

Inside: **Local News, pages 2-3**  
**From The Editor, page 4**  
**Around Town, page 8**

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R.I. JEWISH HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION  
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**RHODE ISLAND**

# HERALD

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## Congress Finds Israel's Role In Iran-Contra U.S. Directed

by David Friedman

WASHINGTON (JTA) — While Israel had a major role in opening and continuing the controversial sales of U.S. arms to Iran, the United States government bears the basic responsibility for the policy, according to the congressional committees that investigated the Iran/Contra affair.

The 690-page report by the Senate and House select committees, released last Wednesday, also finds Israel was not involved in the diversion of the profits from the sale of arms to Iran to the Contra rebels fighting the Nicaraguan government.

The report clearly confirms that Israel sought and received explicit approval from the Reagan administration for every step in the selling of arms to Iran in the effort by the United States to achieve an opening with Iran and gain the release of American hostages in Lebanon.

The Israel Embassy had no comment, but Yosef Gal, the embassy spokesman, pointed to the comments by Israel Premier Yitzhak Shamir in The New York Times last Wednesday.

Shamir said Israel had no regrets about its participation in the American effort. "It was done by a common decision of our Cabinet and we are convinced that our policy was a correct one," Shamir told the Times. "We did it together with the United States, and I do not see any reason to regret it."

Shamir also denied that Israel was selling arms to Iran, but said the government has no control over what some Israeli businessmen

may be doing.

### Reagan Called Responsible

The Senate-House committees concluded that the responsibility for the Iran/Contra affair lies with Reagan, because even if he did not know that funds for the arms sale were being diverted to the Contras, "he should have."

"The president created or at least tolerated an environment where those who did know of the diversion believed with certainty that they were carrying out the president's policies," the report said.

Six Republican House members and two Republican senators issued a minority view that Reagan and his staff could be faulted only with mistakes in judgment that were not unconstitutional or improper, as the committees had concluded.

On Israel's involvement, the report said Reagan and his advisers placed "great weight" on Israel's sponsorship of the Iran initiative and the use of Manucher Ghorbanifar, an Iranian businessman, as an intermediary because "Israel has taken a strong stand against international terrorism and Israeli intelligence services are among the most respected in the world."

(In a reaction last Tuesday in anticipation of the report, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said in Jerusalem that, "Perhaps the minority (of the congressional committee) may feel we were a friend who was too energetic in our offers of help, but no one can say we had any intentions other than to help the United States to free the hostages. That is what

(Continued on page 12)

## Three Hundred From R.I. Expected To Attend D.C. Mobilization

by Robert Israel

PROVIDENCE — Around three hundred people have already committed themselves to travel by bus, train, car and airplane to the mobilization for Soviet Jewry in Washington, D.C., on December 6, it was announced at a press conference on Tuesday this week.

"Detroit has chartered a plane, Cleveland is sending 750 people, and we already have almost three hundred people who will be attending the rally in Washington," said Norman Tilles, President of the Jewish Federation, at the press conference.

On the black-board behind him were the names of the individuals who will be attending, which also included one Rhode Island elected official, Lt. Gov. Richard Licht.

Dr. Joshua Stein, a professor at Roger Williams College in Bristol who is coordinating the Rhode Island Soviet Jewry Task Force,

added:

"The Harry Elkin Midrasha is sending a bus load of students to the rally. Students are attending from the Hillels at Brown, URI, Bryant and Roger Williams College. The B'nai B'rith lodges are sending people. Synagogues will be joining us with their members. And we have support from the non-Jewish community as well."

The Rev. Dr. Dahler Hayes, seated next to Dr. Stein, said he, too, would be attending the event. Rev. Hayes is Conference Minister for the United Church of Christ in Providence.

David Shrayner, who recently emigrated from the Soviet Union and is now living in Rhode Island spoke of "our brothers and sisters" living in the Soviet Union who want to emigrate but are unable to because of Soviet opposition.

"I am a writer and a doctor, and when I was living in the Soviet

Union I was unable to publish my writings, unable to publicly declare my Jewish faith," Shrayner said. "You must understand that this glasnost (openness) is a carnival. If we don't help our brothers and sisters, how will they obtain freedom?"

Following the formal announcement reporters asked questions about the purpose of the rally, which is expected to draw the largest numbers of American Jews ever assembled, where those attending will hear speakers like Ida Nudel, Elie Wiesel and Natan Scharansky speak about the need to improve human rights in the Soviet Union.

"We need to let the Soviet Union know," said Norman Tilles, "that we expect them to hold true to the Helsinki accords they signed. We hope by our presence in Washington, D.C., we will keep the issue alive until Jews are allowed to emigrate."

## Jews Split On D.C. Demonstration

Boston Globe

A vast demonstration is expected to spread through central Washington Dec. 6, the day before Soviet General Secretary Mikhail S. Gorbachev begins his summit conference with President Reagan.

As the summit, energized by Gorbachev's efforts to open Russian society, gets under way, thousands of Americans, led by prominent Jewish Soviet refugees, will gather to criticize Soviet treatment of Jews.

There is no disagreement about the basic content of the demonstration; Jews in the American community have been united and deeply committed for years to supporting Soviet Jewry, an effort reinforced by the Reagan administration's demands for human rights in the Soviet Union.

But, despite the unity, there is discord on the timing, tone and focus of the event.

Leaders of Jewish groups, foreign policy specialists and many others with interest in the Soviet Union are struggling to understand what Gorbachev's policy of glasnost, or openness, really means. There is no consensus over which actions are symbols and which signal substantive change.

Some say Gorbachev's attempts to open and restructure Soviet society already have significantly improved the lot of Jews there. Others warn the improvements are nothing more than a presubmit prettying of the fact the Soviets show the West. Shaped by these considerations, the debate over how to act toward Gorbachev is intensifying.

"The scope and tone, quite honestly, will be determined by events coming out of the Soviet Union," said Jerry Goodman, director of the coalition of 50 nationally- and 300 locally-based Jewish groups working on the demonstration. "We meet weekly. There are different viewpoints



Meeting with President Reagan about the forthcoming mass mobilization in Washington, D.C., were (left-right) Jenny Goodman, Yuli Edelstein and Morris Abram.

depending on developments."

### Softer Tone

If most observers say they are seeing significant improvement in the ability of Jews to emigrate and practice their religion within the Soviet Union, the tone will be softer, he said, calling the changes of recent months "meaningful, but not substantial, and certainly not a resolution" of the issues.

Arthur Hertzberg, professor of religion at Dartmouth and former president of the American Jewish Congress, who has been deeply involved in efforts to secure emigration rights for Soviet Jews, asserted that the prominent role in the demonstration planned for recent high-profile Jewish emigres is "most unfortunate..."

"I am profoundly persuaded there should be a large American demonstration, but that we shouldn't rub Mr. Gorbachev's nose in the very people he has just sprung. After all, we have a purpose — to get more people out. Before he came on the scene, they hadn't a smell of a hope of being sprung... I think this will make it more difficult.

Hertzberg said, "This

demonstration should be led by Mike Dukakis and Derek Bok" the president of Harvard University "out of Boston; by members of the Senate, including a few senators not running for president; by major figures in American life affirming the American commitment to human rights..."

Widely-known former refuseniks, Ida Nudel and Vladimir Slepak, are scheduled to take part in the demonstration.

Refuseniks are Soviet citizens who have been refused permission to leave the country, but by applying to do so have been unable to reenter mainstream Soviet society.

### Critical Views

Sharply critical views of the Soviets and of the political stance of the main demonstration coalition come from the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry and its adult wing, the Center for Russian Jewry.

"I consider glasnost a farce, a deception," said Rabbi Avi Weiss, leader of both groups. "The situation today for Soviet Jews is more dangerous than ever before.

(Continued on page 12)



JERUSALEM — Ida Nudel (left), former Soviet refusenik and Prisoner of Conscience, receives a Life Membership Pin from Sylvia Mehlman, Vice President of Hadassah-Israel, during ceremonies held shortly after Nudel arrived in Israel last month. She became a member of the Rehovot Chapter of Hadassah-Israel, the sister group to Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America.

# Local News

## Craft & Gift Sale

The Sisterhood at Congregation Beth Shalom will be sponsoring a Craft and Gift Sale on Sunday, December 6 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. The event will take place in the synagogue's social hall at 275 Camp St. (corner Rochambeau) in Providence and will feature a large selection of handmade crafts and assorted gift items. Refreshments will be available, and a door prize will be awarded. Admission is 50¢. The public is cordially invited.

## Three Generations Of Rabbis At Beth-El

Rabbi Maurice Davis, his sons Rabbi Jay Davis and Student-Rabbi Michael Davis will address the congregation of Temple Beth-El this Shabbat, November 27 at 8:15 p.m. in the Temple's sanctuary. Their topic will be: "This Faith of Ours: Reflections of Three Generations."

Maurice Davis has spoken on the Shabbat after Thanksgiving since he was a rabbinical student first in honor of his mother's birthday and now in her memory. Now retired after a distinguished career, Rabbi Davis will continue with tradition but this time return to the Beth-El pulpit to speak with his two sons.

The following Friday evening, December 4, the Honorable Bruce M. Selya, United States Circuit Court Judge for the First Circuit Court of Appeals, will speak after Shabbat Services. A distinguished member of Temple Beth-El, Selya will reflect on a variety of topics ranging from the process of choosing a Supreme Court Justice to church-state issues.

The community is welcome to join in the fellowship of worship.

For more information call 331-6070.

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## Forum For Youngsters

The Family Program committee of Temple Beth-El in cooperation with Jewish Family Service is proud to present the first of three evening programs on "A Time to Listen . . . How to Talk to Your Kids." Rabbi Lawrence M. Silverman, Associate Rabbi and Director of Education at Beth-El and Debbi Feinsod, MSW with JFS will address the topic "How to Talk to Your Kids About God" on Wednesday evening, December 2 at 7:30 p.m. Temple Beth-El parents and community members are encouraged to attend. There is no fee.

Programs on "How to Talk to Your Kids About Death and the Holocaust" will be offered in 1988.

For more information call 331-6070.

## JFS On TV

Frank Sommerville, Channel 10 news reporter, has heard of our comprehensive programs for our elderly clients. He has interviewed Maxine Richman, social worker for the elderly, and three of her clients. They were taped at the JFS mealtime and also at the S.A.G.E. concert.

The program will be aired on the Pre-News on Friday, November 27 on Channel 10 sometime between 5:30 and 6 p.m.

## Hanukkah Dinner

The South Area Shalom Singles (40+) Group will have a "Hanukkah Dinner" at the Center on Monday evening, December 14 from 7-10 p.m. A delicious dinner will be served. Entertainment will include games and music. Please bring a \$3 grab bag gift.

The price for members is \$4 and for non-members \$6. Please call the Center at (617) 341-2016 or (617) 821-0030 to make your reservation.

## Family Shabbat At Torat Yisrael

Friday night, December 4, 1987, the community is invited to a Family Shabbat Service lead by students in the Kitah Bet class. At the 7:30 p.m. service Rabbi Rosen will tell a story sermonette and all children in attendance will receive wine and a mini challah.

The Temple's Annual Book Fair will take place Sunday, December 6. Hundreds of books and cassettes for all ages and in all prices and interest ranges will be for sale. Time: 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Betty Lerhman, the noted children's story teller will display her talents on Sunday, December 6 in two sessions. For details call 785-1890.

## Paul Buhle To Speak

The Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association will hold its winter meeting on Sunday, December 6, 1987 at 2:30 p.m. in the Jewish Community Center Adult Lounge, 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence, R.I. Paul Buhle, Ph.D. will be the speaker at this meeting. His talk is entitled: Jews and the Rhode Island Labor Movement: a Forgotten History.

Paul Buhle received a B.A. degree from the University of Illinois, an M.A. degree from the University of Connecticut and a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin. He has received various awards for his research and publication in the field of Immigration History and also in Labor Studies.

## Jewish Book Month At JCCRI

For literature enthusiasts, for book collectors, or for gift-givers, the three-day celebration of Jewish Book Month from December 3 through 6 at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island is a must. The lobby at the JCCRI, 401 Elm Grove Ave. in Providence, will be transformed into a book-lover's dream with tables filled with a large selection including fiction and non-fiction, best sellers, Judaica, cookbooks and children's books. There will also be a large selection of used books.

Local talent is featured at the many special events to be held in conjunction with the annual book fair.

On Thursday evening, December 3, at 7:30 p.m., Elliot Krieger, Books Editor of the Providence Journal, will host an author's hour and autograph session. The program, free and open to the community will feature four authors who either live in the area or are native Rhode Islanders.

On hand will be Daniel Asa Rose of Rehoboth, author of *Flipping for It*; Jincy Willett of Providence, author of *Jenny and the Jaws of Life*; Jon D. Land of Providence, author of *Labyrinth*, the *Omega Command Council of Ten*; and Leslie Alan Horvitz, now a resident of New York City but a native Rhode Islander, author of *The Dying and Blood Moon*.

Sunday, December 6 is a literature-lovers dream beginning with a brunch at 10:30 a.m. featuring Bob Israel, Editor of the *Rhode Island Jewish Herald*, who will speak on "Images of South Providence: Buying the House Twice." Mr. Israel will read his short story and speak about his personal experiences in his old neighborhood. The fee for the brunch is \$3.50 per person. Reservations must be made by December 2 by calling Judith Jaffe at 861-8800.

At 2:30 p.m. the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association in conjunction with JCCRI will present Paul Buhle, author and a resident of Providence, who will speak on "Jews and the Rhode Island Labor Movement: A

## Minyanaires Program At Emanu-El

Professor Burton Fischman, Chairman of Temple Emanu-El's Minyanaires Program, has announced three lectures on subjects of growing interest in the Jewish community. On Sunday, December 6 two couples will discuss their experiences and involvement in conversion to Judaism. On Sunday, December 13 Carol Ingall, Director of the R.I. Bureau of Jewish Education, will offer a view of the profound changes going on in Jewish education, with a focus on comparing Jewish education in Rhode Island with that going on elsewhere.

The third lecture will be by Dr. David Kaplan, who will speak on the contemporary resurgence of Yiddish in the United States.

The three lectures are part of Temple Emanu-El's Minyanaires Program. All lectures are on Sundays, beginning at 10 a.m.

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A Shabbat morning service geared for families with young children will take place at Temple Emanu-El on December 5 at 10 a.m. The traditional Shabbat service will be highlighted with special events aimed at creating a festive and meaningful experience for family members of all ages. There will also be several opportunities for young children and families as a whole to participate in different portions of the service. All are invited. Babysitting will be available for children age 3 and under from 10:30 to noon.

Forgotten History." The program is free and open to the community.

For children there will be a story hour with Ruby Shalansky at 2:30 p.m. Story telling will be followed by a craft project. While their children are being entertained, parents can listen to Mr. Buhle or browse at their leisure.

On Sunday evening at 7:30 p.m. entertainer and filmmaker, Yale Strom will present a program with recent photographs, anecdotes and Klezmer music entitled "A Tree Still Stands: East European Jewry Today."

The program is free and open to the community. The book sale hours are: Thursday, December 3 from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday, December 4, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday, December 6 from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

For information on the book sale or related special events, call Judith Jaffe at 861-8800.

## BJE Workshop

On Thursday, December 3, 1987, from 7:30-9:30 p.m., Lynn Jakubowicz of the Providence Hebrew Day School will lead a workshop entitled, "Introducing Hebrew Letter." An experienced kindergarten teacher, Ms. Jakubowicz will demonstrate methods to enhance letter recognition using all of the senses. Music, games, dance, crafts and bulletin board ideas will be shared with teachers who teach beginning Hebrew reading at any age level.

## Providence Chapter Of Hadassah

The Providence Chapter of Hadassah will hold an Open Board Meeting, Monday, December 7, 1987, in the Senior Lounge of the Jewish Community Center. Coffee Hour will be at 12:30 and the meeting will follow at 1 p.m.

Reports will be given by members who are activity chairpersons. Eva Sapolsky, vice president education will discuss American Affairs, entitled: "Nu, What's New?" Dorothy Fox will give a Zionist Report, and Doris McGarry, vice president program, who has recently returned from China, will present her "Impression of China" to the membership. This meeting is open to all Providence Chapter members.

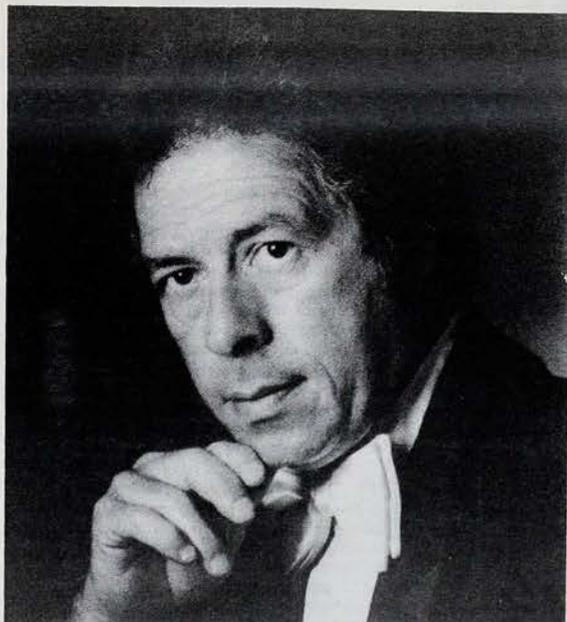
## New Families Welcome At Beth-El

Rabbis Leslie Guterman and Lawrence Silverman, President Mel Zurier and members of the Temple Beth-El membership committee welcomed over 40 new Temple families at a special service of welcome on November 20. After enjoying Shabbat dinner at member's homes, each new member family received a gift of "Gates of the House," the home prayer book of the Reform movement. They then joined with their hosts in a service "On Recognition" led by the Rabbis and Cantorial Soloist Alice Solorow. Recognized as the life-blood of the synagogue, the new members were honored at the Oneg Shabbat following the service by members of the Membership Committee, chaired by Lee Krasner.

Temple Beth-El has grown considerably during the past decade exceeding 1000 member families in 1984. New members have ranged in ages, backgrounds and location. Considered once to be an East Side institution, new members during the past three years live in all communities of Southeastern New England from the Attleboros to Newport.

For more information on how you can become part of a growing and dynamic Temple family, call 331-6070 for a brochure and application.

## Rothstein To Conduct R.I. Philharmonic



The Rhode Island Philharmonic will present a concert on Saturday evening, December 5, beginning at 8:30 p.m. in the Providence Performing Arts Center. Joining the orchestra as guest soloists will be sisters Ani and Ida Kavafian, performing on violin and viola. The guest conductor for this concert will be Sidney Rothstein. This performance is being sponsored by the Freestone Foundation, Robert and Anna Kallian, founders.

The concert will open with a work by an American composer, *Essay No. 2 for Orchestra* by Samuel Barber. This will be followed by the *Sinfonia Concertante* by Mozart which will feature the Kavafian sisters playing the violin and viola solos. Following intermission, the Philharmonic will perform the *Symphony No. 5* by Prokofiev.

Ani and Ida Kavafian were born in Istanbul, Turkey, of Armenian descent. They moved to Detroit at an early age. Both sisters have been the recipients of many

musical awards and prizes and maintain important careers performing regularly throughout the United States and Europe with major orchestras.

Conductor Sidney Rothstein was born in Philadelphia and studied in the United States and Europe with Pierre Monteux, Max Rudolf and Vladimir Golschmann. In 1964 he founded the Orchestra Society of Philadelphia. Mr. Rothstein has been the Associate Conductor of the Honolulu Symphony and Music Director of the Reading Symphony, Charleston Symphony and Florida Symphony in Orlando. He currently resides in New York and maintains a busy schedule guest conducting in the United States and Europe.

Tickets for this concert are priced at \$17-15-13 and \$9 for students and senior citizens. Tickets may be ordered by calling the theater box office at 421-ARTS or the Philharmonic office at 831-3123. Visa and Mastercard are accepted.

### Israel Trips Forum

An Israel Trips forum for high school students, sponsored by the Bureau of Jewish Education Israel Committee, will be held on Thursday night, December 10 at 7:30 p.m. in the Senior Adult Lounge of the Jewish Community Center of R.I.

Representatives of several summer and school year Israel programs will be present to explain the many options available to teens for Israel travel. In addition, past participants will be on hand to give first hand accounts of their study/travel experiences. Trips represented will include High School in Israel, USY, Let's go Israel, Nefty, Ramah and the Stern Street Exchange.

Rabbi Lawrence Silverman, chair of the Israel Committee, will introduce the forum. Also, an explanation of the grants available to all R.I. high schoolers traveling to Israel will be given. Students receive incentive grants from the Leonard I. Salmanson Endowment Fund of JFRI. All students who apply for the Salmanson grants are required to take an Israel test, scheduled for Thursday, February 4 at 7:30 p.m. at the BJE. A Community Service project, required of all grant recipients, will also be discussed.

All interested students and parents are invited to attend this informative evening. Coffee and . . . will be served. Please call the BJE 331-0956 if you plan to attend, or call Ruth Page at the BJE for further information or to register for the Israel test on Thursday, February 4.

## Joseph Gerson To Speak

Joseph Gerson, Peace Secretary for the New England Regional Office of the American Friends Service Committee, will be speaking on the Persian Gulf situation on Monday evening, November 30, at 7:30 p.m., at List Auditorium (College St.) on the Brown University campus. Mr. Gerson's lecture topic is "The Persian Gulf — A Potential Trigger for Nuclear War or an Opportunity for Creative Peacemaking? Can the U.S. Play a Constructive Role?" The public is invited.

A graduate of Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service, Mr. Gerson has travelled to the Middle East several times over the past decade. He has met with government and community leaders, opposition figures, journalists, academicians, peace activists, religious leaders, and refugees in Israel, the West Bank, Gaza, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and Egypt.

Mr. Gerson initiated work in this country on the "deadly connection" between U.S. nuclear war policy and intervention in the Third World and is the editor of the book, *The Deadly Connection: Nuclear War and U.S. Intervention*. Mr. Gerson is particularly knowledgeable about U.S. nuclear policy vis-a-vis the Middle East.

Gerson's articles on the conflicts in the Middle East and the "deadly connection" have appeared in *The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, *Christian Century*, *Israel and Palestine*, *Nuclear Times*, *The Boston Globe*, and *Sojourners* magazine.

Mr. Gerson's lecture in Providence is being sponsored by the American Friends Service Committee, the Brown Nuclear Education Project, the Community Affairs Vicariate of the Diocese of Providence, the Rhode Island Middle East Committee, the Sisters of Mercy Peace and Justice Office, and Women for a Non-Nuclear Future.

### Flea Market

The Annual Flea Market of Dvora Dayan Club of Na'Amat/USA which was to be held on December 6 has been postponed for a later date so as not to conflict with the gathering in Washington on behalf of our Russian brethren.

Further details will be forthcoming.

The next meeting of Dvora Dayan Club will be on Monday, December 21.

### Chased Schel Amess Meeting

The Chased Schel Amess Association will hold their annual meeting, election and installation of officers on Sunday, December 13, 1987 at 2 p.m. at the Priest Memorial Chapel, Lincoln Park Cemetery, 1469 Post Road, Warwick, R.I. The public is invited.

### Warmline Program

A mother of two pre-schools wonders if she should take her children to a grandparent's funeral. She dials 331-KIDS, THE WARMLINE of the Parent Exchange at Jewish Family Service. Through discussion with a social worker of the Jewish Family Service staff, she is able to sort out what is important to her, how she herself needs to grieve and what she believes she needs to do for her children.

The WARMLINE offers information and practical answers as well as act as a resource for information about community services.

## Mike Bressler To Perform

The Brotherhood of Temple Beth-El proudly presents entertainer Mike Bressler on Sunday, December 6 at 4:30 p.m. Bressler is the featured performer at the Brotherhood's Fourth Annual "Aura-Yentel" Afternoon.

For children 2-82, the "Aura-Yentel" program has become a Temple favorite. A kosher-style Chinese dinner from the China Inn will be served followed by the zany shenanigans of Mike Bressler.

For reservations call 331-6070.

## Robert Waxler Listed

Robert P. Waxler, assistant dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Southeastern Massachusetts University, will have his biography included in the 1988 edition of "Men of Achievement."

Waxler is also a professor of English at SMU and co-director of the university's Center for Jewish Culture. The Dartmouth resident holds a bachelor's degree from Brown University, a master's from Boston College and a doctorate from the State University of New York.

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## Camp Pembroke Reunion

Camp Pembroke, which is sponsored by the Eli and Bessie Cohen Foundation, will hold its annual reunion on Sunday, November 29 at 1 p.m. at Temple Emeth, 194 Grove St., South Brookline. Hundreds of campers and counselors will gather to recall the happy summer spent last year.

Miriam Levinson, Director of Pembroke, will greet the group and outline some of the plans being made for the 1988 season. A video of the activities of last summer will be shown and refreshments will be served.

Camp Pembroke, located in Pembroke, Mass. one hour from Boston at the gateway to the Cape, enjoys the distinction of being the only all girl's Jewish camp serving the New England area.

Pembroke which will open for its 53rd season this summer boasts of many second generation campers as well as staff members. The camp features a complete program of waterfront activities including swimming, sailing, boating, canoeing and waterskiing. All land sports including tennis, softball, volleyball, soccer and basketball are also offered. A meaningful Jewish cultural program as well as arts and crafts, music and dramatics play an important part of the camp. Pembroke is accredited by the American Camping Association.

Further information regarding Camp Pembroke may be obtained from the camp office 30 Main St., Ashland, Mass. 01721. Telephone: 881-1002.

# From The Editor

by Robert Israel



## Reasons To Be Thankful

FRANCONIA, N.H. — The mountains rise dramatically on both sides of the highway. It is impossible to see the summit of Mt. Lafayette from the car, and even when you stop at the parking areas designated for car-side gazing, the clouds often obscure your view. At this time of the year, the snow has capped the highest peaks. All the trees are bare. The forest floor is littered with birch and oak leaves and the over-zealous gurgling of tiny streams that make their way across the trail.

A popular trail the Appalachian Mountain Club grooms leads to Greenleaf Hut, a shelter that provides a warm hearth and a hearty meal to hikers seeking to reach the summit of Mt. Lafayette. I stayed in the Greenleaf hut one summer's night, having reached it by scaling the summit of Mt. Lafayette from the other direction. The way was strenuous, but not impossible. At one point, I was walking through the pine grove. Then the air got thinner, cooler. We were above tree line. I could see the clouds rolling down the valley where the road sliced through the forest. And then we were walking, boulder to boulder, up and over the top, in the clouds, and moisture from being inside the clouds formed on my hair and arms, as if I'd just taken a shower with chilled water. When I arrived at the Greenleaf Hut, I was frosted, the way grass looks after an overnight cold snap.

But this time I was not going to hike to the summit, I was only hiking to a vantage point on the trail that affords a view of Mt. Lafayette and the valley between that vantage point and the town of Franconia, just a few miles up the trail into the woods. From here I would see the summit I had once walked up and over, and in the chill of the afternoon sit and nibble on packages of raisins, remembering that most challenges have to be self-directed.

\*\*\*

When you are off in the wilderness by yourself, or with a companion but still alone with your thoughts, away from the familiarity of rooms and streets and automobiles and newspapers, you have to do a cleansing, of sorts, shuffling through the verbiage and clutter that has nested in your memory. Call it house cleaning. Call it lightening the load. It is necessary when you exert yourself, when you breathe the crisp, fall air. It is a process of eliminating while at the same time acquiring, like respiration.

And what can you acquire in the wilderness? A sense of yourself in solitude, walking and hearing only your footsteps as the path leads upwards and over boulders. The blue sky offers unlimited visibility of hills and mountains and snow and evergreens. When you leave behind the life you are familiar with and wander into a world which by itself asks nothing from you, you are, by necessity, eliminating items you have stored inside that weigh you down in the civilized world. We want to be weighed down in our business life. It suits us, like the clothes we wear, the cars we drive, the items we list on our agendas. We want to have many projects to work on, to be overly busy. But in the woods, these responsibilities are bothersome. In the woods, we need to sharpen our senses and live with a sense of immediacy.

Does this mean we come back to

our responsibilities lighter, having had the opportunity to sort through the verbiage and the clutter to make room for more of the same? Not quite. Hopefully, what happens from a retreat of any sort is a prioritizing of important goals. A chance to put things in perspective is a rare commodity these days. Most of the time I find myself rushing headlong into things, barely taking the time to look around.

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Thanksgiving is a time for putting into perspective one's reasons to be thankful.

Every year, I am thankful for the opportunity to express myself freely in this column, and to share with readers concerns which I hope reflect their concerns. A writer's thoughts and feelings are fine, but I have always maintained that my readers are more interesting than I am. Because of that, I am constantly seeking new stories from readers, and constantly asking readers' opinions on subjects that concern us all.

**At Thanksgiving, we need to become active participants in the process of democracy. Simply put, this means we must let our voices be heard, in print and in public, so that the freedoms we enjoy, the solitude we find in the forest and the challenges we find in civilization, will be ours to enjoy for many more years to come.**

The "mass mobilization" that is due to take place in Washington, D.C. on December 6 is coming at a time, right after Thanksgiving, when we need to remember that basic human rights are being threatened in the Soviet Union and in other parts of the world. If you are planning to go to Washington, D.C., you will be taking part in one of the largest and most significant assemblies in many years. As we give thanks for our own freedoms, we must remember that we are not as free as we would like to believe, because if one person is being denied the right to freedom somewhere in the world, that directly affects our own freedom.

I am also thankful for the good health that I enjoy and the good health of those that are close to me. And I am thankful for the cooperation that most everyone in this community has expressed toward me and my efforts to communicate, intelligently and honestly, the joys and sorrows of living in this community. Often times, the news is not pleasant to write. It can be harsh, it can be depressing. But you have my pledge that it will come to you without bias, in a direct and consistent format each week.

At Thanksgiving, we need to become active participants in the process of democracy. Simply put, this means we must let our voices be heard, in print and in public, so that the freedoms we enjoy, the solitude we find in the forest and the challenges we find in civilization, will be ours to enjoy for many more years to come.

## The Politics Of Amnesia

by Eric Rosenman

Jean-Marie Le Pen, leader of France's far-right National Front Party — which won about 10% of the vote in last spring's parliamentary elections — recently declared that the Holocaust was "a detail in history." Pressed by an interviewer, Le Pen, referring to the Nazi gas chambers, asked, "Are you trying to tell me [they] are a revealed truth which everyone is obliged to believe?"

Last month the British revisionist David Irving, described by the *Australia/Israel Review* as "historian, enthusiast, and seasoned hater," favored the Aussies with a speaking tour, spiced with the usual media stops. His exertions included denying any link between Hitler and the Holocaust because he, Irving, could find no primary documents establishing the tie.

The motives, and the hatreds, of Le Pen, Irving, and their ilk are easy to identify. More difficult to deal with is revisionism — whether about World War II and the Holocaust, or about Israel and the Middle East — which occurs because of indifference, ignorance or ideological trendiness.

For example: Last June the Associated Press ran a story from Majdanek, Poland about Pope John Paul II's visit to the site of a major Nazi concentration camp. The Pope's words, "Your fate is a warning to us," were reported, as was the fact that 1.5 million people died at Majdanek. But nowhere in the story was it mentioned that most of those murdered were Jews.

Two months later AP moved a story about Liudas Kairys, ordered deported from Chicago to the Soviet Union. Kairys allegedly entered the United States illegally after concealing his World War II activities at Treblinka.

AP, citing government sources, wrote that "thousands of Jewish and Polish civilians were incarcerated at the Treblinka labor camp and many died as a result of conditions there...." Treblinka was a death camp for millions; "conditions there" included gas chambers.

About the same time, the *Washington Post* weekly TV magazine included this entry: "World at War Special, 'The Final Solution: Auschwitz.' From 1939 to 1941 a conventional war develops into a

systematic attempt to murder civilians in occupied countries." In one short sentence minimalist Holocaust revisionism (as opposed to the maximalist variety, which denies the event altogether) reaches its universalist conclusion: The "Final Solution" was not about Jews at all, but "civilians in occupied territories."

The link between revisionism dealing with Nazi era and similar treatment of the post-war Middle East became clear during last summer's trial in France of war criminal Klaus Barbie. One of Barbie's lawyers, an Algerian, compared his client's record with Israel's treatment of Palestinian Arabs. "There is no difference between the crimes of yesterday and the crimes of today," asserted Nabil Bouaita.

No difference. It was on that basis the U.N. General Assembly 12 years ago was able to declare that Zionism, the ideology behind the rebirth of Israel, is a form of racism.

On the basis of no difference, or the relativistic dogma that, in any case, differences do not matter all that much, AP — like most of the news media — routinely refers to PLO gunmen as guerrillas. With the wire services leading the way, local media sometimes go further. When Israel bombed PLO bases in Lebanon in September, the *Washington, Pa. Observer-Reporter* headlined, "Surprise attack deadly for rebels in south Lebanon."

From terrorists to guerrillas to rebels, gaining in legitimacy with each ideological-semantic victory. Going the other way, much news media coverage last summer of the 20th anniversary of the Six-Day War portrayed it not so much as a battle for survival but as militaristic expansionism and occupation.

Perhaps at the subconscious level, the anti-Zionist campaign symbolized by the Zionism-equals-racism resolution gave news legitimacy, if not to anti-Semitism, then to indifference to Jewish concerns. Maybe that explains cultural phenomena like the play "Garbage, the City and Death," by the late Rainer Fassbinder, darling of the avant-garde. One of its major characters is called, simply, "The Rich Jew." The play was to have its European opening in Rotterdam this week.

Eric Rosenman is editor of *Near East Report*.

**Candlelighting**  
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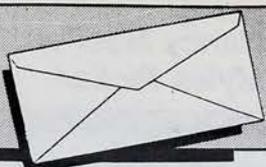
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The Herald is a member of the New England Press Association and the American Jewish Press Association, and a subscriber to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency and the Jewish Student Press Service.

# Letters to the Editor



## Gan Shoshana

Sarah and Yakov have been sick at home a week. Their friends are in school and they are tired of coloring and doing puzzles. How can they lessen their boredom? A unique library has a suggestion.

Gan Shoshana is a lending library for homebound children. With Jewish books, games, records and tapes and a corps of volunteers, the library helps ill or injured children occupy their time with interesting activities.

The library was founded in memory of Shoshana Shmueli, z"l, by her mother. Shoshana recently passed away after many years of a debilitating illness. Mrs. Shmueli experienced first-hand how lonely life can be for a sick child. She learned that with encouragement and the right materials, a child will shake off lethargy and participate in stimulating activities. A good book or lively music can help fill the empty hours and exciting games can lure playmates in to help take away the loneliness.

Gan Shoshana volunteers throughout the New York area drop off and pick up materials and visit with sick children. Homebound children in out-of-the-way areas can get books and tapes in the mail along with stamped return envelopes.

The Shmuelis hope to expand this service to other parts of the country with the help of interested volunteers.

In Rhode Island call Leisel or Barbara Estrin at 272-6772.

## South County Hadassah

The South County Chapter of Hadassah will meet on Monday, December 7 at 7:30 p.m. at the home of B. Katznelson. Rabbi and Mrs. Chaim Shapiro of Touro Synagogue, Newport, will lead a discussion of the book *Holy Days* by Lis Harris. Chanukah items will be available for sale. Call 789-1361, or 789-9047 for further information.

## JFS Promotes Family Week

Jewish Family Service joins Family Service America, the Family Resource Coalition and the White House in proclaiming November 22 through 28 as National Family Week.

For information on services concerning family life at Jewish Family Service such as counseling, Family Life Education, services to the elderly, call 331-1244.

### To the Editor:

I read with a great deal of interest your well-written article concerning Jews and Latinos that appeared on the front page of the November 5, 1987, issue of the *Rhode Island Herald*, together with the picture of Norman Orodender, Ralph Rodriguez, and myself.

Your article essentially captured the purpose and events of the evening. However, I wish to call your attention to an error (slight as it was) in the article that affects me personally. My date of birth in Panama was not 1913 as you stated. 1913 was the year my parents settled in Panama (although my father originally went there in 1909). The years do go by swiftly, but I do not wish to be thought of as four years older than I really am.

Jeremiah J. Gorin

### To the Editor:

I am not a Kahanist in every sense of the word but so much that he has to say makes so much sense that I keep in touch with his philosophy, his criticisms and his wisdom. I know that he has small prestige among most citizens but that is only because his foresight is greater than ours but in time we will come to realize his wisdom and his courage for his fight for that which is right.

I am sure that you, too, read his column so although you may not admit it, in your heart you know he is right. It is just that it is not the thing to admit to his policies.

At any rate, as one small human afloat among the millions, I try to seek answers which I know I will not find, for just as this will end up in your wastebasket, so do many of the best ideas of our wise people, our prophets.

Edith Breen  
Jerusalem, Israel

## Choir To Perform

Sunday, November 29 at 4 p.m. at First Baptist Church in America, 75 North Main St., Providence, across from the RISDE bus tunnel, massed choirs and instrumentalists will perform in a concert which will open with the featured work Psalm 92 sung in Hebrew by the Italian Renaissance Jewish composer Salamone Rossi.

While the composer Rossi is a familiar name in music history books, his works are rarely performed, this piece being the first choral work to be published in its original form in modern times. This beautifully moving composition is significant not only as a major contribution to Judaic music, but also because of the story of the composer, which in many ways parallels the story of Queen Esther. Like Esther, Rossi lived during a time in which there was widespread persecution of Jews which included the wearing of armbands to single them out. Rossi found favor in the court Mantua and became the king's court composer. Because of his favor with the king Rossi was not only permitted to compose elaborate pieces for synagogue worship, but was also able to achieve a number of social reforms, including the elimination of the armbands, which eventually led to the acceptance of the Jews of his community.

All are invited to the November 29 concert which is under the direction of Stephen Martorella, organist of Temple Torat Yisrael. This event is sponsored by Rhode Island College.

### To the Editor:

The A.J. Committee and the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, like A.J. Congress, favor the Peres plan for an international conference. So does Abba Eban, in support of his Labor Party leader, Shimon Peres. The AJC committees and UAHC represent that element most resentful of the power of the Israeli right wing which mitigate against the privileges of the non-orthodox in Israel, where religious parties adhere to Prime Minister's Likud bloc. Logically, Americans who resent the limitations placed upon the non-orthodox in Israel might well be inclined to oppose the Likud's stand against Peres. What is overlooked is Shamir's favoring of a restricted conference in which the U.S., Soviet Russia, Israel, Jordan, and certain Palestinians participate.

Also ignored is Shamir's justified fears that the Peres plan leads to another "Munich," international pressure to return the west bank to Jordan. Israel's Ambassador to UN deems the surrender of even part of the territories would be suicidal. Consider:

1. The entire Arab world is committed to the destruction of Israel.

2. Arab military power has been enhanced enormously; Israel suffers from weakened manpower, severe economic trouble.

3. Repossession by Jordan would facilitate easy access into the heart of Israel by Arab armies.

4. Jihad (extermination of infidel Jews) is abetted by profit-hungry powers who arm and train Arabs. Indifference to the possibility of another genocide is reminiscent of the Holocaust era.

Shamir fights gallantly for what belongs historically and legally to the Jewish people. He deserves to be supported by all who truly love Israel!

S. Norman Gourse  
New York, N.Y.



Coming next week in the R.I. Herald

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# Social Events

## Freemans Announce Birth

Lisa and Ron Freeman of Cranston announce the birth of their first child and son, Justin Ross, on October 20, 1987. Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Morton Abowitz of Warwick. Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Freeman of Warwick. Justin Ross is named in loving memory of his two great-grandmothers, Sophie Freeman and Rose Chroney.

## Social Seniors Of Warwick

The Social Seniors of Warwick will hold a meeting Wednesday, December 2 at 1 p.m. at Temple Am David.

A tour guide will show a film and running commentary on proposed trips for the future.

## Am David Sisterhood

The Sisterhood of Temple Am David will have their annual Paid-Up Membership Meeting on Monday, November 30 at 7 p.m. at the temple.

## Kirschbaum Exhibit

Recent work by New York City artist Robert Kirschbaum will be featured in the Photography Gallery of the Fine Arts Center at the University of Rhode Island, Kingston campus from November 23 through December 11, 1987.

The work exhibited is selected from a series of paintings and prints which the artist calls the "Portal Series," and which has engaged his interests since 1977. The images are filled with meaning — part sublime and abstract, drawn from the Cabbala, a system of Jewish mysticism, and part tangible and concrete, drawn from human experience. Kirschbaum says of these pieces, "I am trying to create objects of contemplation, not unlike religious texts, utilizing the archetypal doorway form as their central focus."

The exhibition includes cliché verre gelatin silver prints, paintings on paper, and an artist's book, all of which represent an ongoing dialogue between the concrete, architectural appearance of many of the pieces, and their more transcendental intent.



## National Council Of Jewish Women

The National Council of Jewish Women, Rhode Island Section, will hold its annual Paid-Up Membership Luncheon on Wednesday, December 2, 1987 at 12 noon. The luncheon will be at the home of Nancy Kaufman, 309 Freeman Parkway, Providence.

Following lunch, Donna Euben will speak. In her role as program coordinator for Children and Youth and Aging Issues for the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW), Ms. Euben develops and coordinates local community service projects, national advocacy campaigns and educational initiatives. On December 2 Ms. Euben will speak about the Act for Better Child Care and NCJW's participation in the Alliance for Better Child Care.

The Act for Better Child Care, if enacted, will make new federal fund available to states which seek:

- to make child care more affordable;
- to increase the number of qualified child care facilities and providers;
- to improve the quality of all child care available;
- to coordinate child care resources to ensure their efficient use and to help make a range of day care options available to parents enabling them to make the most suitable arrangements for their children.

The Alliance for Better Child Care is an organization which addresses the need for safe and quality child care options. Its goals are closely aligned with those of the Act for Better Child Care.

For further information regarding this event and/or NCJW's participation in the Alliance for Better Child Care, telephone the Rhode Island Section of NCJW at 274-2080.

## Nancy MacKenzie To Wed Myles Pickar



Nancy L. MacKenzie, daughter of Brenton MacKenzie of Barrington, R.I., is engaged to be married to Myles M. Pickar, son of Mr. and Mrs. Irving Pickar of Pawtucket, R.I.

Nancy is a graduate of

Katharine Gibbs School and is currently attending Roger Williams College in Bristol.

Myles is a graduate of Bryant College.

A September 18, 1988, wedding is planned.

## Donna Pomeranz Engaged To Philip Milord

Donna Laurel Pomeranz, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sumner Pomeranz of Boca Raton, Fla. (formerly of Lincoln, R.I.), is engaged to be married to Philip Milord, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Milord of Homewood, Ill., and Boynton Beach, Fla.

Donna is a graduate of Hofstra University and is a master's

candidate at F.A.U. She is the granddaughter of Dr. and Mrs. Hyman Goldstein of Providence and Fla., and Mr. and Mrs. Sam Levy of Barrington, R.I.

Philip is a graduate of the University of Illinois.

A May 14, 1988 wedding is planned.

## USY To Hold Kallah

The Sheraton Hotel, Hyannis, Massachusetts is the site of the New England Region United Synagogue of America's Sixth Annual Kallah. The Kallah affords Jews from across all of New England an opportunity to spend a weekend of study and relaxation from Friday afternoon, December 11, 1987, through Sunday Brunch, December 13, 1987.

The theme for this exciting weekend is "Building a Dynamic Conservative Judaism in the Second Century: Grappling with our Common Future." Scholar-In-Residence for the Kallah is Rabbi Michael B. Greenbaum, Vice Chancellor and Chief Administration Officer of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, where he was ordained in 1973 and is an Instructor in Judaica. Rabbi Greenbaum has been a member of the Board of Governors of the New York Board of Rabbis and is a member of the Joint Retirement Board. Rabbi Greenbaum is a member of the Board of Directors of United Synagogue of America and also represents the Seminary on the National Youth Commission. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the World Council of Synagogues, and a member of the Advisory Board of the Center for Constitutional Studies at Mercer University. In addition, he sits on the Communal Planning Committee and Management Assistant Program Committee of the United Jewish Appeal, New York.

Reservations for the Kallah are being taken by Carol M. Brown, United Synagogue of America. For further information regarding this most exciting weekend of study and relaxation please call Mr. Aaron L. Kischel, Executive Director New England Region United Synagogue of America at (617) 277-0085 or write to him at the regional offices 233 Harvard Street, Suite 207, Brookline, Massachusetts 02146.

## Volunteers Needed At Miriam

Making a big difference in someone's life can be a small sacrifice. If you can donate three hours of your time each week, then you can make that difference as a volunteer at The Miriam Hospital.

Being a volunteer allows you the opportunity to help patients, their families and friends by lending support and encouragement. You can also assist Hospital staff on nursing units, or in other patient care areas. Some volunteers choose to work close to patients and health care providers, while others prefer working behind the scenes or in an office-based setting. Whatever you decide there is a position waiting for you.

Emily Barry, Director of Volunteer Services at The Miriam Hospital, explains what a successful volunteer program entails. "Team work is a key element in The Miriam's volunteer program. Volunteers work together as a supportive and committed network of individuals. They help each other, which in turn helps the staff and the Hospital provide quality care to patients."

Barry also mentions the Intensive Care Unit/Coronary Care Unit Family Support program as another component of a successful volunteer program. The support team includes over 15 trained volunteers who provide reassurance to patients and their families. Volunteers in the program have helped over 1,000 families since the program's inception in April of this year.

Volunteers are a valuable resource and being a volunteer is an important community service. If you have a few hours to share each week and would like to be a volunteer or need more information on the volunteer program, call The Miriam Hospital at 274-3700, extension 2510.



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# Why Zionism Is Judaism

by Jacob Neusner  
Part Two of Three Parts

What happened in 586 and after and what the paradigm put together by 450 B.C.E. in the Pentateuch produced by Ezra and the temple priests fabricated out of what happened do not correspond. Scripture said, in both the Torah and the prophetic-historical books, that Israel suffered through exile, atoned, attained reconciliation, and renewed the covenant with God as signified by the return to Zion and the rebuilding of the Temple. Although only a minority of "Israel" in fact had undergone those experiences, the Judaic system of the Torah made normative that experience of alienation and reconciliation. In this case, religion (the particular Judaism at hand) did more than merely recapitulate resentment. In the case at hand, religion — the Judaic system expressed by the Five Books of Moses as well as some of the prophetic books — precipitated it by selecting as events only a narrow sample of what has happened, and by imparting to that selection of events meanings pertinent to only a few.

In its original statement, the system of the Torah of 450 did not merely describe things that had actually happened, normal events so to speak, rendering them normative and mythic, turning an experience into a paradigm of experience. The paradigm began as a paradigm, not as a set of actual events only after the fact transformed into a normative pattern. And the conclusions generated by the paradigm, it must follow, derived not from reflection on things that happened but from the logic of the paradigm — there alone. Not only so, but that same paradigm would create expectations that could not be met, so would renew the resentment captured by the myth of exile, while at the same time setting the conditions or remission of resentment, so resolving the crisis of exile with the promise of return. This self-generating, self-renewing paradigm formed that self-fulfilling prophecy that all Judaisms have offered at as the generative tension and critical symbolic structure of their systems.

To state matters simply, the paradigm that imparted its imprint on the history of the day did not emerge from the events of the age. First came the system, its world-view and way of life formed whole we know not where or by whom. Then came the selection, by the system, of consequential events and their patterning into systemic propositions. And finally, at a third stage (of indeterminate length of time) came the formation and composition of the Pentateuchal canon that would express the logic of the system and state those "events" that the system would select or invent for its own expression. Since, chief among the propositions of the system as the Torah of Moses defined it is the notion of the election of Israel effected in the covenant, we may say that, systemically speaking, Israel — the Israel of the Torah and historical-prophetic books of the sixth and fifth centuries — selected itself. The system created the paradigm of the society that had gone into exile and come back home, and, by the way, the system also cut its own orders, that contract or covenant that certified not election but self-selection.

At the very foundations of the original and generative Judaic paradigm, the pentateuchal one, the account of the sequence of events from 586 when the Israelites were exiled to Babylonia to ca. 450 when they had returned to Zion and rebuilt the Temple, we find history systemically selected, therefore by definition invented,

and not described. That would make slight difference — everyone understands the mythopoetic power of belief — except for one thing. I maintain that a particular experience, transformed by a religious system into a paradigm of the life of the social group, has become normative and therefore generative. That particular experience itself happened, to begin with, in the minds and imaginations of the authorships of Scripture, not in the concrete life or in the politics and society of Israel in its land and in exile. No one of course imagined that the temple lay in ruins. But as to its restoration and reconstruction, people clearly differed, as the incessant complaints of the post-exilic prophets about the neglected condition of the altar attest. No one denied that some of Israel had stayed home, some had gone into exile. But as to the exclusion of those who had stayed home and not undergone the normative experience of alienation and return, opinion surely differed, since it was only by force that the dissolution of families was effected.

The same is so for a long list of systemic givens, none of them, as a matter of fact, matters of self-evidence except to those to whom they were self-evident. It follows that it is Scripture — and Scripture alone — that says that what happened was that Israel died and was reborn, was punished through exile and then forgiven, and therefore — and this is critical — to be Israel is in a genealogical sense (since no individual can have lived that long) to have gone into exile and returned to Zion. But the very normative standing of that experience forms what was at issue in the time of Ezra and Nehemiah, who imposed upon the Judean society of the fifth century the norm of exile and return, that is to say, of death and resurrection. What emerges therefore is a striking paradox. What happened to people does not correspond to what people were told had happened. The paradigm imparted to events that meaning, expressed in narrative and law alike, that to begin with the paradigm, and not the events, had generated. Most people after 586 stayed in Babylonia, but they called it exile. A few migrated to Jerusalem, where they found themselves a tiny minority among a larger group of Israelites whose ways they found improper — but they told themselves they had come "home," had "returned to Zion." Call it what you will, by their own word they did not find much familiar about this "home" of theirs, since most of the people who lived there at home followed rules the returnees declared alien. So on both sides, the "exiles" and those who had come "home," the systemic paradigm transformed what was happening into something else. This I set forth as a Zionist Judaism, and it came right at the outset, within the pentateuchal mosaic, as the first and most important statement of a Judaism from then to now.

The pentateuchal Judaism flourished to begin with because the priests who put it together had the power to make it stick. The reason is of course clear. First, framing matters in their terms, the priests are the ones who organized and set forth the Torah revealed by God to Moses at Sinai as the Jews would receive and revere it. They furthermore controlled the political institutions of the country as the Persian government established them. Consequently their perspective, with its emphasis on the Temple and its holiness, the cult and its critical role in sustaining the life of the land and the nation, predominated in defining public policy. And the Temple government had the necessary political support to

sustain its authority. It furthermore laid forth the Torah as its political myth, so not having constantly to resort to force at all. Since the Torah of Moses at Sinai defined the faith, explained what had happened and set forth the rules for God's continuing favor to Israel, the final shape and system of the Torah would make a deep impact on the consciousness and attitude of the people as a whole.

But we wonder why the system persisted as paradigmatic and why its structure proved definitive long after the political facts had shifted dramatically, indeed, had ceased to pertain at all. The whole, the original Judaism answered the question of exile and restoration. With the continuing authority of the Torah in Israel, the experience to which it originally constituted a profound and systematic response was recapitulated, age after age, through the reading and authoritative exegesis of the original scripture that preserved and portrayed it: "Your descendants will be aliens living in a land that is not theirs . . . but I will punish that nation whose slaves they are, and after that they shall come out with great possessions" (Gen. 15:13-14). The long-term reason for the persistence of the priests' Judaism as the self-evidently valid explanation of Israel's life derives from two facts.

First, the Scriptures themselves retained their authority. But that begs the question. For the reason does not account for the continuing assent to, acknowledgement as authoritative of, those Scriptures. The second reason that the Judaic system devised in the Pentateuch by the priests retained its power of self-evidence is that that system in its basic structure addressed, but also created, a continuing and chronic social fact of Israel's life. So long as the people perceived the world in such a way as to make urgent the question that Scripture framed and answered, Scripture enjoyed that power of persuasion beyond all need for argument that imparted to it the self-evident status of God's revealed will to Israel. And that interval lasted for a very long time. But Scripture gained its own authority, independent of the circumstance of society. The priests' paradigm therefore imposed itself even in situations in which its fundamental premises hardly pertained. Accordingly, it is the fact that when the world imposed upon Jewry questions of a different order, then Jews would go in search of more answers — an

additional Torah (hence the formation of the Judaism of the dual Torah) — and even different answers (hence the formation, in modern times, of Judaic systems of a different character altogether). But even then, as we shall see, a great many Jews continued to envision the world through that original perspective created in the aftermath of destruction and restoration, that is, to see the world as a gift instead of a given, themselves as chosen for life of special suffering but also

special reward. Why then the power of Zionist Judaism from pre-Christian times to our own day? Other Judaisms came into being, flourished, and lost their hold as self-evident truth. The Judaism that is Zionism only renewed itself in age succeeding age. Next week: the reason why.

Jacob Neusner is Professor of Judaic Studies at Brown University.



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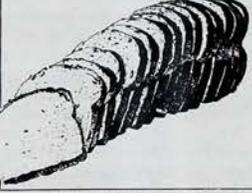
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## Around Town

by Dorothea Snyder



If Philip Korn at 13 had mastered the Palmer Method of hand-writing, would 999 Oaklawn Avenue in Cranston house the reams of paper that chutes in and out of its doors daily?

Almost eight years ago, young Philip was preparing for his Bar Mitzvah. His mother, Brenda, was preparing too. She knew her son's handwriting was inclined to climb mountains, and thought he needed lined contemporary stationery for his thank-you notes.

Brenda and her sister Sondra Medwin jaunted to Connecticut to a stationery and paper goods establishment based out of the home of a friend's friend.

"On the two and a half hour ride home I told my sister how Rhode Island needs a place like this," said Sondra. "Nobody offered this type of service in our state. How about going into business with me?"

As the story goes, Brenda's reply was "I can't. I'm too busy making a Bar Mitzvah."

That didn't discourage Sondra. "Between now and Philip's Bar Mitzvah, I'll do everything, but the day after, you have no excuse. And you'll work the same as I or forget it."

Almost eight years later, on a Monday morning, the phones are ringing off the hook. Customers intermittently rap on the door. They don't realize Simply Sondra is closed Mondays to enable the sister partners to have the luxury of a "catch-up day." They'll be opened Mondays starting next week to accommodate holiday shoppers though.

In between rings and knocks, they re-capture the days that launched their paper emporium. "We went home," Sondra said, "and I told my husband whose marriage counselling office is in our home that I was going to use one wall of his office. I promised Joel that was all I needed."

"Our split level contains a 15' by 15' panelled room with a separate entrance for his patients. He said we could use his office when he wasn't there. He used it at night. We took one wall and had this clear display unit made which took up the entire wall." Sondra points to the historical unit.

"The New York show was two weeks after we decided to go into business, and two weeks before Philip's Bar Mitzvah. We had to go for supplies. Our husbands went with us. We walked all over, and our husbands schlepped all the heavy paper and swore they would never go with us again . . . and they never have!

"Everything we liked, we bought. We didn't know whether it would sell or not or knew who was going to buy it. We bought an imprinting machine and paper by the pound.

"Then we started with all the books, custom lines and invitations. The business soon mushroomed. My entire cellar became a warehouse. My husband and I had to walk sideways to get to the washing machine," Sondra said. "The porch had become a storage room. The garage was filled even more. He had to rent an office because we had taken over. Not only that, but a patient had asked if at the end of their counselling she could make some purchases.

"When I started moving boxes into the den, my husband announced we're going shopping. We're going to buy one of two things," he said. "We're going to find a

store for you to move in all these things or we're going to find a house to live in, and keep our present house as a store. Joel decided it wasn't professional for us to remain in his office.

"My house is so empty now," she laughed. "We moved into the store March of 1982 with 1200 square feet. Six months later, we took over the adjoining store adding another 1300 square feet.

"Never tell Brenda about an empty space of three or four inches or feet; otherwise, she's off to the marketplace. She'll fill up that space eight or ten times over, and worry where it's going to go when it comes in.

"I get so fed up when we have to unpack it," Sondra complained good-naturedly. "I'm not unpacking. I tell her. You bought it. You find where to put it."

Personalizing constitutes ninety percent of Simply Sondra's business whether it's a painted name on a gift, stationery or custom invitations.

"Everything is custom done for that person," said Brenda. "Children's names on wooden wall mountings with hooks for clothes, key chains, light switches, picture frames."

Another of the sisters' specialty is coordinating themes for parties. "If a child has a theme for a Bar Mitzvah like sports, ballet, music, teddy bears, we incorporate it into the invitation, thank you notes, napkins, table settings, everything.

"A whole dimension I don't think Rhode Island had until Sondra and I started is ladies' room baskets, personalized and coordinated with guest towels and soaps. Now it's done by everybody. But basically we brought all those ideas from New York.

"We handle a lot of corporate accounts and professionals. Doctors and lawyers are collectors, so I'm always looking for unusual gift items," Brenda said, showing me unique business card holders for a multitude of professions including stockbrokers, dentists, jewelers, travel agents, architects."

They also have a catalogue business mailed out to 10,000 people which began as a line drawing the first five years, progressing to color.

There is an in-house artist at Simply Sondra who can turn a lucite jewelry box into a work of art with painted faces, flowers and rhinestone earrings. "It is a stroke of luck we have her!" they say, marvelling at her ability.

Handpainted baby photo albums titled with names and days of birth, teenage albums covered with dazzling artwork, heart-shaped crayon boxes, desk caddies personalized for Bar and Bat Mitzvah favors, even a surprise birthday party basket for a man devoted to Porsches mark her ingenuity.

Walking through all the nooks and crannies at Simply Sondra is a fascinating safari.

In one corner is a computer calligraphy machine which under Sondra's creative eye magically transforms beautiful paper stock into smashing custom invitations.

Sorting through an array of invitations, I spot a doctor's prescription pad, now a novel invitation, a Calder painting for a birthday invitation. A three-year-old's party is announced in pastel colors on a curled lamb. A Fifties Hop has records and components glued to it with a bopping

## Simply Sondra . . . And Brenda

photos by Dorothea Snyder



Brenda Korn, Sondra Medwin and creatively concocted gifts put together at their Simply Sondra store. In front of Brenda is a top hat with a silver-scripted "Happy Anniversary" greeting. The topper contains a champagne bottle with chocolate candy corks. Sondra stands behind a decorative bucket of cleaning supplies for "Dad's Porsche," a recent surprise birthday party gift from a daughter to her dad.

teenager. A delightful New Year's invitation takes the form of a tuxedo jacket trimmed in silver sparkle with a black satin bow.

File cabinets, boxes, inventory fill every bit of space, but nothing is disorganized. How do they keep track of it all I ask?

"We're nags," Brenda answered with a big smile. "We make them clean constantly."

Sondra and Brenda mutually agree that the best part of their business is meeting the public and meeting very interesting people.

"We've made so many friends in this store," Sondra said. "When our father passed away almost three years ago, customers came to sit *shiva* in New Bedford at my mother's house. It's hard to believe it. They were so thoughtful sending us cards and donations."

They pride themselves on their customers in Florida who have confidence in their good judgment. "They'll call us with a price quota on what they want to spend for gifts, and leave the rest to us. They trust us. Previously, we planned their Bar and Bat Mitzvah parties and chose their gifts personally and professionally."

When the subject of vacation time popped up, Sondra said "Brenda doesn't like it when I take vacations. It doesn't matter how frequent or infrequent, how long or short, when I'm away. Brenda hates it. When it comes time for me to go away, I go away. Brenda takes a lot of weekend vacations."

The sisters truly complement each other.

Sondra runs the front of the store. Brenda handles the financial end, billing and buying, working with sales people and setting up displays. Brenda researches for ideas, and Sondra executes them. Brenda goes to shows which is not Sondra's cup of tea.

"When we go to shows, Brenda's the first to step across the threshold and the last to leave. At 3 p.m. I'm tired, I've had enough and ready to go back to the hotel. But Brenda will protest saying she's nowhere finished and I have to stay."

The initial investment in Simply Sondra was \$500. "We worked for many years and reinvested every penny back into the business," Brenda said. "We don't owe a cent to anybody. We own everything in this store 100%, lock, stock and barrel.

"In addition, we have a wholesale business. When we first opened, we had transparent boxes custom-made to fit our paper by the pound. We were the only ones in the industry to do this. We have reps who sell these to stationery stores all over the country. You just don't buy paper and put in a bag. We made it into a gift item. We don't sell these items to local stores in Rhode Island.

"It all came about because we didn't have means of packaging. You have to have a total picture package. Presentation is 90% of the sell. Our logo is only on our

own boxes, and custom printed.

"There's something for everybody here," Brenda said. "I do love what I do. I create in the back, and Sondra brings it to the front. There are six on the floor all the time besides our artist."

Before Simply Sondra, their lives were equally energetic and active.

Sondra was once an operating room nurse. Brenda, who is a past president of Providence Hebrew Day School and lectured to garden clubs and did plant therapy at the Jewish Home, said "I was involved in all kinds of organizational work the first 20 years I was married which I gave up for my work now."

Because Sondra couldn't work a regular schedule as an operating room nurse with two babies and a home to care for in Cranston, she volunteered at the Miriam for two years. "I didn't want to be called for emergencies in the middle of the night. Then this all came about."

People may think their work is all very glamorous, Brenda said, but the truth is they work a 70 or 80 hour week. "We don't have time to spend what we make. When we get home, we fall into bed."

Sondra piped in with "The only way I can spend what I make is I have two kids in college, and they take every dollar I make." Lauri is a senior at Brandeis who will graduate cum laude. Steven is a junior at University of Vermont.

Brenda has three children: Carolyn who is working on her MBA at Simmons College, Philip, a junior at Syracuse, and a married daughter Ruth who lives in Manhattan. "We're lucky. We both have good children, and that's been a help too. You can't be doing something like this if you need to watch your kids."

Sondra said "We did it mostly from my house when my kids were little. I had to be there when they came home from school and know what they were doing and who they were with.

"When your kids prove to you that they can be trusted, then you give them more room. All of them have been good kids. And Joel and David have been two supportive and proud husbands. The kids have been great too. When my daughter Lauri is on vacation, she comes in and manages the store. She can run it when we're not here and at shows."

The only thing sad about their business, Sondra remarked, is when people come in for sympathy acknowledgements.

"Everything else is parties and fun and happy times. If I'm in a black, white and red mood, the party is going to be black, white and red.

"You can make all these parties and not have to pay for it. That's the fun part. I love to make parties. The day I stop having fun is the day I stop working. Brenda concentrates intently on what she's doing. I don't concentrate as much."

"She leaves that to me," Brenda said warmly. "She loves what she does, and I love what I do. I'm much more serious than she, but everybody knows we're two different people."

A handsome 1988 decoration made at Simply Sondra.



# “Skinhead” Arrested For Vandalism In Chicago

NEW YORK (JTA) — A 22-year-old Chicago man with links to at least two neo-Nazi groups was arraigned there and charged with breaking windows and painting swastikas on the walls of a Jewish meat market, according to Chicago police.

William G. Leinberger, who told police that he damaged the Jewish-owned business on Chicago's north side during the night of November 9-10, the 39th anniversary of Kristallnacht, is also a member of the Chicago-area “skinheads,” youth gangs who preach violence against Jews, blacks and other minority groups, police said.

Despite Leinberger's arrest police are actively continuing their investigation of the “Kristallnacht” vandalism, according to police Commander George Biseck. He said that damage inflicted on 11 Jewish- and Korean-owned businesses and

three synagogues indicates that more than one person was involved.

“We applaud the swift and diligent police work which has led to the arrest,” said Michael Kotzin, executive director of the greater Chicago Chapter of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

According to an ADL report issued in October, “Shaved for Battle: Skinheads Target America's Youth,” the most active of the white supremacist “skinhead” groups operate in the Chicago area, and are distinguished by their shaved heads and punk rock clothing.

**Involved With Neo-Nazis**  
Kotzin said the ADL has been monitoring Leinberger's activity with neo-Nazi groups for several years. Leinberger and his brother, Frederick, were among 13 people arrested at a neo-Nazi rally in May in Royal Parks, Mich.,

Kotzin said.

The November 9-10 incident took place in Chicago's West Rogers Park and Albany Park neighborhoods in what police and ADL officials determined were attacks in imitation of Kristallnacht, the name given to the night of November 9, 1938, when 7,500 Jewish-owned businesses and synagogues were looted and burned in Germany and Austria.

Leinberger was arrested following questioning by police in connection with another incident that occurred on Halloween night.

In that incident, three men shouted threats and anti-Semitic slurs at a Jewish man who had recently appeared on a television documentary about the “skinheads.” Two arrests were made at the scene of the Halloween incident, and a witness later identified Leinberger from a police mug shot book.

Detective Daniel Noon of the police gang crimes division connected a bandage on Leinberger's hand and the tattooed swastikas he wears to the “Kristallnacht” vandalism. Leinberger then admitted that he had vandalized the Hobfall

Kosher Meat and Poultry Market on West Bryn Mawr Avenue.

### ‘Ethnic Intimidation’ Charges

Leinberger, who works as a telephone solicitor, was charged with criminal damage to property, a felony, in addition to “ethnic intimidation” for the Halloween incident, said Commander Biseck.

Police found cards in Leinberger's wallet identifying him as a member of the National Socialist Defense League, a white supremacist organization with headquarters in Brookfield, Ill., and the SS Action Group, which ADL officials described as a small but “noisy and confrontational”

neo-Nazi group, based in Detroit. According to ADL's Kotzin, Leinberger is listed as the owner of the Chicago post office box of the SS Action Group, whose national membership numbers about 50.



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# Business & Financial

## Don't Forget Disability Insurance

by Lawrence M. Halperin and Marvin William Lax

When you calculate the amount you will need, subtract what you already have. Many people are covered under their employer plans which usually give them a percentage of their salary for a

specific time and under specific circumstances outlined in the contract. Check with your personnel administrator for details.

**How much you need:** Standard insurance formulas recommend that you buy a policy

that will pay you 60-70% of your annual after-tax income. Each situation is different, of course, but generally, you won't spend as much as you do now if you become disabled.

**Other sources of disability income:** Social Security will pay benefits, but only if you are permanently or indefinitely disabled. Contact your local Social Security office to find out the amount that Social Security will provide.

If you are injured on the job, you might be able to collect a state-provided worker's compensation benefit. While the benefits, based on your prior work history, vary widely, don't expect much help.

**Benefit maximums:** Most disability policies pay only up to a certain limit, on the theory that too much of a good thing may prevent you from pushing to get back to work. While limits vary, they average about two-thirds of your prior income. But keep in mind that insurance payouts go further than paychecks, since most payments are tax-free. And

even those that aren't — such as payouts from a corporate policy when the company paid the premiums — get some tax breaks.

**Read the fine print:** Shopping for disability insurance can be tricky. Be especially aware of how "disability" is defined in the policy. When some policies say that "loss of hands or eyes" is covered, they mean loss of hands or eyes, not just loss of use of your hands and eyes. Some policies kick in only when you can no longer work at any job, not just the kind of job that you held before the accident or disability. Look for policies that will pay up whenever sickness or injury pushes down your paycheck. After you look at coverage, take a look at the waiting period, the lag between when your accident happens and when disability payments begin. Waiting periods can range from as little as one month to as long as six months or even longer. The formula is simple: The longer you can wait for payments, the lower your premium.

When you evaluate various packages, watch out for the "perils covered" clause in the policy. Some policies cover only disabilities due to accidents; others cover sickness, too.

Built-in flexibility is also important. A "noncancellable" or "guaranteed renewable" policy can be extended beyond the stated expiration date, no matter how poor your health is then. An "optionally renewable" policy, on the other hand, can be extended only under certain specified circumstances.

**Additional cost consideration:** To keep premium costs down, first find out how long your employer will keep you on full salary. Then see which of your assets you can cash in for living expenses. If you don't have much backup, you may be better off paying a higher premium to obtain more complete coverage.

Next look at the payout period, the amount of time that payments will cover. You can choose from a full spectrum of payout periods, from payments lasting only for a few months to payments that continue to age 65 or for life. The shorter the benefit period, of course, the lower your premium.

**A final word:** Once you find a suitable package, don't just put it into a drawer and forget about it. Review the policy every year or

two to make sure that the coverage is still sufficient to cover your lifestyle.

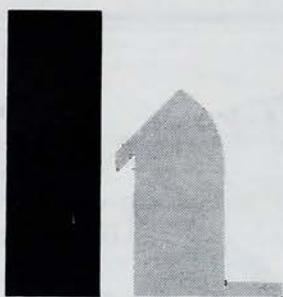
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## Frances FitzGerald At RISD

For nearly two decades, Pulitzer Prize winning writer Frances FitzGerald has been examining the foibles of American society with what some describe as "Taoist eyes." Whether focusing on the Vietnam War, the textbook versions of American history, or the mundane, but ever-quirky white middle class, FitzGerald sees contemporary America as an organic entity constantly in flux. The eloquent journalist/historian will talk about the quality and clarity of her vision on Wednesday, Dec. 2 when she visits Rhode Island School of Design as part of the Arts and Humanities Lecture Series. FitzGerald will speak at 7 p.m. in the RISD Auditorium, Canal Street at Market Square. Her talk is free and open to the public.

As one of the most perceptive historians of our time, FitzGerald first made a national name for herself when *Fire in the Lake* hit the shelves in 1972. A stunningly powerful book about America's intervention in Vietnam, it won the then 33-year-old author a spate of prestigious awards, including the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Award, the National Institute of Arts and Letters Award, the Sydney Hillman Award, the George Polk Award and the Bancroft Award for History. Author Noam Chomsky praised it as "a work of rare insight and ... lasting importance," while historian Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. pronounced it simply "superb." In detailing the collision of two world views, *Fire in the Lake* has also been described as "the most sensitive, the most ambitious and certainly the most eloquent book ever to examine the American intervention in Vietnam," and has been credited with deflating "the American dream of capturing the world for democracy by exposing the lethal vanity of that dream."

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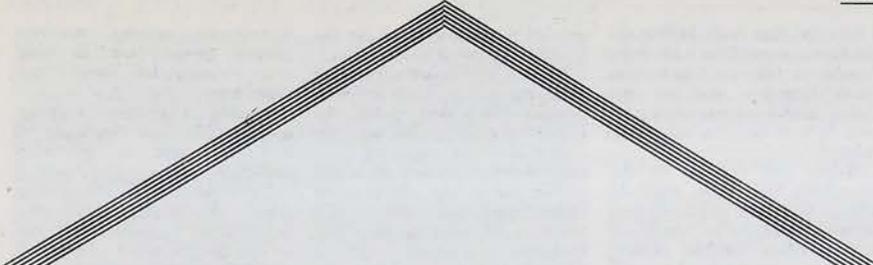
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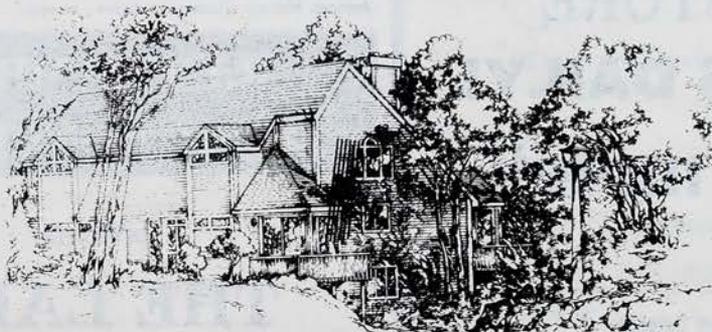
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# Iran-Contra

(Continued from page 1)

was at the basis of this operation.")

The main report noted that Robert McFarlane, then Reagan's national security advisor, sent Michael Ledeen, a consultant to the National Security Council, to Israel to seek cooperation on intelligence about Iran "because of dissatisfaction with CIA capabilities."

Ledeen testified that the then Israeli premier, Shimon Peres,

told him that Israel's intelligence on Iran was also inadequate.

### Israel's Needs Said To Be Understood

The report also noted that the United States was under no illusions regarding Israel's motives. "The Israelis strongly advocated the initiative, viewing it as a joint U.S.-Israel operation, and were willing to give the United States deniability — so long as it did not subject them to criticism by Congress and the Secretary of State (George Shultz) was fully informed," the report said.

It added that both McFarlane and his successor, Rear Adm. John Poindexter, told the Israelis that "since Israel — and not the United States — was selling to Iran, U.S. policy was not being violated."

Ledeen had testified to the committees that Peres had told him in May 1985 that Iran had requested arms, but he "would not do this unless he had explicit American approval for it." Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin had also demanded that Shultz be informed.

The committees concluded in the report that "the president was under no illusion that the interests of the United States and Israel were synonymous. As early as June 1985, Secretary Shultz had pointed out to McFarlane that Israel had little to lose by promoting the initiative; it had no policy against arms sales to Iran, and, given the hostility of most of its neighbors, Israel was more willing to gamble on the prospects of changes in the Iranian government.

"No foreign state can dictate the conduct of U.S. foreign policy. Superpowers make their own decisions. And the United States did so in this instance. Nevertheless, Israel's endorsement of the Iran initiative cannot be ignored as a factor in its origin or in its continuation."

The minority view also stressed that while Israel was promoting the Iran initiative for its own national interests, "we believe the U.S. government responsibly made its own judgments, and its own mistakes."

### Cleared On Diversion Of Funds

On the diversion of funds to the Contras, the committees heard testimony that after the Israeli shipment of TOW missiles to Iran in November 1985, the Israelis told Marine Lt. Col. Oliver North, then an aide on the National Security Council, to use profits from the sale for "whatever purpose he wanted." North then

decided to use the funds for the Contras, according to testimony.

North told the committees that at a meeting in Washington in January 1986, Amiram Nir, the Israeli premier's advisor on counterterrorism, suggested using the profits to replenish the Israeli TOWs sold to Iran and for joint Israel-United States anti-terrorist activities, including the release of hostages.

North also testified that the diversion of the funds to the Contras was suggested to him by Ghorbanifar at a meeting later that month as a means of convincing the United States to continue the initiative.

However, at a press conference releasing the report, Sens. Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii), the committee's Senate chairman, and Warren Rudman (R-Vt.), the

committee's ranking minority member, praised Israel as being most cooperative with the committees.

Israel had given the committees a written historical chronology of its involvement in the Iran initiative.

The report by the committees does not officially end the Iran/Contra affair. An independent counsel, Lawrence Walsh, is presenting evidence to a federal grand jury. North and Poindexter are identified as targets of possible prosecution.

The Israeli government is fighting an attempt by Walsh to subpoena David Kimche, former director general of the Israel Foreign Ministry, as well as Nir and two Israeli private arms dealers, Al Schwimmer and Yaakov Nimrodi.

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# D.C. Demonstration

(Continued from page 1)

"Gorbachev is releasing some of the high-profile refuseniks, he has increased emigration slightly — in the hope of lulling Jewish communities and advocates into complacency. The Soviet Union does not want its Jews to leave."

Weiss called the extremely supportive relationship that the coalition of certain Jewish groups has developed with the Reagan administration "a political blunder and a terrible mistake. We are very grateful for what the administration has done. But there is a moral imperative to do much more — no less a responsibility than on South Africa."

The American administration is too concentrated on individual cases, he says, and "we are terribly concerned that with the more high-profile Jews coming out" the linkage of trade to the cause of Soviet Jewry will not be sustained.

The groups he heads "will be part of the rally, which should be an extraordinary expression of unity," Weiss says, but they are also planning an act of "nonviolent civil disobedience" which will lead to arrests on the streets outside the Soviet Embassy while the summit conference is in session.

Marshall I. Goldman, professor at Wellesley College and associate director of the Russian Research Center at Harvard, said protests against historic Russian policies

before Gorbachev's arrival ought to be followed by gestures of support for the Soviet leader while he's here.

### In A Rut

"Today in the Soviet Union, things are changing so quickly that it's hard to get out of our rut," he says. "We have to think these things out and we haven't yet. Anyone who does speak out" about possibilities for improvements for Jews in the Soviet Union "is accused to being timid, a ghetto Jew."

"It's easier, right now, to be a Jew in the Soviet Union," asserted Goldman, who travels there frequently. "It's not paradise, but it's changing."

Goldman's perceptions are shared by many others, including some Jews who left the Soviet Union during the great exodus of the late 1970s and have recently returned for visits. But these are not the beliefs of the U.S. State Department or of Natan Sharansky, the most prominent of the Jews released during Gorbachev's ascendancy, who is expected to take a lead role in the demonstration.

Sharansky, Goldman says, "is thinking in the old style. He says those not born in the Soviet Union, who haven't been in the prison camps, can't understand the system."

"Maybe he's right. I think he's wrong."

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## Gallery Presents "Israel Expressions"



Gallery 401 celebrates Israel's 40th birthday with a show, "Israel Expressions '87," featuring the works of Israeli artists and artisans. Pictured is modern handmade silver jewelry by Miriam Hershovitz of Ramat Gan.

In honor of the year-long celebration of Israel's 40th birthday, Gallery 401 at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, 401 Elmgrove Ave. in Providence will feature the works of Israeli artists and artisans in an exhibition and sale.

The premiere opening will be held on Thursday, December 3 from 7:30-9 p.m. Titled "Israel Expressions '87," the show, a unique collection of works by over 70 quality Israeli artists and artisans from studios and ateliers from Jerusalem to the Mediterranean, includes sculpture, paintings, fiberworks, ceramics, glass, prints, weaving and woods.

The show will continue through December 18. Gallery hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed Saturday. For information call Ann Miller at 861-8800.

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## Obituaries

### HENRY LESNICK

LAKE WORTH, Fla. — Henry Lesnick, 78, formerly of Providence, died Friday, November 6 in a hospital near his home in Lake Worth. He was the husband of Ethel (Rosenthal) Lesnick.

Besides his wife he leaves a son, Dr. Howard Lesnick, San Mateo, Cal.; two daughters, Mrs. Norman (Marge) Bader, and Mrs. Alan (Susan) Gerstein, University Heights, Ohio; five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Services were held at the Levitt-Weinstein Memorial Chapel, West Palm Beach, Fla.

### IDA NEWMAN

PROVIDENCE — Mrs. Ida Newman, 91, a resident of the Jewish Home for the Aged, formerly of Eustis Avenue, Newport, died Saturday, October 31, 1987, at the home. She was the widow of Benjamin Newman.

Born in Poland, she was a daughter of the late Morris and Rachel Seidell Friedman.

Mrs. Newman was a member of Touro Synagogue in Newport, its Ladies Auxiliary and Hadassah.

She leaves a son, Atty. Zalman D. Newman of Newport; a daughter, Dorothy Namerow of Cranston; five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Funeral services took place in the Hoffman Memorial Chapel, Newport. Rabbi Chaim Shapiro of Touro Synagogue officiated. Burial was in Beth Olam Cemetery, Middletown.

### PHILIP A. OSTROW

PROVIDENCE — Philip A. Ostrow of 15 Boylston Ave. died Sunday, November 15 at Miriam Hospital. He was the husband of Mary G. (Sydney) Ostrow.

Born in Russia, a son of the late Frank and Hassie Ostrow, he lived in Providence since coming to this country as a boy.

Mr. Ostrow was founder and owner for 20 years of the Snow Street Garage. He also owned the Albright Auto Driving School for more than 25 years before retiring seven years ago. He was a member of Temple Emanu-El and its Men's Club. He was an Army veteran of World War I and a member of the Jewish War Veterans. His wife is his only immediate survivor.

A funeral service was held at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

### GLADYS HIRSH

DELRAY BEACH, Fla. — Gladys Hirsh, 80, of 77 Flanders B., Kings Point, died at Delray Community Hospital Friday, November 20. She was the widow of the late Abraham Hirsh and the late Michael Lubin.

Born in Russia, a daughter of the late Benjamin and Anna (Kaufman) Mandell, she had been a resident of Delray Beach 12 years and had previously lived in the Miami Beach area for eight years. Mrs. Hirsh had been a resident of Providence for over 60 years.

She leaves a daughter, Esther Miller and a son, Richard Lubin, both of Warwick; a sister, Dora Gersh of Miami Beach; two brothers, Theodore Mandell of Boca Raton and Irving Mandell of Lake Worth; five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in the Lincoln Park Cemetery, Post Road, Warwick.

### IDA GAN

COVENTRY — Ida Gan, 96, of 10 Woodland Drive, died Thursday, November 19 at the Coventry Health Center. She was the wife of the late Isador M. Gan.

Born in Russia, she was a daughter of the late Samuel and Bayla Shapiro and had been a resident of Warwick from 1911 until moving to Coventry in 1985.

She owned and operated, with her husband, the former I.M. Gan Super Market and I.M. Gan liquor stores in Warwick for 50 years, retiring 25 years ago. The first store was established in 1911, carrying license number 1.

Mrs. Gan was a life member of the Ladies Association of the Jewish Home for the Aged and was a charter member and founder of Temple Beth Shalom.

She leaves a son, Samuel A. Gan of Cranston and a sister, Ruth Israel of Miami Beach, Fla.

Graveside services were held at Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

### LOUIS COVINSKY

CRANSTON — Louis Covinsky of 315 Park Ave. died at Rhode Island Hospital, Friday, November 20. He was the husband of Rose (Weinberg) Covinsky.

Born in Odessa, Russia, a son of the late Harry and Rose Covinsky, he had been a Cranston resident 11 years, previously living in Warwick three years and Providence for over 50 years.

Mr. Covinsky founded and was president of the former Supersonic Car Wash, on Reservoir Avenue, which he founded in 1954, and the former Red Bridge Car Wash, which he founded in 1960. He retired in 1967.

He had been a news distributor in Providence for over 30 years until 1953.

In 1942 and 1943, he received an award from the governor for selling the most war bonds.

He was a past president and member of the board of directors of the Young Peoples Beneficial Association, a member of Temple Am David and its men's club, Roosevelt Lodge, 42 F.&A.M., the Touro Fraternal Association; the Providence Hebrew Free Loan Assn. and the Majestic Senior Citizens.

Besides his wife, he leaves a daughter, Adele Snyder of Miami Beach, Fla.; a son, Irwin Covinsky of Narragansett; five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

### ELEANOR R. WEINBERG

WARWICK — Eleanor R. Weinberg, 64, of 515 Namquid Drive, principal stenographer at the Mental Health and Rehabilitation Hospital, Rhode Island Medical Center, for the past seven years, died Saturday, November 21, 1987, at New England Deaconess Hospital, Boston. She was the wife of Gerald Weinberg.

Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Samuel and Ida (Tabrisky) Cohen, she lived in Warwick for 40 years.

Mrs. Weinberg previously

worked at Brown University and Temple Beth-El. She was a member of Temple Beth-El, the Ladies Association of the Jewish Home for the Aged, the Hebrew Free Loan Association and Planned Parenthood.

Besides her husband she leaves two sons, Alan R. Weinberg of Madison, Wis., and Donald N. Weinberg of Hamden, Conn.; a brother, Harold L. Cohen of Providence; two sisters, Ruth L. Cohen of Warwick, Annette Blumberg of Pawtucket, and two grandchildren.

A funeral service was held at the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Sons of Israel and David Cemetery, Providence.

### JOSEPH SIEGAL

PROVIDENCE — Joseph Siegal, 90, of 109 Ruggles St., died Thursday, November 19, 1987, at Miriam Hospital. He was the husband of the late Minnie (Bain) Siegal.

Born in Austria, a son of the late Jacob and Hannah Siegal, he had lived in Providence 47 years.

Mr. Siegal was a shipper for the former U.S. Rubber Co., now UniRoyal, for 39 years, retiring in 1958.

He was a member of Sons of Jacob Synagogue.

He leaves a daughter, Bella Siegal with whom he lived.

Graveside services were held at Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. Arrangements by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel.

### JOSEPH J. KASS

CRANSTON — Joseph J. Kass, 86, of 444 Meshanticut Valley Parkway, president of Allied Fashions of Rhode Island, Pawtucket, since 1930, died Tuesday, November 17, 1987, at the Jane Brown unit of Rhode Island Hospital. He was the husband of Betty J. (Rose) Kass.

Born in Russia, a son of the late Jacob and Freda Kass, he lived in Cranston since 1971. He formerly lived in Great Neck, Long Island, N.Y.

Besides his wife he leaves two sons, R. Robert Kass of Barrington and Fredrik J. Kass of Cranston; seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

A graveside service was held at Beth David Cemetery, Elmont, Long Island. Arrangements by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

### SIDNEY SHAPIRO

WARWICK — Sidney Shapiro, 75, of 777 Cowesett Rd., died unexpectedly Thursday, November 12, 1987, in Rhode Island Hospital. He was the husband of the late Evelyn Robbins Shapiro.

Born in Worcester, Mass., he was the son of the late Joseph and Leah Shapiro and for 37 years was owner and operator of Sidney Office Supply Co. in East Providence.

He had lived in Cranston before moving to Warwick 10 years ago.

He was a founding member of the Cranston Jewish Community Center, now Temple Torat Yisrael; was a member of the Hillel Board at the University of Rhode Island; served on the Jewish Council of the Boy Scouts of America; was a member of the Century Club of B'nai B'rith and an associate member of Hadassah.

He was once selected as Man of the Year by the Boy Scouts of America and of B'nai B'rith.

He leaves three sons, Stephen Shapiro of East Greenwich and Nathan and Joseph Shapiro, both of West Warwick; a brother, Archie Shapiro of Worcester, Mass.; two sisters, Anne Mencow and Sarah Seder, both of Worcester; and five grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

Burial was in Sinai Memorial Park.

### JORDAN KIRSCHENBAUM

DALLAS, Texas — Jordan B. Kirshenbaum, 56, of 16326 Ashburn Drive, a real estate investor and a former Cranston resident, died Wednesday, November 18, 1987, at home. He was the husband of Myrna (Sobel) Kirshenbaum.

Born in Providence, he was a son of the late Morris and Eda (Skolnick) Kirshenbaum. He had lived in Dallas 15 years.

Mr. Kirshenbaum was a former member of Temple Torat Yisrael, and was a member of the Masons and the Shrine Temple. He was a graduate of Providence College.

Besides his wife, he leaves a son, Michael Kirshenbaum, and three daughters, Caren Schwartz, Ellen Austin and Elyse Kirshenbaum, all of Dallas; three brothers, Allen and Sanford Kirshenbaum, both of Cranston, and Selwyn Kirshenbaum of Florida; and one grandchild.

The funeral service was held at the Sparkman-Hillcrest Northwest Highway Chapel.



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# A Refusenik For 16 Years

by Martin Gilbert

Fourteen years ago this month a remarkable appeal reached the West from Moscow. Signed by twenty Soviet Jews, all of them refuseniks, it announced that "as a sign of deprivation of our rights we will, when we find it necessary, wear the yellow Star of David as has always been done by our brethren under conditions of tyranny."

Nineteen of the twenty signatories of this appeal, including Shcharansky, were subsequently allowed to leave the Soviet Union. Only one is still a refusenik. His name is Pavel Abramovich.

Together with his wife, Marta, Abramovich — known to his friends as "Pasha" — first applied for an exit visa in 1971, when he was 32 years old. This year he has reached 48. His many friends in the West are now desperate lest he should be left "on the shelf." Pasha Abramovich has never sat idly by. In June 1975, during a one-day hunger strike by many refuseniks, he was among those who signed an appeal to the West, in which the hunger strikers declared: "We will never give up our desire to bind our fate with the fate of the Jewish people in Israel." Within a year of this courageous statement, Abramovich was ordered to stop teaching Hebrew. In December 1976 he was detained by the KGB in order to prevent him participating in the refusenik Cultural Symposium in Moscow.

Undeterred by the threat of arrest, in October 1978 Abramovich was one of the organizers of the Festival of Jewish Songs held in a wood near Moscow. He had also continued his unofficial Hebrew classes; in May 1980 ten of his students were called in for questioning by the KGB and warned that they would be dismissed from their jobs if they did not stop attending the classes. In February 1981 he was warned that if he continued teaching, his fate would be "worse than Brailovsky's." (Brailovsky was then in prison and was later sentenced to four years internal exile; he is now in Israel.)

In August 1981 Abramovich was warned that his Hebrew teaching must stop, or he would be brought to trial. His flat was raided and

many books and personal papers confiscated. Even these threats, however, did not stop him giving lessons to a few pupils.

A few months ago, Abramovich's son, Felix, was allowed to leave the Soviet Union for Israel. Tirelessly, he now campaigns for his parents' release; two weeks ago he was in London, speaking on their behalf. Nor are mere words to be mocked at; Pavel Abramovich himself, many years ago, told a visitor from the West: "Sometimes a word means more than a piece of bread to a hungry man."

There has been much talk this year of human rights being an integral part of Soviet relations with the West, and even with Israel. If this is really meaningful talk, rather than Western self-delusion, then Pavel Abramovich should already have received his exit visa. That he has not done so is a mote in the eye of detente.

The fate of a single family is important to the cause of freedom; equally important is the principle that those who have been waiting longest for their exit visas, should be among the first to benefit from whatever advance in human rights is promised, however small.

Abramovich has several friends who like himself have also been waiting for their exit visas for more than sixteen years. One of them, Professor Alexander Lerner, now aged 74, lost two small daughters in the Holocaust, but is refused permission to join his third daughter who lives in Israel. Another of Abramovich's friends, Yuly Kosharovskiy, one of the signatories of the hunger strikers' appeal of June 1975, was among those who bore the brunt of the official odium against Hebrew teachers a decade ago. He too remains a refusenik, despite "glasnost."

Abramovich, Lerner, and Kosharovskiy are three honest men whose exit visas would pose no threat whatsoever to Soviet Security. Their release now, belated though it would be, would also constitute another step forward along the road to international trust.

*Martin Gilbert is an author who lives and writes in London, England.*

## Holiday Bazaar

International House of Rhode Island, Inc., 8 Stimson Ave., Providence, will present its 14th annual Winter Holiday Bazaar on Saturday and Sunday, December 5 and 6 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The public is invited to shop at our international bazaar which will feature handmade gifts, decorations, ornaments, and jewelry as well as imported items, baked goods, and attic treasures. A special table for children's items from cuddly teddy bears to storybook pocketbooks will also be available.

You can also join us for lunch or a light snack in a Parisian style cafe for hot dogs, hot mulled cider, hot chocolate, coffee, tea, and pastries throughout the day.

International House is a non-profit social service agency providing aid and services to temporary international residents in the Rhode Island area and cultural exchange opportunities for Americans. Proceeds from the bazaar will benefit English as a Second Language classes and our international children's program.

## Mazel Tov



**JERUSALEM** — Proud mothers show off their newborn "test tube" babies all born within 24 hours on the same weekend and all the result of *in vitro* fertilization at the Gynecology and Obstetrics Department in the Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center at Ein Karem. The new moms (left to right) are Dora Weinberg, Pnina Vanunu and Miri Lankri, all with their daughters, and Rivka Peled and her son.

# Classifieds



## CHILD CARE WANTED

**DEPENDABLE, MATURE, NON-SMOKING PERSON** wanted to care for infant in our Providence home, 8 am - 5 pm, two days a week, beginning mid-January. References required. Call for interview between 7 pm and 10 pm, 421-6549. 12/3/87

## CLEANING SERVICES

**WINDOWS — RESIDENTIAL.** Free estimates. Quality work. Also entire house cleaning services. 726-3766 11/26/87

## DIAMOND FOR SALE

**MARQUISE DIAMOND** — 1.17 carat, VVSI 1 clarity 0-1 color, excellent cut. \$6,000. By appointment. Call 353-0088. 12/24/87

## ENTERTAINMENT

**STEVE YOKEN ENTERTAINMENT** — Professional Master of Ceremonies and Disc Jockey. Specialists in Bar/Bat Mitzvahs and candle-lighting ceremonies. Radio Station Prizes. (Optional - N.Y. Laser Light Show) Video Services available. Many references. 617-679-1545. 12/27/87

## FOR RENT

**PAWTUCKET, RI** — Excellent area, newly constructed, town house. Fully applanced including dishwasher, disposal, and air conditioning. 2 bedrooms, 1½ baths, fully carpeted. Private patio, full cellar, washer, dryer hook-up. \$750 must see. Tel. 722-8102, 944-2644. 12/3/87

## FOR SALE

**DELRAY, FLORIDA** — 2 bath, 2 bedroom villa condo. Enclosed paneled patio, many extras. 3 miles to ocean, walk to golf. \$72,000. Tel. 732-4556. 12/3/87

## GIFT BOOKS

**PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS** — For Hanukkah, Bar/Bas Mitzvahs, Birthdays. Give that "special" gift — the 1988 newly revised **WORLD BOOK ENCYCLOPEDIA**. Also, **Childcraft** and **Early World of Learning Books**. Tel. 728-8346, evenings. 12/3/87

## HOUSE SITTER

**HOUSE SITTER:** Registered nurse, relocated native will house sit for winter months. Excellent with animals and plants. Months and terms open. Excellent local references. Call 944-1793 from 5-8 pm. 11/26/87

## JANITORIAL SERVICE

**KITCHEN FLOOR MAINTENANCE:** Weekly, bi-weekly or monthly. Low rates; high quality. Serving East Side, Cranston areas. Call 434-5017 after 5 p.m. 12/3/87

## MUSIC LESSONS

**GUITAR, BASS, BANJO, MANDOLIN,** music theory lessons. All ages, levels, styles. B.S. music degree. 751-1637. 11/26/87

## TRAVEL

**LOOKING FOR CAR** to drive in January '88 to the Palm Beach, Fla. area. Please call 828-3574. 12/3/87

CLASSBOX CORRESPONDENCE TO:  
ClassBox No.  
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Providence, R.I. 02940

This newspaper will not, knowingly, accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the R.I. Fair Housing Act and Section 804 (C) of Title VIII of the 1968 Civil Rights Act. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwelling/housing accommodations advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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**RATES**  
15 words for \$3.00  
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Payment MUST be received by Tuesday afternoon, PRIOR to the Thursday on which the ad is to appear. 10% discount for ads running continuously for 1 yr.

**Who Should Care About Jewish Day Care?**



A teacher explains the havdalah service to children at a Jewish Community Center day care program.

observance and strengthen their ties to the Jewish community. "The program incorporates Jewish phrases, holidays and rituals into their earliest memories," says one mother about the Jewish day care program her daughters attend. "We felt that the program would be a good Jewish foundation — a complement to what we would give them at home," adds another mother. But as Jewish communities tackle day care, they must resolve a major issue — how to keep quality staff and at the same time

maintain fees that young couples can afford. Although it is costly to do it right, by developing day care programs, the Jewish community is answering an urgent need and investing in its own future as well. B'nai B'rith Women offers a 16-page booklet on choosing

quality child care. The booklet outlines the questions parents should ask and focuses on the needs of children at different ages. To obtain the booklet and a fact sheet on child care in the United States, send \$2 to B'nai B'rith Women, 1640 Rhode Island Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20036.

The R.I. Herald regrets the error in the ad for East Side Compact Disc, which unintentionally left out the owners names. The owners are: Kirk W. O'Brien and Kenneth Martin.

Half of all Jewish women with children under five work outside the home. Finding quality child care that is also affordable is often their number one concern.

The United States, unlike most industrialized nations, does not have a comprehensive childcare or family leave policy. For many parents, balancing the demands of working and raising children has become a continuous struggle.

Can the Jewish community help? A story in the latest issue of *Women's World*, the national publication of B'nai B'rith Women, explores the Jewish community's response to the growing need for day care.

From setting up child care task forces to actually building or expanding day care facilities, communities across the country are slowly awakening to the fact that quality day care is an urgent priority for young Jewish parents. They realize that day care is often a family's earliest entry into broader Jewish affiliation.

A recent study conducted by Ruth Pinkenson Feldman confirms that involvement in a Jewish day care program has a positive impact on parents' Jewish identification. It often prompts them to increase their holiday

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