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Chabad's Chuck E Cheese and Chanukah Celebration. Children in front of the menorah with Chuck E Cheese after an exciting service with Rabbi Avrohom Rapoport. (More photos on page 6.)

Statement on the Situation in Israel/Gaza

The Jewish Federation of Atlantic and Cape May Counties stands behind Israel in its relentless quest for peace – even with those neighbors who seek her destruction.

For nearly 8 years, 250,000 citizens who live in the south of Israel have been subjected to rocket attacks fired at them from Gaza. In an effort to move the peace process forward, Israel unilaterally withdrew its citizens from Gaza in 2005. The hope was that the Palestinians would elect leaders to help develop their economy and prepare for living side-by-side with Israel.

Unfortunately, the result of Israel's withdrawal from Gaza was the elevation of Hamas as the Palestinian people's chosen leadership. Hamas is bold in its call for the total destruction of Israel. Financed by Iran and Syria, Hamas is responsible for countless terror attacks on innocent Israeli citizens. From the security of schools and densely populated neighborhoods in Gaza, Hamas has relentlessly fired thousands of missiles into Israel. Their unilateral end to a fragile recent ceasefire is the cause of the current defensive moves of Israel's Defense Forces.

Hamas has also been stockpiling enhanced weapons which now can penetrate 20 miles into Israel's neighborhoods. More than 800,000 people are within the range of these deadly launches. Israel has every right to protect its citizens from this danger.

Israel has a long history of making concessions in exchange for peace, including the return of land. Israel's lasting peace with both Egypt and Jordan prove this is possible with the Palestinians.

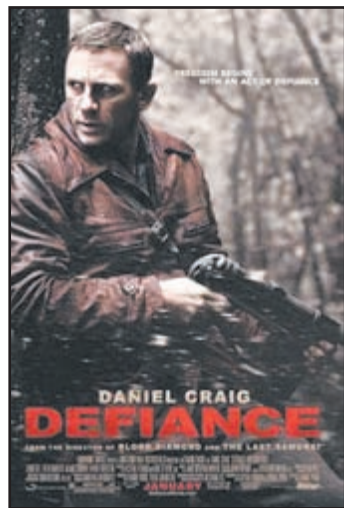
Hamas must end its barrage of terror against Israel. Then, and only then, will peace have a chance.

Tickets Still Available for 'Defiance' Premiere

Tickets are still available for the exclusive movie premiere of "Defiance," which will be held at the Tilton 9 Movie Theatre, Tilton Road, Northfield, on Thursday, Jan. 15, at 7 p.m.

"Defiance" is the true story of the four Bielski brothers who escaped Nazi occupied Poland and began a Jewish partisan group in the woods. They saved approximately 1,200 lives and these Holocaust survivors have over 10,000 family members today. The Bielski brothers represented hope during a time of despair.

Admission is by advance sale only,



and the cost is \$18 per person. Proceeds from the evening will benefit Stockton's Holocaust Resource Center – which announced the premiere – in its mission serving as a resource for the study of the Holocaust and its significance for the past, present, and future.

This film is directly linked to our South Jersey community. There are some partisans and Holocaust survivors who knew the Bielski brothers during the war and after who are members of Stockton's Holocaust Resource Center. This film and the

see **PREMIERE** page 8 ►

Beth Judah's Hazzan Appointed to Cantors Assembly Leadership

Congregation Beth Judah, Ventnor, Judaism's Commission on Jewish Education and is a member of the Assembly's Education Committee. Previously, he served as secretary-treasurer and chairman of the CA Midwest Region and international chairman for its public relations. Hazzan Smolen also served on the Assembly's CD Committee, the committee responsible for creating "The Spirit Series" CDs (along with the USCJ).



Hazzan Alan Smolen

The 20-member Executive Council, along with the officers and professional staff, provide the guidance and leadership for the Cantors Assembly in its various endeavors. Hazzan Smolen has accepted a seat with a 3-year term.

Hazzan Smolen serves as one of two Cantors Assembly representatives to the United Synagogue of Conservative

Education and is a member of the Assembly's Education Committee. Previously, he served as secretary-treasurer and chairman of the CA Midwest Region and international chairman for its public relations. Hazzan Smolen also served on the Assembly's CD Committee, the committee responsible for creating "The Spirit Series" CDs (along with the USCJ).

For more information about the Cantors Assembly, including programs and materials of benefit to the laity, visit www.cantors.org.

Really Absurd

Spare the Pieties on Gaza.

Jack Engelhard.



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'Standup for Peace'

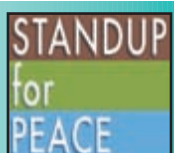
Show Cancelled at JCC

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Honorable Menschen

Reflecting on a Gaza trip past. Howard Berger.

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Federation supports ORT's Technical High School in Rio de Janeiro, recently ranked 7th out of 443 schools in the city and 13th out of 18,000 schools nationally.

