of reaching their initial destination (generally Vienna, less often, Rome), the refugees must deal with the emotional trauma of waiting anywhere from six to nine months to be processed for immigration to the U.S.

In 1983, the United States government declared Iranian Jews, Bahais and Christians eligible for refugee status and, since that time, there has been a steady acceleration in activities relating to their movement from Western Europe to the U.S. The process of assisting Iranian Jews is extraordinarily complex, time-consuming and arduous. HIAS estimates that it expends as much effort to assist one Iranian Jew as it does to help 50 Soviet Jewish emigres.

Since 1979, when the revolutionary Islamic government seized power, the situation for Iranian Jews has remained perilous. Jews in Iran face severe hardships—including the confiscation of their property and assets. During this five year period, there have been imprisonments for spying or "aiding the Zionist cause" and several Jewish leaders have been executed. Stringent emigration laws were initiated at the start of the Iran-Iraq War. Yet the issue in Iran is not, strictly speaking, a Jewish one—emigration is difficult for any Iranian citizen, although particularly so for minorities. The options for Iranian Jews are severely limited. They pay a high price to leave Iran.

And once the refugees arrive in Western Europe and their long wait begins, much work is entailed in assisting them on a day to day basis. When necessary, the Joint

Distribution Committee provides care and maintenance aid and housing assistance, as well as its educational and recreational programs.

Adding to the complications of their lengthy in-transit state, is the fact that most Iranian Jewish refugees speak only Farsi.

For most of us, it is difficult to imagine how it feels to be thrust into an alien environment, unable to speak the language, thoroughly dependent upon others, confronted by a seemingly endless cultural gap. And, although the problems facing Iranian Jewish refugees in transit are far from unique (and might be considered minor compared to those of the Ethiopians or Southeast Asians in their respective refugee or internment camps), they are very real and they have received virtually no public attention. No matter what the differences, the Iranian Jewish migrant waiting to reunite with his family in the U.S. is going through the same kind of emotional and psychological upheaval faced by virtually all refugees.

The aftermath of the recent reduction of entry quotas for Near Eastern refugees has been a fast-increasing HIAS caseload. And, unless more U.S. immigration visas are forthcoming, that caseload will continue to grow. It is now nearing 300 (more than 260 are waiting in Vienna). The demands upon HIAS professionals, both in Europe and the U.S., and that placed upon other refugee assistance agencies, as well as the good graces of the host country, are enormous. For everyone involved—the refugees themselves, their statewide relatives waiting in eager anticipation, the HIAS and JDC case-workers here and in Europe, the consular officials of several countries, as well as the immigration authorities—the three prerequisites are abundantly clear. . . patience, patience and more patience!

Reprinted from The HIAS Reporter, Winter 1984/85.

UAHC Issues Guide To Couples Planning Mixed Marriage

NEW YORK (JTA) — A guide for men and women planning mixed marriages, designed to help such couples "become better informed and more adequately prepared for the ramifications" of such a marriage has been issued by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the association of American Reform synagogues.

"Jews and Non-Jews: Getting Married" by Rabbi Sanford Seltzer of Brookline, Mass., a Reform rabbi and psychotherapist, reported as having counseled hundreds of mixed marriage couples, is a 44-page pamphlet, described as an "informative and insightful" examination of the issue from the perspective of Reform Judaism.

Reporting that recent estimates are that 40 to 50 percent of American Jews who marry currently choose non-Jewish part-

ners, Rabbi Seltzer, co-director of Reform Judaism's Commission on Outreach, attributed the trend to the development of growing secularism and religious pluralism, an emphasis on personal freedom, the feminist movement, and a more open society that generally rejects anti-Semitic attitudes and beliefs.

Rabbi Seltzer declared that existing data suggested that mixed marriages "are less harmonious than same-faith marriages" and that mixed marriages "can and often do create tensions that are not present in relationships involving persons from similar religious and cultural backgrounds."

He also asserted that Jews determined to share their lives with a non-Jewish partner but still maintain their Jewish identity and the Jewish identity of children of such a marriage face "an enormously difficult

task."

He said such couples should expect that (1) such marriages demand even more patience and maturity than that required of same-faith marriages; (2) normal marital misunderstandings may evoke reactions out of proportion to their surface causes; and (3) religious and cultural experiences that normally enrich a marriage will be hard to achieve.

In addition, he said, (4) spiritual alternatives sufficiently compensatory for those moments that cannot be shared may be lacking; (5) the religious upbringing of children pose particularly painful dilemmas; and (6) pressures from parents, in-laws and friends may add to existing tensions.

Despite such pitfalls, Rabbi Seltzer

CONTINUED TO PAGE 6

•UAHC Issues Guide To Couples

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

argued that predictions of the demise of the American Jewish community because of the growing number of mixed marriages are "premature and unfounded." But he nevertheless strongly suggested that persons of diverse religious backgrounds "should begin talking about themselves and their expectations of marriage before the emotional intensity of their relationship gets out of hand and they are no longer able to exercise good judgement."

Concerning raising of children religiously, Rabbi Seltzer wrote that parents "should be thoroughly versed in what Judaism and Christianity teach and practice.

The faith they choose should be intellectually and emotionally compatible with their personal lifestyles and beliefs." To do otherwise is to rend "a disservice to themselves and to their children."

The booklet also discusses Reform Jewish and Christian viewpoints on mixed marriages, the significance of the Jewish wedding service, religious compromises, marriage under civil auspices, conversion to Judaism, divorce and re-marriage, anti-Semitism, social situations and relations with in-laws, and the role and attitudes of parents and the clergy.

New Israel Individual Variable Bond Offered By Israel Bond Organization

A new State of Israel Individual Variable Rate Bond for individual purchasers, designed to expand Israel Bond sales and mobilize additional proceeds for the strengthening of Israel's economy, has been announced by the State of Israel Bond Organization.

The new instrument pays a minimum annual interest of 6% plus 50% of the excess over 6% of the average of the prime rates quoted by three major U.S. banks. A minimum purchase of \$10,000 is required.

The announcement of the new \$50 million issue was made by David B. Hermelin, National Campaign Chairman of the Bond Organization, and Brig. Gen. (Res.) Yehudah Halevy, President.

They said: "This new Israel Bond security is being issued in response to requests by supporters of Israel's economic development program who suggested a larger denomination Bond which has a higher yield and can be held in a personal portfolio."

The new Bond matures ten years from the date of issue. The interest is computed semi-annually and is paid on April 1st of each year.

The Bond leaders added: "The Bond Organization has a history of success with each of its new investment instruments. This year, because of the economic problems confronting it, Israel's Government and people are making sacrifices to help restore the economy to stability and growth. By investing in this new Israel Bond issue, Israel's friends can demonstrate their partnership with the people of Israel and at the same time receive a competitive return."

The Israel Bond Organization has mobilized more than \$7 billion for every aspect of Israel's economy from sales from its various instruments since its inception in 1951.



Town and Country gentleman, Maurice Shindler, is shown helping one of the lovely models at the Beth Abraham Sisterhood's Annual Fashion Show held April 2nd at the Jewish Community Center.



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The 'Refuseniks' Need Help

by Elie Wiesel

They were the first. The first to reject the reign of terror. The first to defy the Kremlin. The first to claim freely, openly, their right to difference — and — and to freedom.

I am talking about the Russian Jews. I met them in 1965 during a trip to the Soviet Union. In a work published afterward, I tried to bear witness for them. I described their victories over fear. I told of their Simhat Torah in front of the Choral Synagogue in Moscow; thousands and thousands of young people had gathered to sing and dance and thereby celebrate their devotion to the history of the Jewish people. It was obvious — some 50 years of dictatorship and Communist education had not been able to stifle Jewish memory.

A great number of these young idealists are already in Israel and almost everywhere throughout the free world. But not all. The majority have remained behind. Now they are known as "refuseniks", because they are refused visas. They remain our heroes. How do they manage not to lose hope?

I met with some of them in 1979 during my third visit to their country. We spent a whole night talking about Jewish literature and philosophy. Some had been waiting three years for their visas, others three

times that long. From the moment they sent in their request for emigration papers, they lived marginally, in an oppressive atmosphere of unemployment. Still constantly followed, watched, interrogated by the police for trivial matters or for no reason at all, they constitute a separate society within the Russian people. They no longer frequent their former colleagues; they meet among themselves, help each other, let each other know what is happening in the world at large and in the Jewish world in particular. Convinced that eventually they will be able to leave, they live in expectation and spend their time in study. In leaving them, during our last meeting, I asked the usual question: could something be done for them? They answered: send us books.

But their situation is no longer the same. It has considerably worsened. Persecution of all kinds, searches, arrests: the K.G.B. is taking a harder line. All the signs make it impossible to doubt: the intimidation campaign aims chiefly at educators who teach Hebrew, the Bible, Jewish history.

Mark Nepomniashchy, Yaakov Mesh, Yaakov Levin, Polina Green (from Tiraspol), Aharon Munblit (from Kishinev), Mosiey Lieberman (from Bendery), Aleksandr Kholmiansky and Yuli Edel-

shtein (from Moscow) — and others whose names are not yet known in the West. Searches have been made in the homes of Dan Shapira and Inesa Brokhina in Moscow. The police confiscated books and ritual objects that they claim concealed "drugs". Those arrested are accused, for the most part of "subversive actions against the state." Severe sentences are to be feared: these victims will be made to serve as examples, as warnings. And these new prisoners will be joining their brave predecessors, Anatoly Shcharansky and Vladimir Slepak, in their prison.

How to explain these measures of the Kremlin? Do they reflect uncertainties at the top? Or, a desire to emphasize its rigidity toward the Western powers? Any hypothesis is likely. On the other hand, what is certain is that the "refuseniks" are entering a dark and threatening time. They are counting on our human solidarity in order to stand fast. If we deny it to them, we are condemning them to solitude and despair. As for ourselves, we shall never be forgiven for any indifference.

Eli Wiesel is a novelist and on the UCSJ Advisory Board. (This article was translated from the French by Richard Howard.)

Reprinted from ALERT, February 28, 1985 Issue.

— ATTENTION —

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COMMUNITY NEWS

By

Jewish Community Council

28 Somerset Street • Bangor, Maine 04401



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J F B

SPECIAL MENTION

*Mameve Medwed, daughter of Mrs. Harry Stern, has been named an award winning finalist for fiction writing by the Massachusetts Artists Fellowship Competition.

*The following students who have been elected to membership in the Bangor High School Chapter of the National Honor Society: Seniors: Kim Adelman, Susan Kominsky, Michael Saxl. Juniors: Beth Adelman, Leah Goodman, Julie Kominsky, Rochelle (Shelly) Miller. Sophomores: Dana Gold, David Tabenken, Samuel Trotzky.

*To Jimmy Lieberman on being selected as a delegate, and Peter Segal as alternate to Boys State from Bangor High School. Jimmy is the son of Mr. and Mrs. David Lieberman and Peter is the son of Mr. and Mrs. James Segal.

*To "Shelly" Miller, daughter of Sanford Miller, and the late Lorraine Miller, on being on the varsity basketball team at Bangor High. She also plays soccer and softball and last year was named "Rookie of the Year of the Penobscot Valley High School" in softball.

*To Kim and Beth Adelman, daughters of Paula and David Adelman on being on the Bangor High School swim team which won the 1985 State Class A schoolgirl swimming and diving title at the University of Maine.

MAZEL-TOV

*Steven Schwartz, son of Lillian Silver and Peter Schwartz and Annette Bronkesh, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Manacha Bronkesh, Bridgton, New Jersey, on the occasion of their engagement.

*Debby and Scott Chasen, Milford, Conn. on the birth of a daughter, Jacqueline. To the maternal grandparents, Lillian and Elmer Saltzman, great-grandmother, Katherine Carver, Bangor, and the paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Chasen, New York.

*To Chaim Tropper, son of Rabbi and Mrs. David Tropper, Ottawa, Ont. Canada, on the occasion of his Bar Mitzvah, in February.

STANDARD SHOES

- Downtown Bangor
- Bangor Mall
- Airport Mall
- Presque Isle
- Waterville

CONDOLENCE

*To the family of the late Beverly M. Etscovitz (Mrs. Basil), Presque Isle, Maine.

*To the family of the late Barbara Cohen, (Mrs. Joseph), Bangor and Penobscot.

*To Roz Isaacs, on the passing of her father, Sam Hirsch, San Francisco.

Dear J.C.C.:

Had a wonderful time at ORT's first annual progressive dinner. . . wish you were there.

Imagine — good food, good friends, good music, good times.

And then — a donation to **ORT'S SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING** in Jerusalem. . .WOW!

You **MUST** plan to attend next year and **NOSH WITH PANACHE.**

Regards,

E.

Correction From March Issue

3/12/85

Dear Ida,

Oops! A mistake in my article. The mailing address should read: Marissa Emple, Transplant Fund, Congregation B'nai Israel, P.O. Box 1060, Danbury (not Brookfield) CT 06810.

Cuomo On Dachau Explanation

Governor Mario Cuomo (D-N.Y.) has criticized President Reagan for being "extraordinarily insensitive" about the Holocaust. Cuomo referred to President Reagan's remark during his recent press conference. Reagan had been asked if he would visit Dachau during a visit to West Germany in May, the 40th anniversary of the U.S. victory in Europe. Reagan said he would not. "Instead of reawakening the memories and so forth, and the passions of the time, maybe we should observe this day as the day when, 40 years ago, peace began and friendship," he said. He added that "since the German people have very few alive that remember even the war, and certainly none of them were adults and participating in any way, they have a feeling and a guilt feeling that's been imposed on them."

Cuomo said that he had written a letter to President Reagan "as an American and a member of the United States Holocaust Commission." He told the President that his remarks and his decision not to visit Dachau "may suggest an insensitivity that is not appropriate to your high office. Your remarks can be seen as an affront to the memory of the victims of the Holocaust and an insult to their survivors."

The letter added that "your comments about 'a guilt feeling that's been imposed upon' the German people only serves to aid the cause of those who have spent the years since 1945 attempting to expunge the memory of the Holocaust and to expunge its reality."

The Governor said that the Holocaust was "unique in its savagery and the world must never forget it." The White House had no immediate response to Cuomo.

Reprinted from the **Near East Report.**

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