ARTS' & CULTURE

Family Fortune

A new biography looks at the Guggenheims' public and private - lives.

DAVID KAUFMANN has a read on PAGE 11.

FORWARD FORUM

Bilateral Will U.S. Role Is Is Key Issue

By SHLOMO AVINERI Is Ariel Sharon an Israeli de Gaulle, come to power promising to implement the program of the nationalist right and instead becoming the

vehicle for carrying out the ideas which the

Main Factor

By DAOUD KUTTAB

Everyone in the Middle East is crossing their fingers these days, hoping that regional and international leaders will not

blow yet another opportunity for Arab-Israeli peace. The role of Palestinian and

FORWARD

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State, Defense Departments In Rare Unity on Mideast Policy

By ORI NIR

WASHINGTON - While Syria's repeated offers to reopen peace talks with Jerusalem are triggering a fierce debate within the Israeli military and political establishment, the Bush administration appears united in its opposition to launching such nego-

The administration is not officially advising Israel against such talks, Israeli and American sources said But Washington has refrained from publicly endorsing the resumption of Israeli-Syrian peace negotiations, and has quietly told Israeli leaders that this would be a bad time to resume talks with Syria, according to

knowledgeable American and Israeli sources.

The unified front in Washington marking a seemingly rare point of agreement on Middle East policy among officials at the State and Defense departments - stands in sharp contrast to the situation in Israel Prime Minister Sharon has made clear in recent weeks that he has no intention of resuming negotiations with Syria anytime soon, but numerous top-level officials in Jerusalem, from the president and defense minister to the military chief of staff and intelligence heads, have publicly spoken out in

favor of sitting down with Syria In Washington, the consensus against talks reflects the State Department's suspicion that Israeli-Syrian discussions would simply serve as a way for Sharon to delay progress with the Palestinians, as well as the view at both the Pentagon and the National Security Council that Damascus has failed to quell the flow of support for the

insurgency in Iraq "It really wouldn't look good if Israeli President Unveils Plan For 'World Knesset'

IERUSALEM - Israel's government took its first public step last week toward the formal creation of an international Jewish "parlia ment," whose purpose would be to represent Diaspora Jews in the formation of Israeli government policies that have potential impact on Jewish life in other countries

The initiative was unveiled at a special Monday meeting of the Knesset's committee for immigra tion and absorption, which has responsibility for Diaspora affairs. The meeting was held at the official residence of Israel's figurehead president, in an apparent effort to emphasize the ceremonial significance of the initiative, and was formally introduced by the president



X-MAS FACTOR: In his latest furor, Bill O Reilly urges a Jew who dislikes public Christmas rites to 'go to Israel.' David Twersky weighs in, Page 8.

Holiday Invite List Showcases White House's Ties to Orthodox

By E.J. KESSLER

The White House's budding relationship with the Orthodox Jewish community was on display last week at three public events that some participants said signaled who's in and who's out of favor with the administration as President Bush heads for a

An intimate December 9 meeting between the president and 15 communal leaders featured 10 Orthodox rabbis, one Orthodox rebbetzin, four Reform rabbis and not one Conser vative Jew. The 500-person White House Hanukkah party, held later that night, was choc a bloc with

the religiously traditional elements of the community that supported his re-election and sending a message to the more liberal segments that did not According to network exit polls, about 75% of American Jews voted for John Kerry - but a majority of the Orthodox, who comprise only 8% of Jews nationally, backed Bush The liberal branches of Judaism, including the Conservative and Reform movements, together represent 79% of synagogue-alfiliated Jews, compared with 21% who belong to Orthodox congregations,

showed that Bush was rewarding

ACCOUTREMENTS

Designer T-Shirts Cause 'Divine' Conflict With Kabbalah Centre

By ADAM SACKS

To the names of God, one fashion designer is producing. Charles and skirting conflict with the Ayelet Asset, barglets based Karbbaldi Centre Ayelet Asset, barglets have deshbaldi Centre Ayelet Asset, barglets have deshbaldi Centre of the Ayelet Asset, barglets have deshbaldi Centre of the Ayelet Asset, barglets have deshbalding the Ayelet Asset has after a facility of the Ayelet Asset has a facility of the Ayelet Ayele



CRYSTAL MESS: After battling the Centre, Aviv began selling the T-shirts on her own. Special Swarovski-encrusted pieces go for upward of \$120.

sld Hebrew script with innovative design concepts an T-shirts, and the result has been dramatic surional pairings, including an "Abolish the wicked". That featuring the letters of one of God's names drapping from a barrode, and nother with the word fine the strength of the strength of

charry on top the 10% "tube" required of center members.

How should I have to dorate my work as charry when these people live like millionaires, and I donot reven have a job and could not support myself? said Any of the celebrity friendly center that has assets and yearly revenue studing around \$20 million. The center has a point of the celebrity friendly center that has assets and yearly revenue studing around \$20 million. The center has a point of the celebrity friendly center that has assets and yearly revenue studing around \$20 million. The center of the center of

"Mobody owns the names," Avry said Indeed, it might no suprise anyone to learn that the names of older extended to open right owns the harboals follow the suprise anyone to learn that the names of older extended to open right towerchip The Kabbalah Generan into this difficulty before when they is macroscally to copyright the "red string" one old, which kabbalists wear to protect themselves award as all a string and in the string and in the

seant ed., With more than 25 shirts in her line, Aviv is now thing her designs at high-end stores and trade downworkshop e- specially in Japan, where there are several fan Web sites devoted to the shirts. In the most are shirt of the shirts and the shirt end and the shirts and the shirt end and the shirts and the shirt end and the shirt end and the shirt end and the shirt end of the shirts and the shirt end of the shirts and the shirt end of th

dam J. Sacks is a writer and documentary film-ter lung in Harlam. He is currently producing a magnitude walking tours on the creative destruc-ing Manhattan, including "Our Crowd's Fifth mag," and "When Harlam Was Jewish."



COMMUNITY

89-year-old Bat Mitzvah Girls

By JULIE KAY

ara Zwerin, 89, of Sunrise, Fla, barely can walk and is legally blind, but she is an avid card player who plays canasta at Dyne! D. Cantor Senior or direc times a week, using special enter three times a week, using special rge-print cards And, as of last week, she is also a bat

And as of lost week, she is also a bat Like most elderly [ewish women. Zwenn never had a hat marzah, once only to make who had been marzah, once only to make who had not marzah, once only to make who had not marzah to manuscred; a weap good to make who had not not to the standard commention with its 11th and commention of the marzah of the manuscreast; a weap going to offer Barand bat mitzvahs to seniors, Zwerin signed up She prepared for the big day with a young tutor from the David Posnack Hebror Duy School, whad it all years old hisband, Sol, in attendance were Zwerin's daughter, who flew in from Maryland, her son, who flew in eight wheeler in from Manuscota, and her granddaughter and great grand-daughter, who traveled from the west

coast of Florida

"They were oproud," Zwerin said "I

was shaking the raid, "I zet, but the rabbitudd me the like raisers stressands sucrooms
before e sap Performance I said,
you're comparing me to Barbra

Stressand."

System of Sparing me to Barbra In fact, "mm was on of 27 women and was made who were sentor cit to and was me allow who were sentor cit to and was me allow who were sentor cit to and was me allow who were sentor cit to another to the me and to a complianent are to me and a sparing who was not a complianent with (for this who was and a complianent with (for this who was a complianent with (for this who was a complianent with (for this who was a complianent with a complianent with the complianent with the control of the complianent with the complianent with the complianent of the complianent with the complianent of the complianent with the complianent of the complianent was a complianent with the comp

ticularly in returee areas, are working to accommedate that desire often pairing up the olds "bar matrix by gif" with a 15 sear-old recent bar interval agrid to provide her once a week turoring a roughe of months before the event Here's a byproduct of the pairing frendships often formed the many and fold develoce are often formed.

Recently, at a Sambel, Fla, synagoue that cates to seniors, a '90-year old woman became a but nutrival. An acytem of the formed his property of the synagon of the syna

up with the local David Posnack Hebrew Day School to pair young en-dents with seniors. Jewish Family Ser-vices of Broward County provided its rabbi, Cheryl Jacobs, to perform the joint (creme).

steer of Broward County provided justices of Broward County provided in catala, Cheryl Jacobs, to perform the jourt ceremony.

Some of the seniors needed walkers were blind but all made means, and three were blind but all made and the performance of the perfor

more.

Riff's son, Howard, who lives with her,
proudly shot several rolls of time of his
more.

"She was excited to go to her classes
every week." He said. "I saw a lot of peoje with tears in their eyes when she
gave her speech about her grandmoth
or."

Ziff studied her speech and prayers on a special magnified monitor called a CCTV in her home for two months before the event. "I would hear her prac-ticing out loud all the time," her ne phew said.

before the even in the property of the propert

Antenna for the state of the st

SATIRE

JDate.com: Zoe Ann Blitz



Shpila (Profile #347,321) What I Am Looking For

What I Learned From Past Relationships
I dated Jonah, Judah, Esekiel and Gideon Seroully, I dated the entire
Oid Testament without sounding unkosher, most were purely biblical
relationships. I refuse to wrap past relationships in hibbons and bows,
shrugging off him twounds, claiming, "We had alood time while it
lasted," or, "It is what it is." Why can't I be hones and just wish my ex a
sexiess marriage? Also, obsessing about my section cours seems silly in
retrospect.

His Stats

Reconfrumtionist to Reformadox. White hats okay Overeducated limousine liberals preferred, I do not look down on limousine liberal knock-offs.

Those who benefit from Bush's tax cut, especially trustafanans.

Manbreasts make me feel axe I'm experimenting with

We have eyes, no fibbing schaucks.

My Stats Ethnicity

Ashkenazic, but I look Sephardic.

Eves

Hair Expresso
Weight 108 (My winter weight is 113.) Not-my-fault skinny, but I forget to eat. Luckily, no inner thighs. Looks

Seasonal use of Ritalin, with an occasional shot of Prozac

Seasonal use of Ritalin, with an occasional shot of Prozac. Coming up with wide in World Wide Web is my claim to fame, but that was a total fluke in sxth grade Computer 101. At Stanford, I was summa rum Jaude, and with grade inflation my engineering and ethnomissionly but fee proper in boothernact, which was not an expension of the property of the

Between modeling and luging for the Olympics, it is hard to fit in all the funt Serioushy, I am a senior associate at the firm Kvetch, Wine, and Gripe, LLC. My clients include Latin Heebaphile Bible, El Judeo and Hadassah

Volunteer: Tilkun olam-wise, 1 toot pro-bono for LUPEE, a 501(c)3 for Laottans living with Lupus. My mommy suffers from it and deals with elephantitis of the calves, where her feet get all bloated. For my bubbe, 1 walk the 5K Alzheimer's "Forget About It."

For my bubbe, I walk the SK Altheimer's 'Forget About It.'
by timeshers is at Topy Turny Report in Vermont. I do not six,
but have fun with frends from my soronity, Pl La M, and from
Camp Tipse. I long to write novels like Stephen King, but cannot
fathom that unstable, artsy life, like with a share in Brooklyn. I
live to blog, www selfabsorbedbolgoger 3; 473, 314 com.
I bought a studio on the Upper West Side. Why do people throw
away money on rent?! My two-and-half-year-oid buildog, Larry
(David, of coursel), attends this unpretentous (no multiple
referencis, interviews, etc.) dogge day camp, Pipmer Pipers. He
taugit me how to be a

Catie Luzarus is a comedian who writes for flow magazine and for Heeb magazine, where she is a contributing editor. She has indeed dated the entire Old Testament.