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Rhode Island Jewish HERALD

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The Only English-Jewish Weekly in Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts

VOLUME LXXIV, NUMBER 14

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Christopher To Arrive in Israel With New Demands on Deportees

by Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Israel is expecting to come under pressure to make further concessions on the deportation crisis, following U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's visit to Arab capitals, where leaders told him Palestinians would boycott the peace talks unless the issue is resolved.

Israeli officials originally believed that a compromise deal worked out with Washington regarding the 415 Palestinians deported by Israel to Lebanon in December had taken the issue off the international agenda and paved the way for a resumption of the peace talks.

However, according to reports received from the Christopher shuttle, both Egyptian President Hosni

Mubarak and Syrian President Hafez Assad indicated the Palestinians would not return to the negotiations unless Israel made further concessions.

Israel has offered to take back immediately 101 of the deportees and the rest by the end of the year, but the Palestinians have rejected the deal.

Mubarak reportedly demanded three concessions: that Israel announce officially it would not resort again to deportations as a punitive measure; that it would accelerate the appeal process by which deportees have an opportunity to get their deportation orders canceled, and that the deportees be allowed to stay in the Israeli-controlled security zone of southern Lebanon until they

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COOKIE QUEEN — Kristin Elizabeth Keinz prepares to choose a confectionery treat last week at the Jewish Home for the Aged. (See story on Page 13)
Herald photo by Omar Bradley

Fanny, a Friend

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

"I've been concerned with animal rights for 20 years, since I met Cleveland Amory in the early '70s." Steve Kass spoke to me this week before going on the air at WHJH with his talk show. I had tried to get through time after time to do my interview before the ears of the Rhode Island world. But they'd already gone on past Fanny the elephant to the Clinton tax thing.

"Pawtucket doesn't deserve Fanny, or even a pigeon."
— Steve Kass

"I used to run a Pet Care Center chain business around here. I gave that up. But not my interest in kindness to animals. And Slater Park Zoo in Pawtucket, they have a rotten record of care. There have been incidents of serious abuse, due to lack of supervision," he said. "Would you say there's connection between your involvement with the Fanny issue and Jewish ethics?" I asked.

"I'd say it's more of a general human problem, not a religious one specifically. But it's true that the zoo is like a concentration camp. I don't mean to trivialize our tragedy, however." "I was told your wife wore a fur coat to the hearing on the Slater Zoo at the City Council

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The Once and Future Purim: Thoughts on the Holocaust

(Editor's Note: The following is the first of a two-part feature. Part II will appear in next week's paper.)

by Rabbi Avi Shafran
Special to the Herald

I think I first met the Holocaust in 1968, when I was 14.

I certainly knew of it well before that, even the fact that many members of my parents' families met their ends in it. Even that millions of my somewhat more distant relatives

perished along with them.

But I don't think I really confronted the Holocaust, at least not head-on, until I saw for the first time the actual images of what can only be called "mega-murder," in vivid enough black-and-white, on television. How ironic, I sometimes think, that it took a medium which has become synonymous with mindless distraction to carry a message of

(Continued on Page 5)

Jews Who Are Gay: We'd be Poorer Without Them

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter
Brown-RISD Hillel launched its series of programs on homosexuality and religion with an event on homophobia among Jews last week.

I stopped by to catch the lecture. But the room wasn't set up with podium and bridge chairs. Instead, you sat on the

floor in a circle. Reps called facilitators among the group made themselves known, by first names. "I call myself a 'queer,'" began a young woman. "We're not here to out anyone. There are no correct answers. You can stop us on the street and ask about anything. But we haven't got all

(Continued on Page 3)

Chief Rabbis Elected After Bruising Campaign

by David Landau

JERUSALEM (JTA) — After a campaign marred by mudslinging and allegations of romantic misconduct, the nation's two new chief rabbis were elected Sunday for 10-year terms.

A 150-member council, made up of both rabbis and secular political leaders, elected Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau of Tel Aviv as

Ashkenazic chief rabbi and Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi-Doron of Haifa as Sephardic chief rabbi.

Lau's victory to succeed Rabbi Avraham Shapira as Ashkenazic chief rabbi came following newspaper stories claiming Lau had engaged in improper relationships with women other than his wife.

(Continued on Page 6)



SENSATIONAL — David Paskin of "Shir Sensations" performs Yiddish and Israeli songs for seniors and children at the kosher meal site last week at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island. (See story on Page 16)
Herald photo by Omar Bradley

INSIDE THE OCEAN STATE

Hair Salons Unite To Fight AIDS

Rhode Islanders can get a new personal look from a choice of some top hair designers and help people living with AIDS all in one simple step. The path to this changeover is to follow any road to the Warwick Mall on Feb. 28. Fundraising "cut-a-thon" will be held at Warwick Mall on Feb. 28 from noon to 5 p.m.

Extremes Hair Salon of Cranston has assembled a group of stylists from a wide range of Rhode Island salons to join forces and raise money to help in the continuing fight against AIDS.

In addition to hairstyling, complete nail services will be

offered.

All of the proceeds from this event will be donated to Rhode Island Project/AIDS.

The project currently offers assistance to more than 350 women and men who are living with AIDS and HIV infection. Programs range from assistance in finding adequate medical care, to help with housing issues, nutritional supplements and payments for dental care.

Rhode Island Project/AIDS also provides a bilingual hot line where callers can anonymously receive information on AIDS and risk factors for infection.

Arts Council Announces April 1 Deadline for Grants

Nonprofit organizations and schools may apply for funding on April 1 to support arts activities for the next fiscal year, July 1, 1993 through June 30, 1994. April 1 is also the grant deadline for Individual Artists Fellowships in discipline areas of photography, sculpture, crafts, folk arts/ethnic, literature and film and video.

A grant workshop has been scheduled for March 4 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at 95 Cedar St., Providence. The session will offer an explanation of the different funding categories.

Complete grant guidelines and application forms may be obtained at the council's offices. For further information, call the Arts Council at 277-3880.

Get the facts!
Read the Herald!

Comedy Night To Help Meeting St.

B101 and The Comedy Connection have joined forces for a Comedy Night to benefit Meeting Street Center.

The event is scheduled for March 4, beginning at 7:15 p.m. at the Comedy Connection in East Providence.

Comic Headliner is Jackie Flynn, who will appear with special guest, Frank O'Donnell. Daria Bruno, B101 morning personality, will host the evening. Tickets cost \$10 and may be purchased by calling Meeting Street Center at 438-9500, ext. 238.

The Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island (JCCRI) Singles Club has a busy month ahead.

On Feb. 28, the group will meet at 11 a.m. for a bagel brunch at the JCCRI, 401 Elm-grove Ave. in Providence, with a special guest speaker. The brunch costs \$6. RSVP early to

Taxpayers Ask IRS

New Ways to File Tax Return

These are typical of questions asked by taxpayers and are presented as a public service of this publication and the IRS.

Q: I understand the Internal Revenue Service now has several ways for people to file their federal tax returns. Can you explain my choices?

A: In addition to the traditional paper tax return, you can now send in your taxes electronically or figure them by personal computer.

Electronic filing is a service offered by many tax return preparers. They send your tax return information electronically over telephone wires directly to an IRS service center. The IRS usually notifies the preparer within 24 hours that the return was received. One advantage is that you'll receive your refund within three weeks, maybe even faster if you have it directly deposited into your checking or savings account.

Under the 1040PC Program, you can complete your tax return using your own computer. Several IRS-approved computer programs are available through software companies to both individuals and

tax preparers. Unlike the traditional paper 1040, which may have many blank lines, 1040PC lists only those lines with entries. The program then prints out a tax return "answer sheet" about one page long. Sign the answer sheet and send all required documents, plus a check if you owe tax, to your usual IRS Service Center.

Q: I have also heard that the IRS test filing programs before they become available across the nation. Are there any programs being tested now? What are they?

A: TeleFile is a pilot program offered only to people filing Form 1040EZ in Ohio. People fill out a Form 1040-TEL with all wages, interest and tax withheld.

Using a toll-free number, the information is entered into a touch-tone phone and transmitted to the IRS. While the taxpayer is still on the phone, the IRS calculates adjusted gross income, the tax and any refund or additional tax due.

Form 1040-TEL is then signed and sent to the IRS along with W-2 forms from the employer and a check if tax is owed.

JCCRI Singles Plan Busy Month Ahead

Cheryl at 453-6414.

Singles will dine at the Ground Round in the Carousel Food Court at Warwick Mall on March 2 at 6:30 p.m. RSVP to Gerry at 331-1524.

On March 6, singles can dance the night away at Mustang Sally's at 8 p.m. with a choice of oldies or country. Call

Mark for information at 463-8455.

The group meets at 7 p.m. March 10 for happy hour at Peaches on North Main Street in Providence. Call Mark at 463-8455 for more information.

On March 13, the JCCRI Singles will have dinner at the All About Restaurant, 146 Duke St. in East Greenwich (at foot of London Street, off Main Street) beginning at 7:30 p.m. Guests can choose from dinner-for-two specials or the regular menu. RSVP to Cheryl at 453-6414.

A night of bowling at Lang's Bowl-A-Rama, Niantic Avenue in Cranston, is set for 7 p.m. on March 14. For information, call Gerry at 331-1524.

All will meet March 17 for a JCCRI Singles St. Patrick's Day dinner at Carpano's, Route 114A, Seekonk, Mass., (on the East Providence line) at 6:30 p.m. RSVP to Cheryl at 453-6414.

A taste of old Mexico will be offered March 21 at Casa Lupita's Sunday brunch, 340 East Ave., Warwick, beginning at 10 a.m. The brunch costs \$9.95 per person. RSVP to Mark at 463-8455.

Game Night at the JCCRI is March 23. Pool, Trivial Pursuit and friendly conversation begin at 7 p.m. The evening costs \$1 for refreshments. Call Cheryl at 453-6414 for more information.

A bagel brunch at the JCCRI is set for March 28, featuring a guest speaker, \$6. RSVP early to Cheryl at 453-6414.

CLEAN STATE NEWS BRIEFS

The town of Coventry will hold a breakfast to benefit the Ronald McDonald House Feb. 27 between 8 and 11 a.m. at the Washington Oak School, Route 117, Coventry. Ronald McDonald will make an appearance between 8:30 and 1 a.m. for a magic show and picture-taking opportunities. Tickets cost \$5 for adults, \$2.50 for children ages 3 to 12. Call 828-4670 for more information.

"Waltzing Through Austria," a gala dinner of Austrian food as it would be served in an elegant restaurant in or around Vienna, will be served Feb. 27 at 6:30 p.m. at the International House of Rhode Island, 8 Stimson Ave., Providence (snow date, Feb. 28). Hungarian master chef Louis Szathmary, former owner of The Bakery in Chicago, will prepare the meal. The dinner costs \$20 for members, \$28 for nonmembers and \$10 for students. For more information, call 421-7181.

The Southeastern New England Antique Dealers Association is sponsoring a Winter Antique Show at East Providence High School on Feb. 27 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Feb. 28 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$3. For more information, contact Bob Anderson at 782-1230 or Joyce Nelson at 826-1441.

"Animals, Their Motion and Why" is the topic of Judy Sweeney's lecture Feb. 28 at the Roger Williams Park Zoo. Sweeney, with the Northern R.I. Collaborative, will address an audience of children in her 1 p.m. talk. The lecture is free but zoo admission is required to attend. For more information, call 785-3510 or TDD 751-0203.

Safe Place, a support group for family members and friends who are grieving the suicide of a friend or relative, will meet from 7:30 to 9 p.m. every Tuesday in March at the Samaritans Center, 2 Magee St., Providence. For information on the group, call 272-4516. Another group also meets the first and third Thursdays of March in Fall River, Mass., from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Call (800) 365-4044 for more information on the Fall River Safe Place meetings.

The 50th class reunion of Hope High School will be held July 18 this year. Members of the class of 1943 are invited to contact Annette (Wintman) Perlman at 438-1831 for more information.



PURIM
is coming!!!

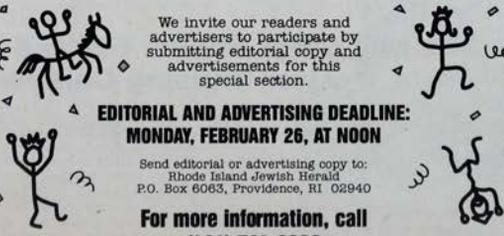
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FEATURE

Fanny, a Friend

(Continued from Page 1)

meeting. Sorry to put you on the spot, but I have to ask about this. Was it fake fur?"

"We've argued about fur, but what can I do? She makes her decisions, and I stick to mine."

Kass promised to organize the "entire talk show hosts of America" to make Fanny a nationwide cause celebre if the Pawtucket councillors did not agree to let their elephant go. He got bad press from the *Evening Times*. They didn't sign their editorial against me," claimed Kass.

"But Florence Lambert of the Elephant Alliance, formed on the West Coast, has already arranged a better life for Fanny, a place where she can make friends of her own kind, liberated from that chain. If you knew how elephants are "tamed," through beatings, imprisonment, you would shudder. "We've already placed the bears, which were overweight and in bad shape."

Steve Kass isn't the first Jewish animal-rights activist. The French Jewish novelist Romain Gary wrote *The Roots of Heaven*, which was later made into a major color film with big stars. In the book and movie, a group of concentration camp

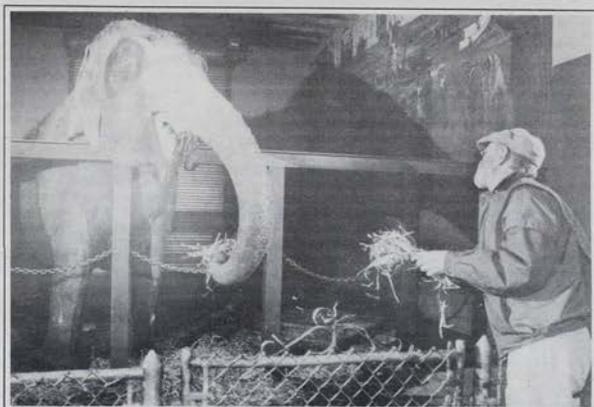
and POW inmates form a post-war band to save elephants. They built up an ideal of the giant but gentle creatures that hold up the heavens. But everybody wants them down, for their tusks, their grass, their muscles, their funny shape. The motley crew go off to protect endangered herds of pachyderms and meet their fate.

Gloria Grzeben lives on the edge of the park. She gave me a file on Steve Kass, a video about him, and took me through to meet and feed Fanny. "It's just money," she says. "Fanny brings in money. To let her go would cost money. That mural in her pen makes kids feel better. But nobody cares about Fanny."

A guy who works in the zoo made a different case. "She's used to us here. She came up from Sarasota in 1958. This is her home now. Every 'rubber cow' is different. Some are mild, some are mean. Mahouts from India come and calm them down till they settle in. Fanny belongs here to us now."

But Steve Kass said to me, "Pawtucket doesn't deserve Fanny, or even a pigeon. They don't pay attention to the needs of the poor beasts."

They're different in person from how they look in books. I reached out with a handful of



A FONDFAREWELL—Herald contributing reporter Mike Fink bids a fond farewell to Fanny the elephant at Slater Park zoo during a recent visit. Herald photo by Omar Bradley

straw. The trunk, moist and warm, breathing on me, grabbed the dry grass. The elephant, we also shared a bagel and a Dunkin' donut. It wasn't right, these prisoners are overfed. But Fanny and I had shared a world long ago. She came from the Ringling Brothers

circus. She ate grass from my own garden, behind the arena, the last springtime she roamed the American land. We're old friends, Fan and me. I wish her the best among the alien corn.

Jews Who Are Gay: We'd Be Poorer Without Them

(Continued from Page 1)

night, so please, let us get on with our schedule."

I counted more than 30 young people, twice as many women as men. Some said they are gay. Others claimed they are "questioning."

They called the first item on the agenda, "forced choice." For this event, three problems were set before us. "Do you know the sexual orientation of your friends?" You couldn't try "some," you had to go all the way, and vote with your feet. You got up and moved to one side of the room or the other. Number two. "Would you help out the victim of homophobia by saying or doing something?" "How about an incident of anti-Semitism?"

A young woman said, "Your sexual identity is not a fixed thing."

A young man admitted, "No, I didn't speak up in class; not for gays, not for Jews."

The big question came up last. "Would you rather see a Jewish gay couple, or a mixed Jewish-non-Jewish boy-girl couple dating?"

I was one of only two people who went and stood on the window side of the room. Then over. "Just a gut reaction, not a judgment. I'm more used to it. That's all."

I spoke the only dull words among the participants. My companion at the bay made a stronger point. "Jews need to have children. And maybe later she'd convert."

The leaders wouldn't let anyone speak out too many words. They stuck to their guns. But first-year, second-year undergrads, still in their teens, made their brief comments with maturity and dignity.

Next, a basket of slips of paper and pens went round. Everybody had to write down a question and pass it along. While that was going on, we played a round-robin game of role playing. You had to say a gay thing. To try to put yourself in the situation of a homosexual person in a straight society and see how it feels.

I have never taught or sat in

on a class so well-organized, that worked so well. These young people make quite an impression. They want to live as Jews. They work out their way at being gay. Rabbi Alan Flam said, "They have so much to offer. They want Hillie to make a place for them within our community."

Hillie would be the poorer without them.

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OPINIONS

Letters to the EDITOR



Israel and Germany Offer Examples of Gay in Military

To the Editors:
When I grew up I was led to believe that "gay" meant happy and carefree as for example in the "gay '90s" when my parents were born, or in "gay Paris" the songwriter Jacques Offenbach wrote about. Not so.

The word has a complete different meaning, obviously, and much fuss is made about it now, especially with emphasis on "gays in the military" which President Clinton talks about when he wants to fight the prejudice against them.

Two great military forces come to mind to the Jewish reader (and writer). First, of course, the army of Israel which does not ask its soldiers

about sexual orientation, and, as such as I hate to admit it, the German army. The latter, predominated by Prussians, was known to have a large number of homosexuals among it.

Both their armed forces did not suffer because of the "gay" problem.

In conclusion, the head of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, Rabbi Schindler, is appalled by the issue and has come out openly against it.

(On another subject ...)

In pre-World War II, a man was hauled into court for assault and battery. When the

judge asked him why he indeed beat up the stranger, the accused replied thusly: "Your Honor," he said, "the fellow always made disparaging remarks about Jews, accusing them of many bad things, that were untrue, but when he finally asked me if I were Jewish myself, I let him have it, for this was the ultimate insult."

That, friends, was some 60 years ago. Alas, the same story can be told about life in the United States in the 1990s substituting "Jewish" for "gay."

The more things change, the more they remain the same.

Just as it is impossible for the human mind to picture 6 million victims of the Holocaust, so it is equally impossible for the brain to figure out how many dollars a deficit of 4% trillion (with a "T") is.

Before Reaganomics, that deficit was "only" 1 trillion.

Hans Heimann
Cranston

'Moshiach Is a Human Being'

"Moshiach," some people say, when asked what they know about moshiach and the redemption, "is an era, a time of peace and prosperity when the world has evolved into a Utopian state."

What the Torah survives have to say about Moshiach, though, differs greatly from what many of us might have learned in Sunday school or Hebrew school.

The redemption of the Jewish people, and the subsequent era of peace throughout the world, will take place upon the permanent return of the Jewish people to their land and to G-d. However, the Torah teaches us that G-d will send a person — moshiach — to accomplish this.

that are prerequisites to be endowed with the gift of prophecy.

Moshiach will reveal altogether new insights, making manifest the hidden mysteries of the Torah.

The Prophet Yeshayahu (Isaiah 11:2-5), in a message of inspiration and optimism for the future of Israel details the qualifications of moshiach: "A shoot will come forth from the stem of Yishai (King David's father) and a branch will grow forth out of his roots. The spirit of the L-rd will rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and strength, and the spirit of knowledge and fear of the L-rd. ... He will judge the poor with justice and reprove with gentleness the meek of the land."



Thanks for the Publicity

To the Editors:

The Rhode Island Chapter of Hadassah and its seven groups across the state, would like to publicly express their sincere thanks for printing its publicity throughout the year.

By keeping a constant awareness of Hadassah in the public's eye, you have provided us with the ability to achieve our goals and subsequent recognition in all areas of our work. You have also kept an awareness of us before the merchants of our great community. As a result, whenever we have approached them for donations of merchandise, goods and services, we have been showered with love and help.

On behalf of the people of Israel who are the eventual beneficiaries of our labors of love, we sincerely thank you and your staff for their outstanding work informing all the news to the Rhode Island community.

Rosalind Bolusky,
president
Rhode Island Chapter
of Hadassah
On behalf of: Cranston/War-

wick Group, Kent County Group, Newport Group, Pawtucket Group, Providence Group, South County Group, Woonsocket Group, Nurses Council, Vanguard.

ness the meek of the land." Belief in a human moshiach, in a great Jewish leader who will lead us out of exile, was established in biblical times and has been reinforced throughout the ages by our sages of old, medieval Jewish scholars and Jewish leaders of the past few centuries.

Rabbi Yitzchak Abanarel, the leader of Spanish Jewry during the infamous inquisitions, wrote three books about moshiach. Of these, two have extensive discussions about the fact that moshiach is a human being.

Maimonides considers belief in a human moshiach so intrinsic to the concept of redemption that he states: "Whoever does not believe in him [moshiach], or does not await his coming, denies not only [the statements of] the other prophets, but also [those of] the Torah and of Moses, our teacher."

Submitted by Rabbi Yehoshua Laufer.

Rhode Island Jewish Herald
SUBMISSIONS POLICY

The Rhode Island Jewish Herald welcomes any written submissions from its readers on Jewish concerns. Articles must be typed and double-spaced. Please include a daytime telephone number. Anything longer than 500 words may be edited for space restrictions.

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Candlelighting

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Notice: The opinions presented on this page do not necessarily represent the opinions of this establishment.

Fifty Years Ago This Week In The Jewish Herald

WEEK OF FEB. 26, 1943

Half Million Marks Reached by Zionists
With more than \$500,000 in War Bonds purchased, Rhode Island Zionists were confident this week that the million dollar goal set three weeks ago would be realized. State Zionists are participating in the nation-wide campaign to sell War Bonds — February was designated by Secretary Morgenthau as Last Minute reports indicate that Rhode Island is leading Zionists everywhere in War Bonds sold per member.

Everything Possible is Being Done
JERUSALEM — The Vatican this week cabled Chief Rabbi Herzog, assuring him that it is doing everything possible for all the victims of Nazi persecution, including the Jews. The Vatican's message came in response to an appeal addressed to the Pope by Chief Rabbi Herzog presenting detailed facts on the Nazi massacres of the Jewish population in Nazi-occupied countries through deportations and mass executions.

Hungary Relaxes Anti-Jewish Laws
ZURICH — Relaxation of anti-Jewish measures in Hungary has followed a realization that the country's economy loses by them, despite individual benefits here and there, the Swiss newspaper St. Galler Tagblatt reports. Export firms have been freed of regulations affecting employment of Jews, and members of the Jewish Labor Service have been granted permission to observe Saturday as a holiday.

The Once and Future Purim: Thoughts on the Holocaust

(Continued from Page 1)
such importance through the thick fog of my teen-age indifference, deep into my essence as a Jew, like a dagger into flesh.

The particular documentary I saw could as well have been any of dozens; whether the endless piles of skeletons with skins had once been Polish Jews or Hungarian Jews or each pile some gruesome amalgam of ex-nationalities — mountains of universal Jews — would have made little difference. It was the simple sight of the effects of such utter inhumanity itself that screamed a chilling, endless scream at me that evening.

Inhumanity. We don't often recognize the word's poignancy, so often do we use it. To be human, we forget, is to be earned honor, one which, in retrospect, can be granted only questionably, if at all, to certain elements of two-legged Europe 50 years ago.

It was the simple sight of the effects of such utter inhumanity itself that screamed a chilling, endless scream at me that evening.

Watching the lifeless hills of humanity grow higher as remains were pitched unremotely atop them, I imagined the macabre monuments inching closer to heaven. Each corpse seemed to be a grandparent, a close friend, me. The victims had been human even if their dispatchers had apparently been something less.

From that night on, with the Holocaust denuded of the mythic, distant, status it had always had for me, its images brought, as it were, into the realm of the family snapshot album, many things began to fall more readily and more personally into place.

My fathers' refusal to countenance German products, for one, no matter how superior, no longer did I see him engaged in a futile and ineffective boycott. It was no boycott at all, I realized, but a simple and obvious reaction, of the sort that would cause almost anyone to refuse champagne served in a chamber pot. How had I ever blamed him for refusing to forget that the Volkswagen had been the automotive dream of a mass murderer?

His disgust, too, at the thought of returning to visit the land of his birth and youth, once so difficult for me to comprehend, suddenly became perfectly understandable. One does not return to the place of one's nightmares, not willingly.

What was most shocking to find myself thinking, though, was that my father wasn't crazy for his conviction that the Nazis were this century's manifestation of Amalek, the Torah's epithet for evil incarnate. Though I had always been careful not to challenge him on that assertion, I had often reminded myself that not every murderer, not even every murderous people, is Amalek. There are a lot of rot-

ten folk around, but only a prophet may identify Amalek; we lesser mortals should shun hasty conjecture. Now, though, I found myself suddenly less sure.

The sheer scale of the tragedy itself, faced squarely, spoke for something special about this chapter of Jewish anguish, for something singular in the essence of the Third Reich. As did the monomania of so many of its movers, its prime one among them, with regard to Jews. The German people as a whole may not have been Amalek, to be sure; maybe not even every individual in a Nazi uniform. But something unspeakably evil had clearly made itself undeniably evident during those years of terrible destruction.

To believing, observant Jews, those the world has chosen to call Orthodox, the collective Jewish tradition, including the Talmud and the Mishnah, is no mere curiosity of history, no simple ethnic literature, but a wellspring of truth, a window on the will of G-d. It would do us — not to mention our fellow Jews who have not yet embraced the fullness of their heritage — untold good to reflect, during these days before Purim, on the particular manifestation of Amalek's malevolence that began to congeal nearly 60 years ago. The Holocaust might, thereby, just become, if not comprehensible, at least meaningful, in its larger Jewish context.

Our tradition states categorically that Amalek, Esav's grandson, and his spiritual descendants hate the Jews at every point throughout history and are pledged to destroy us. Not a very popular tradition in our times, of course. If all men are created equal, if liberty begets respect for others, if en-

lightenment is available to all humanity, then there is little room for an irredeemable Amalek in our world picture.

Yet there was equally little room for the Amalek idea in the world of 18th and 19th century assimilated European Jews either, and what their progeny met in the form of the Third Reich came as an existential shock to them, though not to their religious brethren.

Hitler, few people know, was afraid of the moon. Not the dark, but the moon. He anathematized it, and its very appearance irritated him.

In 1863, Abraham Geiger, one of the Reform movement's founders, preached of an imminent Germanic "celebration of brotherly conciliation... one human race united in love, one great and mighty Fatherland!"

Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch, however, repeatedly cautioned against such unbridled optimism, warned as he was by the ancient Jewish oral tradition that humanity's perfection, contingent as it is on Amalek's disappearance, can arrive only with Mashiach.

Having long since adopted Hirsch's Weltanschauung as my own, I was merely shocked but not surprised when I first read *Mein Kampf* and excerpts from *Der Sturmer*. And about things like Hitler's idiosyncrasies and Streicher's last words.

Hitler, few people know, was afraid of the moon. Not the dark, but the moon. He anathematized it, and its very appearance irritated him. According to a German source, once, on a beautiful clear night in 1924 at Landsberg am Lech where he was imprisoned by

the Bavarian government, he remarked to Rudolf Hess, "You know ... it's only the moon I hate. For it is something dead and terrible and inhuman. ... It is as if there still lives in the moon a part of the terror it once sent down to earth. ... I hate it!"

The oddity of so intriguing a phobia is no mere curiosity to anyone familiar with Talmudic and Midrashic lore. A chill accompanies our first exposure to it. In the literature of Judaism, the symbol of the Jewish people — in particular of our ability to rebound from our enemies' hardest blows — is the ever-rejuvenating, shining disk of the moon. Indeed, the very first commandment we are given as people, while still awaiting the Exodus in Egypt, is to identify ourselves, through our calendar, with the moon.

There is much more oddness about Hitler with connections to ancient Jewish tradition, incidentally like his fondness for ravens, in Jewish lore associated with cruelty; he went so far as to issue special orders that Germans not molest the birds.

And like, more emblematically, his fascination with the art of Franz von Stuck (the artist who had the "greatest impact," according to Hitler himself, on his life), in whose art a major theme is a sinister yet vulnerable woman entwined with a large snake. In Jewish tradition, both misogyny and snakes are Amalek themes.

And then there is the matter of the most revolting, loath-

some and simply queerest of Hitler's henchmen, Julius Streicher, the editor of the premier journal of juvenile Jew baiting, *Elements of his life are almost dripping with hidden meaning for the Jew knowledgeable of Jewish lore.*

Streicher edited the vile tabloid *Der Sturmer* from 1927 until the beginning of 1945. At its peak, in 1938, it had an official circulation of 473,000, though print runs were sometimes as high as 2 million. In addition, thousands of elaborate display cases were built for the papers so that pedestrians who would not purchase the thing could still gawk at its shrill headlines and crude front-page caricatures.

A typical offering included a close-up of the face of a deformed Jew about the legend "The Scum of Humanity: This Jew says that he is a member of G-d's chosen people."

Another displayed a cartoon of a vampire bat with a Jewish star on its chest and a grotesquely exaggerated nose.

In yet another, a Jewish butcher was depicted snidely dropping a rat into his meat grinder and, elsewhere in the issue, the punctured necks of handsome German youths were shown bleeding into a bowl held by a Jew more gargoyle than human.

By far, though, Streicher's favorite theme was the sexual perversion he imagined to inhere in the Jews; he loved to portray the children of Israel as intent on defiling Aryan womanhood in the most outlandish ways.

In 1935, speaking to a closed meeting of a Nazi student

(Continued on Page 18)

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WORLD AND NATIONAL NEWS

Knesset Member Creates Uproar By Calling Biblical Figures Gay

by David Landau

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Labor Party enfant terrible Yael Dayan jolted Israel's delicate governing coalition recently by asserting from the Knesset rostrum that the biblical heroes David and Jonathan were homosexual lovers.

Orthodox Knesset members walked out of the chamber in protest as Dayan, speaking in a debate on gay rights, quoted from David's poem on the death of Jonathan: "I grieve for you, Jonathan my brother, you were very dear to me. Your love for me was wonderful, more wonderful than that of women." (II Samuel 1:26).

Dayan, daughter of the late Israeli war hero Moshe Dayan, went on to assert that the medieval sages and poets Yehuda Halevi and Shlomo Ibn Gvirol were also homosexuals. Knesset member Yosef Azran

of the Orthodox Sephardic Shas party urged the party's spiritual leader, Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, to order Shas' immediate secession from the coalition.

Yosef urged party members to remain cool, advising the Shas faction to address a strong letter of protest and warning to the prime minister.

But Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin did not wait for such a letter. He sternly warned the left flank of his party, of which Dayan is a leading figure, that any further provocation would result in a breakup of the present coalition and the formation of a new government that would include the right-wing Tsomet party and National Religious Party instead of Shas.

Presently, Labor heads a coalition with the left-wing Meretz and Shas as junior members.

Community Grets Plan With Delight, Uncertainty

by Deborah Kalb
States News Service

WASHINGTON (JTA) — The organized Jewish community is greeting President Clinton's economic plan, unveiled with great fanfare here last week, with expressions of delight tinged with a bit of uncertainty.

Jewish organizational leaders are hailing Clinton's support for various social services and other domestic programs that were gutted during the Reagan and Bush administrations.

But they are concerned about the future of foreign aid to countries such as Israel and Russia, in a political climate geared more toward helping those at home than those abroad.

Figures released by the White House indicate that foreign aid programs will be cut back

sharply. At the State Department, spokesman Joe Snyder said Feb. 18 that the budget for fiscal years 1994 through 1997 would include more than \$2.3 billion in "outlay savings" in international affairs programs.

Sources in the pro-Israel community point out that Clinton and Vice President Al Gore have gone on record supporting a continuation of the \$3 billion in aid given annually to Israel. But they also note that proposed foreign aid cutbacks make the entire foreign aid program more vulnerable.

Also unclear is the future of the new Voice of America radio transmitter planned for Israel's Negev desert. Funding for the Board for International Broad-

(Continued on Page 10)

Chief Rabbis

(Continued from Page 1)

Lau, a father of eight and a child Holocaust survivor, adamantly denied the womanizing allegations. He even filed a libel suit against one woman who claimed he had once tried to kiss her more than 10 years ago, when he was chief rabbi of Netanya, a position he held for nine years.

Lau was elected Tel Aviv Ashkenazic rabbi in August 1988, by a panel that for the first time included four women members.

The unprecedented dirty campaign that culminated Sunday prompted some Israelis to renew their calls to altogether abolish the state-sponsored institution of the Chief Rabbinate.

In the elections Lau won 71 of the 142 valid votes cast in the battle for the Ashkenazic post and Bakshi-Doron 82 for the Sephardic one.

Rabbi Simcha Kook of Rehovot took second place with 46 votes and Rabbi Shear Yashuv Cohen of Haifa garnered 25 votes.

In the contest for the Sephardic post, Bakshi-Doron won 82 votes, with Rabbi Haim David Halevi of Tel Aviv coming second with 37 ballots and Rabbi Reuven Abergl of Beer-sheba collecting 24 votes.



NATIONAL

WASHINGTON (JTA) — The Anti-Defamation League has dismissed as "rubbish" charges leveled by the Arab American Institute that, in conjunction with U.S. law enforcement agencies, it has been involved for years in conducting surveillance of Arab Americans. The Arab American Institute released a report titled "The ADL and Arab Americans: A Disturbing Relationship" at a news conference here last week, and ADL was quick to respond.

NEW YORK (JTA) — An advocate for Jonathan Pollard is accusing former President George Bush of "vindictiveness and meanness of spirit" for denying Jonathan Pollard's appeal for clemency just one day before leaving office. "I was shocked to see the request was rejected," said Seymour Reich, "because we had been led to believe that if the president could not approve it, he would not act on the papers but let his successor act on it." According to Reich, president of the American Zionist Movement, the commutation application has been filed again with the Clinton administration.

WASHINGTON (JTA) — The Jewish War Veterans of the USA succeeded last week in blocking the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council from adopting a resolution supporting the right of gay men and lesbians to serve in the U.S. armed forces. But its veto was immediately circumvented when the vast majority of the council's constituent groups adopted the statement without the umbrella group's imprimatur.

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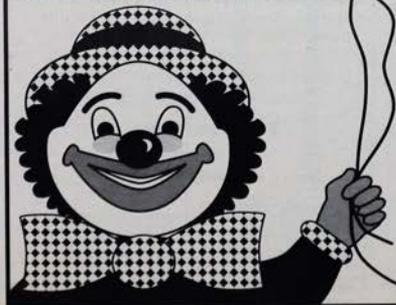
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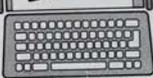
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WORLD AND NATIONAL NEWS

NEWS BRIEFS



INTERNATIONAL

TEL AVIV (JTA) — The number of Israelis seeking work rose by 3.7 percent in January, reaching 152,000, the state employment service disclosed last week. Unemployment for the last quarter of 1992 was 11.2 percent, up slightly from 11 percent in the previous quarter, according to preliminary figures released by the Central Bureau of Statistics.

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Environmentalists here are rejoicing over the Clinton administration's decision to scrap plans to build a Voice of America relay station in the environmentally sensitive Arava region of the Negev desert.

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Israeli officials say they doubt a recommendation by the U.N. Human Rights Commission to send an investigator to the administered territories will be acted upon by the U.N. General Assembly. Political sources here described the resolution, passed last week in Geneva, as a "routine decision adopted by this forum almost every year."

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Iran's nuclear program endangers the entire Middle East, not just Israel, Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin told the Knesset last week. Beilin was responding to questions about Iran's nuclear and military buildup, which has been the subject of recent accounts in the news media here.

JERUSALEM (JTA) — A ruling last week by the Jerusalem District Court is being greeted in Reform quarters here as a victory for religious pluralism and the movement's quest for legitimacy. The court ruled that a non-Jewish citizen or resident of Israel who undergoes Reform conversion to Judaism abroad must be recognized as Jewish in Israel upon his or her return.

BONN (JTA) — The German Jewish community has rejected a plan to erect a joint memorial to victims of Nazism and Stalinism, at the site of the former concentration camp of Sachsenhausen. The plan, initiated by the state government of Brandenburg, calls for a memorial that would be in two parts, each dedicated to a separate group of victims.

'Liberators' Film Withdrawn After Veracity Questioned

by Debra Nussbaum Cohen

NEW YORK (JTA) — Screening of the film "The Liberators" for audiences of blacks and Jews around the country was intended to help build bridges between the two communities.

But that plan has been stymied, at least temporarily, by the producers' withdrawal of the film from circulation because of serious questions about its veracity.

Critics say that while the premise of "The Liberators: Fighting on Two Fronts in World War II" is true — that black soldiers were among the first to reach several of the Nazi death camps, and that their work has long been ignored both by the army and by historians — the specifics of this important chapter of history were distorted in the film.

Most importantly, according

to Kenneth Stern, author of a 14-page report on the film, "the film claims, despite convincing evidence to the contrary, that the all-black 761st Tank Battalion liberated concentration camps at Buchenwald and Dachau."

Other black soldiers did indeed reach those camps soon after the Nazis were defeated, but the 761st had no role in their liberation.

They did, however, participate in liberating Gurskirchen, a subunit of the Mauthausen camp.

"The 'Liberators' was shown to a Rhode Island audience Feb. 7 at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island."

"The producers have twisted what both survivors and liberators have said," according to Stern's report. "None of the survivors are certain they re-

(Continued on Page 20)

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange Plunges

by David Landau

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The Tel Aviv Stock Exchange took a plunge Feb. 18, with the leading share index going down 4 percent in a day of hectic trading.

The slump follows a week of nervous ups and downs, which traders explained as being the result of negative statements by public officials and reaction to declines on Wall Street.

Earlier in the week, Jacob Frenkel, governor of the Bank of Israel, and Finance Minister Avraham Shohat cautioned Israelis about over-investing in the stock exchange, warning that the market was liable to drop.

The slump was also linked to initial declines on Wall Street after U.S. President Clinton announced his new economic program. Although the New York slippage eventually halted, Israeli shares traded on Wall Street fell heavily.

A third cause of the Tel Aviv slump, according to brokers and traders, was a statement made by retired Supreme Court Justice Moshe Beitsky on Feb. 17 in which he accused mutual fund directors of manipulating share prices.

Many Israelis who do not invest directly in the market put money into mutual funds, usually via their bank branch.

Clinton Pick Hailed by Jewish Leaders

by Deborah Kalb

States News Service

WASHINGTON (JTA) — As state's attorney in Dade County, Fla., Janet Reno may not have dealt with federal issues, such as the separation of church and state, that are of special concern to American Jews.

But Jewish community leaders in the Miami area, some of whom have worked closely with Reno over the years, say they are thrilled President Clinton has selected her as his new nominee for attorney general.

These Jewish leaders paint a glowing picture of a woman committed to reaching out to all religious, racial and ethnic groups, a woman who, they believe, would stand up for civil rights issues once in charge of the U.S. Justice Department.

Judy Gilbert-Gould, director of community relations for the Greater Miami Jewish Federation, who worked for Reno over a decade ago, called the nominee an "outstanding human being."

In 1989, Reno won an award from the Miami section of the National Council of Jewish Women for her work in helping children and others.

The award is "given to a person who has really been an advocate" in working to "change the lives of others," said Nan Rich, the organization's na-

tional vice president.

"Whenever there's a march, or whatever the occasion, she is always out there expressing her support for every racial and ethnic part of the community," said Rich, a Florida resident.

Reno, 54, has served as state's attorney in Dade County since 1978. A graduate of Harvard Law School, she is single and childless, and therefore did not have any of the "nanny problems" that proved to be the downfall of Clinton's previous nominee, Zoe Baird, and would-be nominee, Judge Kimba Wood.

Bosnian Moslems Arrive in Israel

by Michele Chabin

LOD, Israel (JTA) — The familiar scene at Ben-Gurion Airport, where bedraggled immigrants stream off an airplane with Israeli flags waving in the background, was repeated with an unusual twist last week: instead of Jewish immigrants from Russia, the newcomers were Moslem refugees from Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The 84 Moslem refugees are to stay in Israel temporarily until the fighting subsides in Bosnia and they are able to return home.

(Continued on Page 18)

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Around Town

STORY BY DOROTHEA SNYDER



A Gift to All Actors

Boy, we '50s kids had many Hollywood heartthrobs to take our breaths away. Despite the loss of gasps here and there, my peers and I managed to down a box of Milk Duds, while fantasizing we were up there on the silver screen.

On top of the heartthrob list was Robert Wagner. And to this day, mention his name as I did to coworkers and friends, the gasps of the '50s echoed loudly.

Nothing has changed!

Well, you can imagine what happened to this '50s teen-ager when I had to rise to the occasion of interviewing Robert Wagner, who with charming co-star Stefanie Powers will perform in *Love Letters* at the Providence Performing Arts Center next week.

Not only was I to speak with him, but I would also have the bonus pleasure of interviewing both actors a week apart. I was grateful to have the time to store up on extra breaths and familiarize myself with their bios, for I've long admired both their careers in film and TV.

They were on tour in Columbus,

Ohio, when I phoned Robert Wagner. "How are you doing?" he asked, his warm, friendly manner putting me quickly at ease.

What fascinated me about his career was that it took only one minute to launch him to stardom.

The movie was *With A Song In My Heart* when he was under contract to 20th Century Fox. Remember that touching scene when Robert Wagner was cast as a crippled soldier, tears streaming down his face, listening to the singing of Susan Hayward as Jane Froman?

The public clamored to know he was "I was very surprised at that," he says in his recognizably relaxed voice.

"Darryl Zanuck, who put me in that film, told me that would be the biggest moment in my career. I didn't understand why. He said people would walk out of the theater and ask, 'Who's that guy?'"

Walter Lang, who was a wonderful man, directed the movie. I didn't know much about what was happening. I was reacting to Susan Hayward and all of a sudden, that scene just came together. She was so dear to me, a great and wonderful... very fine, nice person."

When asked about his favorite undertaking, he indicates it's hard to answer because "they all happen at certain times in your life. Spencer Tracy wanted me for a role in *The Mountain*.

"I had some great moments with him. He was so marvelous to me and so caring. It changed my whole life around, because he put his arms around me and cared for me. He was gentlemanly, a marvelous human being, a very fine man."

"He made me somebody. 'Go some place, do it and get in there.' All that encouragement was so marvelous."

Through Clifton Webb, Robert Wagner, then 24, met the late Sir Lawrence Olivier, whom he had known for a long time. "He asked my late wife (Natalie Wood) and I to do *Cal On A Hot Tin Roof*. It was a fantastic experience to work with him and do Tennessee Williams' enriching work."

A wonderful experience was his involvement with Blake Edwards' first *Pink Panther* movie and "watching Peter Sellers begin to create this character. It was just wonderful to have all those experiences. Can you imagine? I'm a blessed person."

Before movies, Robert Wagner performed in high school theater and later was cast in a Chicago production of *Mr. Roberts*, but nothing as demanding or consistent as *Love Letters*, he says.

Director John Tillingier cautions actors not to memorize the letters. Wagner says, "If you get off the page too much, you lose the audience, and you lose the sense of what it's really all about, which

is to be reading the letters, a very delicate balance."

As Andrew Makepeace Ladd III and Melissa Gardner, Robert Wagner and Stefanie Powers chronicle their lifelong relationship through correspondence.

The two characters grow up through five decades. "Isn't that wonderful!" the actor exclaims. "It's a joy to do it. I tell you, it's such a joy to play it."

Love Letters brings Robert Wagner and Stefanie Powers together for the first time since *Hart To Hart*. When they heard about the play, they obtained the script, thinking it might be interesting to do.

"We read it separately and together for friends of ours. And our respective mothers were also in the audience at the time," Wagner says.

The result was a booking in Boston. "It had the most marvelous run. The response to our work was so great. The play moved us so."



Robert Wagner and Stefanie Powers will star in *Love Letters* at the Providence Performing Arts Center in three 8 p.m. performances on March 2 to 4.

Learning that an international company was planning to do *Love Letters*, they went to England in '90 and performed their roles for six weeks in the West End. They toured for six-week stretches in '91, '92 and now again in '93.

"After Stamford," he says, "it's back to California in time for my youngest daughter's birthday. I've got them going from 28 to 19."

When Robert Wagner graduated from Santa Monica High School, he made a deal with his businessman father. He'd go into the steel business if he couldn't get his foot in the door of the movies within a year.

"I don't think he thought it would happen. Though I wasn't a success for many years, I worked as an extra, but I wasn't set any place. Then I got signed to a seven-year contract with Fox making 75 bucks a week and taking home 55."

That, I said, was success for someone his age at that time.

"It was the biggest success I could ever have," he smiles. "Wonderful times. It was the best! Sure, I was in the door! I could watch them make movies and I was in the movies. And that's all I ever wanted to do."

Thanking him and bidding goodbye, Robert Wagner, our teen-age heartthrob and still one, kindly says, "Thank you for taking the time to do this for us."

Like Robert Wagner, Stefanie Powers was brushed by a happy stroke of luck.

While studying with Eugene Loring's American School of Ballet, she auditioned for the film *West Side Story*. At 15 she was the company's youngest member.

Laws employing minors became too restricting to the shooting schedule, so she was replaced. But writer/director Tom Laughlin saw her test and asked her to read for the lead in his upcoming film, *Among The Thorns*.

Her performance interested the major studios' talent programs at the tail end of the studio star system.

"Our business is filled with so many moments of chance," she says over the phone from Toronto. "Recently, Joe Mankevich died. One of the great films he ever did was *All About Eve*. Nobody could ever believe Bette Davis wasn't his first choice. Claudette Colbert had become ill."

The Writers Guild of America nominated Stefanie Powers for the best dramatic screenplay for a TV movie.

Family Secrets, she explains, revolves around three generations of women—mother, daughter and granddaughter who get together over a weekend because the father (grandfather) has died. They disassemble a house of 40 years including all its memories. As the house becomes disassembled, issues never dealt with before rise to the surface.

"I was always fascinated with the difference in relationships between mothers and daughters and mothers and granddaughters, and why there is this innate strangeness among women," she says. "Instead of creating sisterhood, there's always been a sort of odd competition, which manages to skip a generation for some unknown reason."

"If the relationship is good, there's usually a better rapport between mothers and granddaughters. This isn't my case, but I've certainly observed it between mothers and grandmothers rather than mothers and daughters."

Stefanie Powers has worked with John Wayne, Tallulah Bankhead and Helen Hayes among many which she considers "lucky."

No one particular has played a prominent role in her life. "All of them have. I feel so incredibly fortunate to have grown up in a time when I could really have a taste of what the motion picture business was really like."

She raves about Scott Berg's biography of Samuel Goldwyn and *The Jews That Invented Hollywood*, the author of which she couldn't recall.

"They're wonderful books. You must read them. What's so remarkable is an industry virtually one generation old, one lifetime old. We're talking about young men who came out of Europe as immigrants, all from relatively the same part of the world."

"They came to the United States and found work in the early stages — Goldwyn, Lasky and the men who started the business, a business which yesterday, invented on absolutely nothing by people who came here with dreams, people who created out of those dreams an incredible life work we call the picture business."

Remarkable, too, is how these people invented themselves, she says. "The way they invented the business is exemplary, a kind of social structure and a sort of behavior that created a society unlike anything in America."

"The movie industry reached such incredible heights, glory and craftsmanship. It wasn't just Hollywood but a sub-culture, a world, a lifestyle, the invention of names, people, backgrounds and fabrications that changed their eyes, lips, hair and things into new human beings who would walk and talk differently, creating in themselves, she says, "the way they invented the business is exemplary, a kind of social structure and a sort of behavior that created a society unlike anything in America."

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Powers describes *Love Letters* as a gift to all actors. "It's an amazing piece of material. An actor is only as good as the material. It's like a gift to all actors to play these parts."

"It's almost redundant to say it's interpreted differently by everyone. Ours evolved along with the play and has slightly metamorphosed due to the fact we've done it so much, and we've played it in very large halls."

"And because of that, it becomes more of a performance level than a reading." Among Stefanie Powers' honors are those for work in animal conservation. She divides her life between her career and her commitment to conservation. As president of the William Holden Wildlife Foundation, Powers sits on the board of the Los Angeles Zoo and works with both the Cincinnati Zoo and the Zoo Atlanta. She speaks on conservation all over the world.

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS

High school- and college-aged musicians in the Boston area will have the opportunity to audition for the 1993 summer season of the Boston University Tanglewood Institute and the Boston University School for the Arts on Feb. 26 from 3 to 10 p.m. and Feb. 27 from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. at the Marshall Room at Boston University School for the Arts, 855 Commonwealth Ave. Interested musicians should contact the Boston University School for the Arts Music Office at (800) 643-4796.

Soprano Emma Kirkby and Luteran Anthony Rooley will be heard in recital at the Fine Arts Center Recital Hall on the Kingston campus of URI on Feb. 26 at 8 p.m. as part of the university's Great Performance series. For information, call 792-2343.

URI's College of Continuing Education invites Rhode Islanders to spend "An Evening with Cicely Tyson" on Feb. 26 at 8 p.m. in Veteran's Memorial Auditorium in Providence. In lieu of admission, donations for the Janice Paff Scholarship Fund will be accepted the evening of the performance. Tickets can be obtained at the Veterans Memorial Box Office beginning Feb. 19 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., excluding Sunday.

Trinity Repertory Company continues its 1992-93 season with a landmark American drama, William Inge's "Come Back, Little Sheba," Feb. 26 through April 4. Performances are in the Downstairs Theatre at Trinity's downtown Providence location. Curtain times are 8 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays, 7 p.m. Tuesdays and Sundays, and 2 p.m. on selected dates. For ticket information and the exact schedule, call the box office at 351-4242.

The Zetterion Theatre will present "A New England Sampler," a film about New England states, on Feb. 26 at 7 p.m. at 684 Purchase St., New Bedford, Mass. All seats cost \$5. For more information, call (508) 994-2900.

Brown University's David Winton Bell Gallery will sponsor a symposium on the art and architecture of Late Imperial China on Feb. 27, between 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at 64 College St. The public is invited free of charge.

Secret Spectacular

by M. Cushing
Special to the Herald

Nicholas McGegan brought his world-class six-member chamber music group, the Arcadian Academy, to the Fine Arts Recital Hall at the University of Rhode Island on Jan. 29, but not many people knew it. The hall was hardly empty, but had more people realized what they might hear, standing room would have been in short supply. PBS knew about it, but lack of funding kept them from filming the concert here; they will record it at another venue for broadcast.

McGegan, widely known for his prominent San Francisco-based period-instrument orchestra, Philharmonia Baroque, directed entertainingly from the harpsichord (which set the stage nicely with its Arcadian lid painting). For those used to orchestral concerts in which the director wields a baton (an outgrowth, or rather ingrowth, of the violin bow from the days in which the concertmaster directed), McGegan's athletic knee flexes and head movements might be refreshingly unusual. His oral program notes were also entertaining and extremely witty.

But what of the music? Violinists Elisabeth Blumenstock and Katherine Klyne began the program of Italian and English Baroque music with two works by 17th-century priest Marco Uccellini. The two women are a delight to listen to, not only for their virtuosity, but also for their diversity of style. Their baroque violins were made by

different makers, one in Paris and one in Mittenwald, in about the same period, but their sounds are as different as their players.

Klyne virtually danced in place at times, nearly leaving the floor on the downbeat; Blumenstock was cerebral and driving. The effect was superb — this is as real as it gets.

The second Uccellini sonata seemed entirely too serious and dry until it became obvious that the composer was leading up to some fun. As McGegan put it, we heard just about everything possible on a violin while the rest of the company played endless D major chords. The audience

conne' ("downright weird," said McGegan) was mesmerizing as a *chaccone* often is. The form usually consists of an eight-bar melody repeated dozens of times in different styles or moods; the effect is often beautiful and suspenseful, and this was no exception.

David Taylor, who played archlute (an astonishing sight when first encountered, this lute is much taller than a person and plays notes lower than the harpsichord) throughout the program as a continuo instrument along with David Bowles on baroque cello and McGegan at the harpsichord, played a solo piece entitled "Joy to the Person" by Christopher Simpson. The piece is exquisitely simple, almost folk-like, and Taylor's interpretation evoked bravos and left more than one listener in tears over its beauty.

Lute music is not always the most accessible to the listener, but there was not a stir during this piece — except from mother nature, who sent gale force winds slamming into the hall during this of all pieces.

After a wonderful dance suite by Matthew Locke, played with wit and delight, the program ended with a Handel (real Handel) cantata for solo voice "Tu Fidel? Tu Costante?" with sinfonia, or chamber accompaniment.

Soprano Dana Hanchard had had some difficulty with a Scarlatti cantata "Bella Madre di Fiore" at the end of the first half. Her voice seemed to lack the flexibility needed in the florid Italian passages, but here she gave it back and with interest.

The cantatas were on the

same theme ("a glum nymph," says McGegan), but very differently written. Scarlatti took the "fluffier" lighthearted approach, and Hanchard certainly has no fluffly voice. The taunting opening words in the Handel version — "you faithful!" — are full of real feeling, and Hanchard skewered the audience from the start. There was no lack of flexibility here, and no limit to changes of mood and expression. Hanchard was in charge here, and blazed her way through some wondrous music. It was hard to concentrate on anything but her singing, but cellist David Bowles did peek through the spell with some beautiful playing.

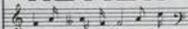
Those who did venture out on that very cold night heard one of the best concerts presented in Rhode Island in recent memory. The next concert in the URI series (Feb. 26) promises to deliver extraordinary entertainment as well: Emma Kirkby, soprano, and Anthony Rooley, lute, will present 17th-century Italian songs. As this is some of the most lyrical and lovely music, let's hope more Rhode Islanders get a chance to hear it.

Council of Jewish Women Plans Art Exhibit, Sale

The National Council of Jewish Women will hold an art exhibit and sale of Rhode Island women artists' work on March 7 from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Dryden Gallery, 27 Dryden Lane, Providence.

The event will include refreshments, music and a raffle drawing. For ticket information, call 861-0448.

CONCERT REVIEW



ended up with a good laugh.

McGegan's interpretation of Scarlatti's "Sonata in D Major" for harpsichord was ingenious. The sonata was written in Spain and indeed sounds like a fandango. McGegan therefore played it with appropriate verve and flamboyant arm and wrist movements not used to play the harpsichord. He obviously had a great time, and one could almost picture him in a bolero...

The English half of the program was weakened by a trisonata attributed to Handel ("fake Handel," says McGegan). The music was, frankly, rather boring; it may have been included solely for the virtuosic final allegro. The Purcell G minor sonata "Cha-

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A Touch of France Is on Hope Street

by Omar Bradley
Herald Assistant Editor

It has been some time since June Gaudet woke up to a pastoral view of the French countryside, as she did when she was at the Sorbonne. But it comes as no surprise that one can savor the essence of French culture in her quaintly styled La France restaurant located at 960

Hope St. in Providence.

Her experiences in France have shaped every aspect of La France from the 100-year-old tapestries on the restaurant's walls to the distinctive flavor of haute cuisine. Gaudet and husband, David, married for 20 years, have both taught school and sold antiques. They now run one of the finest French restaurants in the area. Whether it's her genes — June is part French and Italian — or her savvy business expertise is irrelevant — the food is superb.

For lunch, the menu offers a variety of hors d'oeuvres and soups, including a pate de la maison, a French poultry liver pate (\$5), soupe a l'oignon gratinee, a French onion soup with cheese (\$4), champignons delices, sauteed fresh mushrooms in cream, wine and cognac in a puff pastry (\$7). The artichaud vinaigrette, whole chilled artichoke, marinated and served with a garlic mayonnaise (\$5.50) was crisp and flavorful.

Business has been good and the restaurant has hosted many wedding receptions within the premises, June said. She recalls

dinner parties for Irwin and Phillip Chace on Sunday evenings in Narragansett, when she ran La France down there, as part of a large host of receptions.

"Whatever the customer requires and how it's to be prepared is the most important ingredient in this business," she confided.

When asked about the decor, June admitted that it was a labor of love after the restaurant caught fire and she personally decorated the walls with antique etchings she bought in France from the Louvre at a special sale. One can easily daydream about Paris while sitting on the comfortable bench seats that line the entire dining area.

For dessert, we were treated to the ultimate in gastronomic sin — "decadence" — a flourless fudge-rich French cake that was heavenly beyond words (\$4.95), a mousse au chocolat (\$3.95) and a cherry cheesecake, which was smooth and light. The restaurant offers a banane forestiere, flamed bananas in rum, butter and pecans, over vanilla ice cream (\$4.95), all served impeccably by our gracious host.

A full bar offers vintage French and Californian wines as well as coffee.



ANCIENT CUISINE — David and June Gaudet pose in front of a 100-year-old tapestry at La France restaurant last week.

Herald photo by Omar Bradley

DINING GUIDE

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Community Grets Plan With Delight, Uncertainty

(Continued from Page 6)

casting will be cut by \$644 million over the next five years, which leads some to believe that the transmitter could be among the items eliminated.

The transmitter has been

controversial with some in Israel and in the U.S. Congress having expressed concern over its environmental impact.

'What We've Heard, We Like'

On the domestic side, the plan calls for a greater focus on many programs supported by the Jewish community, such as a full funding for the Head Start educational program and the Women, Infants and Children nutrition program, as well as an expansion of the Earned Income Tax Credit plan assisting poor working families.

Jewish federations around

the country provide a host of social service programs that would benefit from these Clinton proposals.

Sammie Moshenberg, Washington representative for the National Council of Jewish Women, proclaimed herself "delighted" with Clinton's support of the three social service programs.

"We've worked on this for many years," she said, adding that the programs are "very important. We're very excited about the whole thing."

She said she was eager to see the list of the 150 special budget cuts that Clinton said he would make. But, she added, "what we've heard, we like."

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ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Gallery 401 to Feature Exhibit by Sculptor

Beginning Feb. 28, visitors to Gallery 401 at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island will be treated to a unique display of geometric

sculpture by James Russell, a young Irish artist with a growing following in the Providence area.

His works combine various woods and mixed metals in architectural and organic forms. A Harvard graduate, Russell spent two years working with the internationally renowned Boston-based sculptor, Dimitri Hadzi.

An opening reception will be held for Russell in Gallery 401 from 2 to 4 p.m. on Feb. 28. The exhibit will continue through March 22.

Gallery hours are 3 to 10 p.m. from Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Gallery 401 is closed on Saturdays.

The center is located at 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence.

For additional information, call Ruby Shalansky at 861-8800.

RISD Issues A Call to Artists

The Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design, is issuing a call to artists who live or work in Rhode Island to submit their work for a juried, contemporary art exhibition to be held in 1994.

The two-category exhibition embraces both fine arts and applied arts. Painting, sculpture and works on paper and video are being sought in the fine arts category. Applied arts submissions may include one-of-a-kind furniture, ceramics, textiles, glass, metal and jewelry.

A check or money order for the \$25 application fee (payable to the Museum of Art, RISD) and a self-addressed, stamped envelope should accompany slides and supporting materials. The fee entitles the artist to a one-year museum



Warm-Up Time

Warming up for the Dance for Heart Talent Showcase is David Rodrigues, of Woonsocket. Rodrigues will be one of more than 200 dancers from 10 dance studios to participate in the Showcase on Feb. 28 at Cranston High School West to benefit the American Heart Association, Rhode Island affiliate.

membership. The packet should be directed to: Contemporary Art in Rhode Island, Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design, 224 Benefit St., Providence, RI 02903-2723.

All artists will be notified by June 15. The exhibition will open Feb. 12, 1994, and will include a catalogue reproducing at least one work of each artist appearing in the show.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS

A Gallery invites the to attend "Personal tives On Racial y," from Feb. 27 to 27, at 327 Main St., fld. The exhibit is open to the public re information, call 88.

ublic is invited to "Self-Perceptions: n in the United Arab es," on Feb. 28 at 4 the Haffenreffer Mu- of Anthropology in Maha Khatib, a grad- uent on Abu Dhabi ubai.

sical performance by "Singing Sisters" will be seated at the Health- Nursing and Retire- Home, 188 Florence vestnut Hill, Mass., on 8, at 2 p.m. Songs from and other countries e performed. Admis- s by reservation only. re information, call 730.

Allen and his orchestra perform a "Big Band e to Glenn Miller" at Zeiterion Theatre on 1 at 8 p.m. For ticket mation, call the theater 8) 994-2900.

Real Live Brady Show," will premiere om the Columbus The- on Broadway in Provi- nce from March 2 to 14. ame show is a combi- n of theater, comedy night arty offering prizes to audience contestants. nformation and tickets, ct 331-2211.

Providence Performing Center will present A.R. ey's play, "Love Let- starring Robert Wag- and Stefanie Powers 2 to 4, at 8 p.m. For nformation, call 421-

Rhode Island Chamber oncerts will present "Endellion String et," March 3, at 8 p.m. Jumnae Hall, Brown ersity. For ticket infor- on, call 863-2416.

ies in all media are in- d for "Personal Jour- n." Entrants are invited New England and New . Entry deadline is h 6. Send a self-ad- ed, stamped envelope prospectus to Her- ary, Box 336, Wakefield, 02880.

Russian Culture Explored at JCCRI Festival

A Russian Festival featuring a Russian food bazaar and a concert is slated for Feb. 28 at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, 401 Elm Grove Ave. in Providence from 1 to 4 p.m.

The festival is sponsored jointly by the JCCRI and the New Americans Club.

Events will include arts and crafts booths, a food bazaar from 1 to 3 p.m., and a concert with a surprise Russian performer from 3 to 4 p.m. Door prizes will be offered. The cost is \$1 per person with a maximum of \$2 per family, and all are welcome.

For more information, call Ruby Shalansky at 861-8800.

Emanu-El Players To Present Annual Purim Spiel Musical

The Temple Emanu-El players announce their 14th annual Purim Spiel Musical, "Esther Goes Western," a foot-stompin', toe-tappin', hand-clappin' extravaganza.

This year's Purim spiel features a new script based on virtually unknown rabbinic legend which may have been the source for Rodgers and Hammerstein's "Oklahoma."

A one-show-only performance will take place at Temple Emanu-El after the reading of the magilla on March 6 at 7 p.m.

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MILESTONES



Arnold and Beth Shaulson

Arnold and Shaulson Wed

Beth Arnold and Joseph H. Shaulson were married Nov. 29 at the Pearl River Hilton, Pearl River, N.Y. Rabbi Nathaniel Schwartz performed the 11:30 a.m. ceremony.

The bride and groom were escorted to the chuppah by their parents, Karyl and Bernie Arnold of Upper Saddle River

and Sheila and Jerry Shaulson of Cranston.

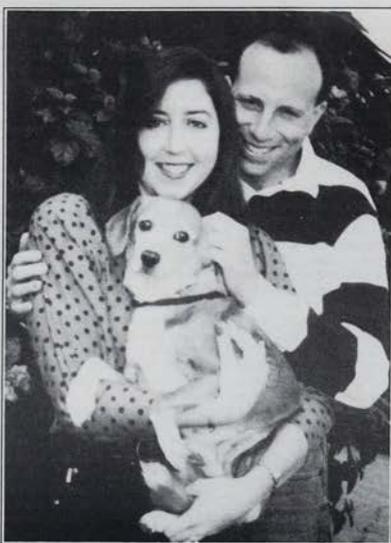
The bride's sisters, Jan Turcich and Lynn Arnold Huntzinger, were her matrons of honor and Tina Lin was her bridesmaid. The bridegroom's brothers, David A. Shaulson and Samuel S. Shaulson were his best men. Craig Arnold, brother of the bride, Dr. Jonathan Kaplan and Alden Levy served as groomsmen.

A 1985 graduate of North-ern Highlands Regional High School, Allendale, N.J., she received her bachelor of arts degree in 1989, and her master of landscape architecture in 1992, both from the University of Pennsylvania. She is currently working as a project manager with a New York landscape architect.

The bridegroom, a 1983 honors graduate of Cranston High School West, received his bachelor of science degree, magna cum laude, in 1987 from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and in 1991 received his juris doctorate degree, cum laude, from the University of Pennsylvania Law School and his M.B.A. from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. He is an associate with the law firm of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher and Flom in Manhattan.

The bride is the granddaughter of Lee and Dan Arnold of New York City. The bridegroom is the grandson of Etta and Bill Gerstenblatt of Cranston.

After a honeymoon in Hawaii, the couple resides in New York City.



Jamie Josephson and David Scott Brown

Josephson To Marry Brown

Dr. and Mrs. Alan Josephson of Palos Verdes, Calif., formerly of Providence, announce the engagement of their daughter, Jamie, to David Scott Brown.

The bride-to-be graduated from Classical High School in Providence and then graduated Magna Cum Laude with a B.S. degree in biology from Tufts University. She was recently awarded an M.B.A. from the John E. Anderson Graduate School of Management at UCLA and is currently employed at Integrated Health Systems in La Jolla, Calif. She is the granddaughter of Frieda Baxt Nemzoff of Providence.

Her fiancé is from Paramus, N.J., and is the son of Roslyn Brown and the late Herbert Brown. He graduated from Tufts University with a B.S. in electrical engineering and was later awarded a master's of science in electrical engineering, also from Tufts University. He will receive his M.B.A. from the John E. Anderson Graduate School of Management at UCLA this June.

An early July wedding is planned in Long Beach, Calif.

Christopher To Arrive in Israel

(Continued from Page 1)

return home.

Egypt reportedly suggested that a third of the deportees be returned immediately, another third be allowed to return in April and the rest by June.

Christopher, who arrived in Jerusalem on Monday, was not expected to exert direct pressure on Israel for further concessions, so as not to retreat from his agreement with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

However, it was expected here that he would convey to Israel the feeling in the Arab world that without further con-

cessions, progress in the peace talks would be slow and the Palestinians would not show up at the negotiating table.

At the end of his visit to Jordan over the weekend, Christopher said Israel should find "soon" a way of allowing the return of most of the deportees.

Officially, there has been no further change in the Israeli position on the deportees since Rabin made his compromise offer. However, Israel is reportedly weighing several gestures of good will toward the Palestinians in the territories.

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THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

JCCRI Vacation Campers Bring Joy to Seniors

by Omar Bradley
Herald Assistant Editor

A big smile spread across the face of Rose Parizer as she watched little Kristin Elizabeth Keinz work diligently on a special drawing for her. The combination of frantic adolescent activity and spontaneous interaction made an irresistible combination as vacation campers from the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island visited residents of the Jewish Home for the Aged in Providence Friday.

Peg Loiselle, coordinator for the Building Bridges program couldn't have been happier, as the children wasted no time livening up the activity room. "The children provide the chaos and confusion necessary to make the residents feel youthful again," Loiselle shared.

For Emma Gessow, 8, it was an opportunity to draw a picture for her new friends, Ray-

mond and Florence Marks, who appreciated the small gift from the child.

Penny Faich, director of recreational therapy at the home, said, "The children help make the residents feel alive and think about their own grandchildren."

This was evident when Parizer commented that little Kristin Keinz is "the cutest child" she's ever seen, "so warm and friendly."

The openness shared by two extreme age groups disguised the fact that it was the first visit for many of the children.

The children not only made pictures and name tags but sang songs and shared a light snack of juice and cookies with the elderly tenants. As Miro Gordon prepared to leave, she said it had been a good experience to meet the residents. "Just because people are old doesn't mean they can't do anything," she said.



A SMALL TOKEN — Svetlana Matt, 8, gives Betty Guy, a resident of the Jewish Home, a picture she made for her last week.

Herald photo by Omar Bradley

Swim-A-Thon Set at the JCCRI

Water relay races, contests, games and an assortment of other events are scheduled to take place at Aquafest, the opening event of this year's swim-a-thon beginning at 1 p.m. on Feb. 28, at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island.

The afternoon will begin with a preschool talent show, followed by water games, relay races and contests for children ages 3 to 12. Aquafest costs \$1 per person, with a maximum of \$5 per family. The public is welcome to enjoy a free swim following the children's events from 2 to 3 p.m.

The swim-a-thon continues for two weeks through March 14 to help raise funds for the JCCRI's Aquatics Department. Anyone wishing to swim is invited to find friends, relatives and neighbors to sponsor them with a pledged donation for every length of the pool swim. Donations (in the name of children or any other name) are also invited.

This event is open to all members of the community. To become a sponsor, receive a sponsor sheet or obtain further information, call Paty Gold at 861-8800.

Interfaith Leader To Speak at Sinai

Rabbi Leon Klenicki, a world leader in interfaith relations, will be the featured speaker and discussion leader at the eighth annual scholar-in-residence weekend at Temple Sinai, Cranston, March 5 and 6.



Rabbi Leon Klenicki

Rabbi Klenicki, director of the Department of Interfaith Affairs of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, with headquarters in New York City, will speak at the 8:15 p.m. March 5 Sabbath service on "Perception of the Jew Around the World." The subject will serve as the theme for discussion groups after the 9:45 a.m. service on March 6.

Rabbi George J. Astorhan of Temple Sinai, who will lead the Sabbath services, was a classmate of Rabbi Klenicki at the Hebrew Union College — Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Rabbi Klenicki was ordained in 1967 after he received an M.A. degree in Hebrew letters from Hebrew Union College and a B.A. degree in philosophy from the university of Cincinnati.

A native of Argentina, Rabbi Klenicki returned to Buenos Aires in 1967 to become the director of the Latin American office of the World Union of Progressive Judaism, helping to develop Reform Judaism through that part of the world. Two years later, he became the rabbi of Congregation Emanuel in Buenos Aires, the only Reform synagogue then in Latin America.

Rabbi Klenicki edits several interreligious bulletins distributed by B'nai B'rith, and he conducts a program on interreligious affairs in Spanish on a New York radio station. In addition to books on Jewish-Christian relations and understanding, he has produced in Spanish and Hebrew prayer and study books, and the Passover Haggadah. Rabbi Klenicki also is professor of Jewish theology at Immaculate Conception Seminary, Seton Hall University, New Jersey.

The scholar-in-residence program at Temple Sinai is open to the public. Marian Goldstein of Warwick and Baila Bender of Cranston co-chair the weekend activities, which will conclude with a luncheon and a summation by Rabbi Klenicki.

Home Women Plan Next Board Meeting

The Women's Association of the Jewish Home will hold a regular board meeting on March 3 in the Martin Chase Auditorium at the home.

Refreshments will be served at 12:30 p.m.; the meeting starts at 1 p.m.

The speaker will be Duane Schumacher, director of dietary services. He will discuss innovations in the dietary department. He previously worked at the Union Mission Nursing Home of Haverhill, Mass.

Betty Levy will preside.

Social Seniors Set Next Meeting

The Social Seniors of Warwick will hold a meeting on March 10 at 1 p.m. at Temple Am David, 40 Gardner St., Warwick.

Entertainment will be the "Happy Notes." Refreshments will be served.

On March 17, members will go to the Coachman in Tiverton for lunch and entertainment.

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THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Seniors Doing Smooth Moves at JFS Meal Site

Every Wednesday, 35 or 40 women and a few men do some smooth moves at the JFS kosher meal site in Cranston. Led by volunteer Ida Falk, the group works through a series of stretching and toning exercises, with something for every part of the body from head to toe.

Part of the class utilizes special elastic bands for resistance exercises. Each person exercises to the level that is comfortable. Many have arthritis or other physical difficulties. Some stand, some remain seated; one lady brings her oxygen tank. Falk keeps up a steady patter about the movements. "I teach them why they are doing it, how to do it correctly," she says. Sometimes the class does the "chicken dance," a lighthearted series of movements with its own special music.

Falk has been teaching exercise ever since her husband passed away 11 years ago. She teaches and assists at classes in various locations throughout the week. She is always on the lookout for new exercises to keep things interesting, and brings back fresh ideas from her regular visits to fitness spas.

Sylvia Shocket, a regular participant who sometimes substitutes for Falk, says, "I love it, it makes me feel good. My children and granddaughter are proud of me."

Ida Levy, who is legally blind and also suffers neuropathy, is another faithful exerciser. Having gone through

extensive physical therapy to recover from serious illness, and having spent two years working from wheelchair to walker to cane, she said that exercise helps her maintain her progress. "Exercise class is very good. It helps make it easier to do things and keeps me limbered up."

Levy comes every day to the JFS kosher meal site in Cranston.

"Ida Falk promotes good health for the group. She not only gives them a good exercise program, she also provides practical information about nutrition that reinforces the healthy lifestyle. Most importantly, she makes it fun," said Paul L. Segal, executive director of Jewish Family Service.

Meal-site coordinator Gladys Kaplan said the group is so appreciative that it voted to buy Falk her lunch at the meal site each Wednesday from the wine fund, as a small token of thanks.

Exercise class begins each Wednesday at 11:15 and lasts for half an hour. Following exercise, a hot kosher lunch is served.

The JFS kosher meal site is open Monday through Friday, with activities, trips, movies, bingo, speakers, holiday celebrations, blood pressure screenings, concerts, discussion groups and more. Programs usually begin at 11 a.m. and a nutritious, hot kosher lunch is served at noon. Every Friday, there is a special Shabbat meal, complete with candles, challah and kiddush. The suggested

donation is \$1.50.

The JFS kosher meal site is located at Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston. Transportation is available for Cranston residents and limited areas of Warwick. For information or reservations, call Gladys Kaplan at 781-1771.

Clothing Drive Will Benefit New Americans

A clothing drive, to benefit new Americans living in the Pawtucket-Providence area, will be held Feb. 28 from 1 to 4 p.m. at Congregation Ohave Sholam in Pawtucket.

The clothes will be distributed to coincide with Purim on March 7, a traditional time for Jews to give gifts and help provide for others in the community.

Those who wish to donate are asked to bring clean used clothes in good condition to the synagogue drop-off point. If you cannot come at this time, call 729-1606 to make alternate arrangements. In addition, the clothes must be separated into bundles for men, women and children.

The clothing drive offers an opportunity for people to get started on their spring cleaning and help others at the same time. Everybody is invited to participate in the clothes drive and help make this Purim season a little more fraelich.



All for Love

Margaret Thornton shows a few of the toys she made to give to sick children at Rhode Island Hospital as part of a Valentine's Day project that originated with the Cranston/Warwick Group of Hadassah. Thornton, who is not even a member of the group, makes the toys out of love and compassion for the children. Members of the group distributed the gifts last week.

Herald photo by Omar Bradley

The Rhode Island Jewish Herald is gearing up for its 1993

Spring Home & Garden Issue

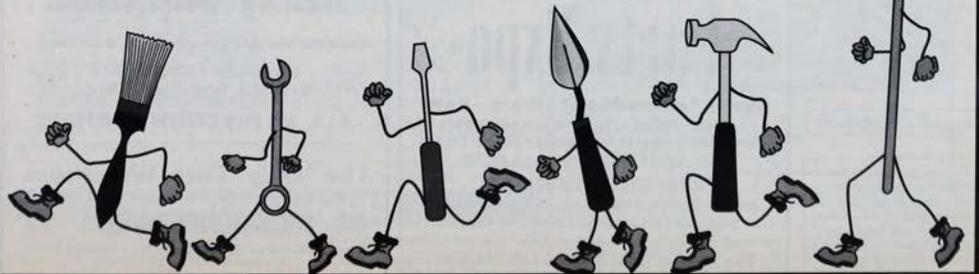
MARCH 18, 1993

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THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Cohen Cruises To Title

by
Jeffrey L. Goldberg
Special to the Herald

It's always good to start the playoffs on an upswing. Jaime Cohen's squad finished the regular season on a tear, and will enter the playoffs as a 2-1 favorite to take home the big prize.

Cohen poured in 18 points and got another great performance from A.K.A. "Mr. Consistent" Gary Greenberg with 22 points. Cohen got scoring from all of his players and should be poised to handle the opening round game against Steve Groag's squad. Groag's team put up 54 points in the season final and will be hard put to get by in the first round unless Lou Pulner returns and veteran Pete Wallick can get the squad inspired. Read all about it next week.

Jon Weitzner finished the season in second place. He will be facing Paul Formal's squad that finished the season at 6-6. Formal's team has shown periods of consistency but really haven't been able to string together offense and defense together to be a threat. If Steve Litwin and Dave Baskin are on Formal's team, it could make a run, but Formal never knows what team to expect.

Jon Weitzner plucked Harry Mamasky off the waiver wire to fill a void created by the season-ending injury to Steve Abrams. Weitzner might be able to pull a rabbit out of his hat if Mamasky and veteran Steve Lehrer can gel. Dan Stone is capable of putting up points and the rookie might be called on to make his mark in these playoffs.

The finals, known this year as the *Rhode Island Jewish Herald* Classic, will be played on March 1. Be sure to come and see your favorite team. The game will be covered by the *Herald* with feature pictures and an account of the game appearing in two weeks. The *Herald* will handle the presentation of the championship trophy immediately following the game.

Final Standings

Team	Won	Lost
Cohen	9	3
Weitzner	8	4
Formal	6	6
Groag	1	11

Pulner Wins Scoring Title

Lou Pulner	24.4
Dave Baskin	20.5
Gary Greenberg	17.8
Jaime Cohen	16.9
Steve Litwin	16.1

Although the season had many bright spots with great individual performances, this year's regular season MVP is without question Gary Greenberg. He averaged double figures all season and finished in third place overall in scoring. His rebounding, free throw shooting and above all unselfish play earn him the MVP award. Nice job, Gary.

Beth-El Bowling

Team Standings

Baker Furniture	14	6
Goldstein Electric	14	6
Nathan Kaufman #2	14	6
Tooth Fairies	13	7
Come Screen With Me	12	8
Standard Glass	12	8
Halperin & Lax	10	10
Trinkle Design	9.5	10.5
Shamrocks	7.5	12.5
Howie's Hammers	7.5	12.5
Oakland Mobil	5	15
Nathan Kaufman Co.	1.5	18.5

Nathan Kaufman #2 vaulted into a three-way tie for first place with an unbelievable sweep of Elliot Goldstein's then first-place squad. Jeff Goldberg bowled very consistently and it was recommended more vacations might help his team take first place before the season is over.

The Benny Diaz-Rick Dressler battle rages on. Dressler got back to his old self and is once again closing the gap between himself and Diaz. Mike Sugerman appears to have a lock on third place with Harry Rose and Dave Robinson neck and neck for fourth place.

Top Five Bowlers

Benny Diaz	186.6
Rick Dressler	185.8
Mike Sugerman	183.4
Harry Rose	179.7
Dave Robinson	179.1

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A NIGHT ON THE ICE — Members of the Mativ singles group enjoy an evening with the Providence Bruins last week at the civic center.
Herald photo by Omar Bradley

Mativ Singles Score at Civic Center

by Omar Bradley
Herald Assistant Editor

What has 12 legs, six heads and screams wildly? How about a group of Mativ singles watching a Providence Bruins hockey game at the Providence Civic Center. Mativ, which means "to do" in Hebrew, is made up of Jewish singles ages 21 to 40, according to Sue Goldman, coordinator of the group.

Originally, the group was scheduled to attend a Jan. 24 contest between The Bruins and the Baltimore Skipjacks, but the game was postponed due to poor ice conditions caused by a "Monster Truck" event. However, the make-up game Feb. 17 proved to be well worth the wait.

Even before Goldman, Rob Allen, Bruce Ganek and Gary

Price had a chance to get comfortable, the Bruins wasted no time in heating up the game with some wild skating. Thanks largely to Tim Sweeney and Jozef Stempel, the Bruins literally blasted the Baltimore team right off the ice, scoring six times in the first half. Sweeney scored three goals alone as delighted fans threw in their caps. The Mativ group and 10,000 hockey-crazed fans went bonkers with screams of utter satisfaction.

Allen, a teacher, attended the game courtesy of his brother, Danny, who gave him the

ticket. "We have an enthusiastic host in Sue, a rolling game and a great crowd," he said.

Goldman, who acted more like a college cheerleader, was overwhelmed by the group's excitement. "My aim is to bring singles and couples together at interesting events and to have a good time," she assured.

Aside from sporting events,
(Continued on Next Page)

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THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Seniors, Kids Share a Sensational Effort

by Omar Bradley
Herald Assistant Editor

One by one, the little people within the circle slowly rose to their feet. They were told to wiggle their ears, shake their bodies and jump up and down like crazy. Soon, the entire auditorium was filled with the drone of stomping feet, clapping hands and laughter shared by young and old alike.

Blame all this commotion on minstrels David Paskin and Sara Winkleman, a.k.a. "Shir Sensations," from Sharon, Mass., who came to entertain seniors from the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island kosher meal site, the Fall River Jewish Center for Seniors and children from Kidspace at the JCCRI on Feb. 16. The seniors greeted the Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum earlier before attending the musical performance, according to Rosanne Lichtman, program coordinator for the Fall River center.

"My seniors are thrilled to come here and see the Holocaust museum, which was a very moving experience, but the time spent with the children was an extra treat," she said.

About 50 children from the JCCRI's Kidspace program were invited to share in the musical program with the seniors. While Paskin, a rabbinical student, played his guitar, Sara Winkleman, his sidekick, en-

ticed the children to do all kinds of crazy things — twitch their noses, wave their arms or shake their heads — no matter how silly it seemed. Paskin went a little further by throwing in a little Elvis routine as well.

"The idea is to live up to the event whether it's a Jewish function or a musical program," Paskin stated. If so, then Shir Sensations succeeded beyond its own expectations, as the audience became willing servants to their wit and whim.

After a lengthy performance, the children scrambled in line for a snack of juice and cookies. Two women, Blanche Astrow and Edith Allen, both from Fall River, sauntered through the squealing children up to Paskin and personally thanked him for making their day. "I just want to thank you for putting on a wonderful show, you worked very hard to make it entertaining," Astrow said.

As for Shir Sensations, Paskin plans to tour cross country while he continues his studies. "I really enjoy doing the shows, because song and dance brings out the joy in us all," he said.

Kibbutz School Director Coming to Boston

A director of the B'nai B'rith-sponsored Kibbutz High School Program, Dubi Benari, will come from Israel for a promotional tour of seven cities in the United States and Canada from Feb. 28 to March 15.

Kibbutz High School is a one-year program for 10th-grade high school students at Kibbutz Kfar Blum, and 11th-grade students at Kibbutz Beit Hashita. The program, founded in 1969, is sponsored by the B'nai B'rith Israel Commission, in cooperation with the World Zionist Organization's Department of Education. The Authority for Jewish-Zionist Education and the Ministry of Education of the state of Israel.

Both programs, for which students receive full credit, "consistently attract the best and the brightest of our young people," states Joseph Huscher, chairman of the Israel Commission. "Graduates invariably rank high in college admission, educational and professional achievement and continuing involvement with the Jewish community and Israel."

Benari will be meeting with prospective students, parents and others interested in the program in Washington, D.C., Boston, Houston, Toronto, Vancouver, Los Angeles and New Jersey/New York. For more information, contact the B'nai B'rith Israel Commission, 1640 Rhode Island Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C., 20036; (202) 857-6584.



SMILES GALORE — Children seem to enjoy the company of entertainers David Paskin and Sara Winkleman after they spent an afternoon of songs, dance and games at the kosher meal site of the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island last week.

Herald photo by Omar Bradley

Mativ Singles 'Myth of the Jewish Woman' Is Topic of Hadassah Talk

(Continued from Previous Page)

wine-tastings and theater, the group also holds Shabbat dinners, temple lectures and does charitable fund-raising for social organizations. Although only six members were able to attend the make-up game, their enthusiasm more than made up for the no-shows the group agreed.

For more information on the group, contact Goldman at 374-4169 or Rob Goldberg at 331-6070.

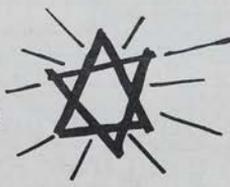
Members of the South County Hadassah group are conducting the Shabbat services at Beth David Synagogue, Kingston Road in Narragansett, on Feb. 26 at 7:30 p.m.

The guest speaker, Naomi Zucker, will share her thoughts on "The Myth of the Jewish Woman in Jewish Literature." Zucker, a life member of Hadassah, received her master's at the University of Rhode Island, and is currently

a lecturer in the English department at URI. Program chairwoman, Ann Miller, coordinated the services with Ethan Adler, religious leader of the synagogue. Other Hadassah members participating in the service include: Baila Bender, Marilyn Cohen, president of the group, Meredith Cote, Clarissa Kulman, Hope Rittner, Sally Soren and Linda Zell. The community is invited to the group.



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School Beat



JCCRI Youths Strap on the Skates

by Omar Bradley
Herald Assistant Editor

Nathaniel Gurman looked into a whirling sea of arms, legs and sponge balls and dove right into the middle of sheer pandemonium, and it didn't hurt one bit. It was the kind of day all children dream of, as 50 members from the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island's vacation camp, pre-teen connection and preschool basked in the glory of total fun at United Skates of America in Pawtucket last week.

In fact, many of the children

had just returned from a ski trip at Wachusett Mountain the day before and were ready for more adventures, the group's leader, Mark Kublin, informed.

Kublin was busy tussling up laces for Sam Gessow, 6, who was dying to try his luck around the rink. Although six counselors were present to oversee the children, they were clearly outwitted by the energetic bunch.

Jonathan Kay, 9, and his buddy John DeBoer, 12, raced around the rink like two speed demons as if their skates were a part of them. "I come here at least once a week with my friends," Jonathan bragged.

But Jessica Navilliat wasn't as lucky on her skates and openly admitted falling at least five times before giving it a rest. As for Dianne Bellino, a counselor, her second try on skates resulted in no spills and plenty of thrills, as she skated side by side with her young charges.

Meanwhile, Sam Carrera, 7, vented out all his adolescent anger on the "Wacky Gator," game with John Kay. Surprisingly, Eric Emerson found himself reliving his fantasy of playing "Captain America" in another video game, as several children watched him combat the Avengers. But no one seemed happier than 5-year-old Nathan Gurman, who felt like a living beach ball as he bounced up and down and all around the Dragon Pit while his playmates screamed with joy.



SHAKY ON SKATES—Nathan Pakula, 7, shows good form at the United Skates of America skating rink in Pawtucket. Vacation campers from the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island visited the rink last week.

Herald photo by Omar Bradley



READY TO ROLL — Vacation campers from the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island anxiously await their turn inside United Skates of America in Pawtucket last week during school vacation.

Herald photo by Omar Bradley

PHDS To Host a Purim Puppet Show

A talented group of Providence Hebrew Day School eighth-graders will perform a Purim puppet show on March 3, at 7 p.m. under the direction of Rivkie Gerber, who also designed the puppets.

Aviva Jakubowicz, Miriam Pliskin, Chava Shafran and Rena Silberberg have invested many of their hours into rehearsal time.

The performance, which will be held at the Providence Hebrew Day School, 450 Elm Grove Ave., is open to the community.

Preschool Registration Open to Public

The preschool operated at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island still has limited space available and is now open for general registration.

The program has a high teacher/student ratio and offers morning or afternoon, three-day or five-day programs. The preschool's classrooms, activity rooms and playgrounds are supplemented by the physical education facilities available at the center, located at 401 Elm Grove Ave. in Providence.

For more information, contact Eva Silver or Debbie Blitz at 861-8800.

Music School Announces Music Scholarship

The Music School announces its fifth annual Music Talent Scholarship Competition. Annual scholarships are awarded by competitive audition to students with demonstrated talent in music, without regard for financial need.

Auditioners must be at least 12 years of age, but younger than seniors in high school, to enable them to use their awards.

All scholarships are used to pay for lessons, classes or ensembles at The Music School. The winner will have the opportunity to play with the Ocean State Chamber Orchestra during the 1994 season.

The competition is open to any student nominated by a professional musician, music teacher or person who has significant involvement in the field of music. Preliminary auditions will be held March 28 from 3 to 5 p.m. at The Music School. Final auditions, which will be open to the public, will take place on May 2, at 3 p.m. at the Music Mansion, 88 Meeting St., Providence. The deadline for receiving applications is March 5.

Applications can be obtained from The Music School, 75 John St., Providence, R.I. 02906, or by calling 272-9877.

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OBITUARIES

HANNAH G. FINBERG
 PORTLAND, Maine — Hannah G. Finberg, 81, formerly employed for many years at the Harbor Shop, died Feb. 19 at Maine Medical Center in Portland. She was the widow of Percy Finberg.

Born in New York City, she was a daughter of the late Leo and Beatrice (Goldberg) Gordon. She was a longtime resident of Portland.

She was a graduate of the former Bryant-Stratton College in Boston.

Finberg was active in Temple Beth-El and its Sisterhood Organization. She was a member of the Jewish Community Center and the Cedars Jewish Home in Portland.

She leaves three daughters, Adele Kay and Billie Lee Fischer, both of Cranston, and Lois Silver of Framingham, Mass., seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

The funeral service was held Feb. 21 at Temple Beth-El, 400 Deering Ave. Burial was in Mount Sinai Cemetery.

LOUIS FRANKEL

NEW BEDFORD, Mass. — Louis Frankel, 80, of 128 School St., died Feb. 18 at Massachusetts General Hospital. He was the son of the late Jacob and Jennie (Billincoff) Frankel. A self-employed musician for many years retiring 15 years ago, he was a lifelong resident of New Bedford. He was a member of Congregation Ahavath Achim in New Bedford.

He leaves a sister, Ceila

Gutholz of Miami, Fla., and several nieces and nephews.

A graveside funeral service was held Feb. 21 at Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. Arrangements were made by the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

ANNA S. KAHN

PROVIDENCE — Anna S. Kahn, 65, a resident of the Jewish Home for the Aged, 99 Hillside Ave., a bookkeeper for a watch repair service in Providence for five years, retiring in 1951, died Feb. 18 at the home. She was the wife of Malcolm Kahn.

Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Daniel and Rose (Brook) Bernstein, she had lived in Cranston for 43 years, moving to Providence in 1991. She previously had worked with her late father in a dressmaking supply and service business for 10 years.

She was a graduate of the former Edgewood Secretarial School and had been a member of Temple Sinai.

Besides her husband she leaves two daughters, Lila Kahn Mullins of Lincoln, and Karen Rubin of Newton Center, Mass.; one brother, Harold Bernstein in New Jersey, and two grandsons.

The funeral service was held Feb. 21 at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

ELIZABETH METZ

PROVIDENCE — Elizabeth Metz, 91, a resident member of the Jewish Home for the Aged, 99 Hillside Ave., died Feb. 16 at Miriam Hospital. She was the widow of Max Metz.

Born in Russia, she was a daughter of the late Nathan and Bessie Arbeitman. She lived in Providence for 75 years.

She leaves a sister, Fay Davidson, in California.

The funeral service was held Feb. 18 at the Jewish Home for the Aged. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. Arrangements were by the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

SOL J. ROSENBAUM

PROVIDENCE — Sol J. Rosenbaum, 74, of the Jewish Home for the Aged, 99 Hillside Ave., died Feb. 19 at the home. He was the husband of the late Estelle (Terner) Rosenbaum.

Born in Uniontown, Penn., a son of the late "Ike" and Claudine (Lambert) Rosenbaum, he had been a Uniontown resident for most of his life before moving to Providence two years ago.

Rosenbaum was a self-employed public accountant in Uniontown for 40 years before retiring four years ago.

He attended the University of Michigan and was graduated from Robert Morris College in Pittsburg. He was a past officer and board member of Temple Israel in Uniontown, and the superintendent of its religious school.

Rosenbaum was past treasurer of the Pennsylvania Society of Public Accountants. He was an Army veteran of World War II, and served in the European Theater.

He leaves a son, Lee G. Rosenbaum of Portland, Ore., a daughter, Cindi Portno of Warwick and four grandchildren.

A funeral service was held in Uniontown Feb. 22. Arrangements were made by the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

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Bosnian Moslems

(Continued from Page 7)

"I hope the Israelis will accept us," said one of the refugees, 22-year-old Asmir Meic. "I think they will, because they know what we have been going through. During World War II they lost everything like us."

Although the refugees were originally supposed to be hosted by two Israeli Arab villages, Arab leaders withdrew support for the plan at the last moment on Feb. 14 and denounced the airlift as a "publicity stunt."

The Once and Future Purim

(Continued from Page 5)

organization, Streicher said: "All our struggles are in vain if the battle against the Jews is not fought to the finish. It is not enough to get the Jews out of Germany. No, they must be destroyed throughout the entire world, so that humanity will be free of them."

Whenever anyone attacked Streicher for his crudeness, the Fuhrer always defended him. *Der Sturmer*, Hitler once said, was the only newspaper he regularly read from cover to cover. He was simply "on thorns," he once remarked, to see each new issue.

It is thus not difficult to see Amalek's blind, baseless and absolute hatred of the Jews in Julius Streicher. Which makes the story of his capture and death particularly and eerily chilling.

One need possess no more than the rudiments of the Purim story to know that the downfall of its villain, Haman the Amalekite, is saturated with what seem to be chance ironies; all that he so carefully plans eventually comes to backfire on him in an almost comical way. And the Talmudic material further intensifies that theme, which, in the Book of Esther itself, is characterized by the words "v'nahapoch hu," "and it was turned upside down!"

"Chance" happenings, directed of course from above, are the very hallmark, it seems, of Amalek's defeat — and the likely significance of the "casting of lots" from which Purim takes its name. Though Amalek fights with iron, it seems he is defeated with irony.

In the days after Germany's final defeat in the second world war, an American major, one Henry Blitt, en route to Berchtesgaden, made an unplanned stop at a farmhouse just off the road; it was occupied by a short, bearded man.

"What do you think of the Nazis?" Blitt asked. "I'm an artist," came the reply, "and have never bothered about politics."

"But you look like Julius Streicher!" Blitt joked, trying to make conversation.

"You recognized me?" the man blurted out incredulously, startling Blitt, who managed to compose himself and arrest his serendipitous catch.

One cannot but be reminded of how Haman's downfall was precipitated by his chance

appearance in the king's chambers at precisely the wrong time, when he said precisely the wrong thing.

Major Blitt, incidentally, was Jewish.

Another uncanny but meaningful irony in Streicher's life involved the fate of his considerable estate, which, as was reported in *Stars and Stripes* in late 1945, was turned into an agricultural training school for Jews intending to settle in Palestine. Just as Haman's riches were given to his archenemy Mordechai.

What is in many ways the most shocking narrative about Streicher is the one describing his death. Streicher was, of course, one of the Nazis tried, convicted and hanged at Nuremberg in 1946.

During the trial, Streicher remained disgustingly true to form. When the prosecution showed a film of the concentration camps as they had been found by the Allies, a spotlight was left on the defendants' box for security reasons. Many people preferred to watch the defendants' reactions rather than the mounds of bodies, matchstick limbs and common graves. Few of the defendants, to their belated credit, could bear to watch the film for long.

Goering seemed calm at first, but eventually began to nervously wipe his sweaty palms. Schacht turned away; Ribbentrop buried his face in his hands. Keitel wiped his reddened eyes with his handkerchief. Only Streicher leaned forward throughout, looking anxiously at the film and excitedly nodding his head.

While no proof was found that Streicher had ever actually killed a Jew by his own hand, the tribunal nevertheless decided that his incitement of others to the task, blatant and successful as it had been, constituted the act of a war criminal, and so he was sentenced, along with 10 other defendants, to the gallows to hang.

And hang he did. But not before taking the opportunity to share a few final words with the journalists allowed to be present at the gallows. "Heil Hitler. Now I go to G-d," he announced. And then, just before the trap sprung open, he blurted out most clearly: "Purim feast 1946!" — an odd thing to say in any event, but especially so on an October morning.

Julius Streicher, it seems, knew just who he was.

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ONLY THE BEST — Samuel Vingini and his daughter, Gina, show off a variety of their fresh produce at their store, J. Vingini & Son, in Providence last week.

Herald photo by Omar Bradley

From Father to Sons: Business Booms

by Omar Bradley
Herald Assistant Editor

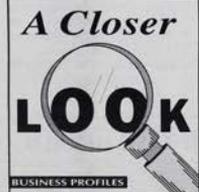
In 1921, John Vingini began selling fruit and vegetables from a horse-drawn wagon throughout Providence, recalls his son, Samuel, who currently runs the business. And throughout the years, "quality and dependability" have always been the two words associated with it. J. Vingini and Son, Inc. is still run by the sons of

their day in the wee hours of the morning when many of us are contemplating a few extra winks. "If you're not up early, there's a good chance you'll miss out," Sam explained.

It is at this hour when area schools, businesses and restaurants feverishly order the freshest possible fruits and vegetables: green peppers, succulent squash, plum tomatoes, carrots and a menagerie of nature's bounty from area and national farms, are systematically unloaded, processed into salads and sorted to wind up on the tables of award-winning restaurants. "I used to cater to Rocky Point and Crescent Park shore dinner halls," Sam said.

The business is now at its peak, as a health-conscious public becomes aware of the need for good produce to curb disease, he maintained. It's no surprise that Sam Vingini considers himself to be a lucky man with a family that works to stay together. "I wouldn't know what to do without them," he said.

When asked if his father, John, would be proud of him, he merely echoed a timeless eulogy: "Honesty and quality are the secret of this business that my father built."



the company's originator. In fact, the business is still growing strong thanks to Sam's devoted wife Gloria, who tends to sales and bookkeeping, while Raymond and Richard purchase and deliver, he confided. Sam Vingini and family operate out of a warehouse behind the main Providence post office on West River Street and begin

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What Are My Rights?

by Louis M. Pulner, Esq.

Adultery Is Criminal Offense in R.I.

Dear Attorney Pulner:

As unfortunate as it may be, acts of adultery are quite commonplace. What exactly constitutes adultery and what repercussions are there for somebody who is guilty of that act? My wife and I have a bet going and there is a dinner riding on your answer.

Curious
Cranston

Dear C in C:

Adultery is most often raised as an issue during divorce proceedings, and still remains a ground for divorce notwithstanding the fact that irreconcilable differences is the most often utilized grounds when pleadings are filed.

Adultery can best be defined as illicit sexual intercourse be-

tween any two persons, where either of them is married. For example if a married man is engaging in intercourse with an unmarried woman, then only he is guilty of adultery. If, however, a married man is having an affair with a married woman (and they are not married to each other), then both parties are guilty of adultery.

Now, let me advise my readers of something that they probably do not know, and that is the fact that adultery is a criminal offense in the state of Rhode Island punishable by a fine of as much as \$500.

I will concede that you don't often read about cases of adultery in the daily newspaper; however, that is probably only because this issue is only raised

as a practicality, during divorce proceedings. A truly vindictive spouse who can prove the existence of an adulterous relationship could bring that evidence to a law enforcement agency for prosecution, and until such time as this section of the Rhode Island General Laws is repealed, that law enforcement authority will have an obligation to follow through in the prosecution of same.

While this may sound a bit ridiculous, recall that last year the state police prosecuted a secretary for being involved in an office-run NCAA basketball betting pool.

Practically speaking, the mere suspicions of a spouse that the act of adultery is being committed is not going to be enough to get the police involved in an investigation. Quite wisely, the state and local police tend to have a hands-off attitude regarding these matters.

The answers provided above are based upon general legal principles and therefore will vary from case to case.

Louis M. Pulner is an attorney in Rhode Island with law offices at 2 Williams St. (at South Main Street), Providence, R.I. 02903.

'Liberators' Film Withdrawn

(Continued from Page 7)

member the 761st at Buchenwald — they all remember blacks, and indeed there were blacks there," he wrote.

E.G. McConnell, a member of the battalion, worked with the producers of the film until he began believing that they were faking material, according to an article in the Feb. 8 issue of *The New Republic*.

"It's a lie," he said. "We were nowhere near these camps when they were liberated."

The film's distortions, according to Stern, program specialist on extremism and anti-Semitism at the American Jewish Committee, could provide grist for racists and Holo-

caust deniers.

"It is the deniers who wait to pounce on any inconsistency in historical memory, and then re-paint what occurred without care for detail," Stern wrote in his report.

In an interview, he said, "This vehicle, which could have had the right role (in correcting history), is hopelessly tarnished."

In his report, he wrote that "the tragedy of *The Liberators*" is that the film has serious factual flaws, well beyond what can be written off as "artistic license."

"The film makes claims that are, at the most generous, negligently sloppy."

He cited what he called the film's "most glaring historical errors," which involved the liberation of Buchenwald.

In the film, a narrator describes a scene in which "two veterans of the 761st Tank Battalion returned to Buchenwald with Ben Bender, who had been imprisoned there as a boy."

"In fact," wrote Stern, "as the

producers acknowledged to me, neither [of the veterans] were ever in Buchenwald before the filming of the scene."

The film had a highly publicized screening in late December, when about 1,200 blacks and Jews watched it at New York's historic Harlem theater, the Apollo.

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Correction

Michael D. Smith, director of the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, is a member of the Jewish War Veterans. Last week's "Closer Look" incorrectly stated he was a board member.

He is also a member of Temple Torat Yisrael and an associate member and past president of Temple Am David. Smith is a past president and former board member of Touro Fraternal Association.

The chapel is located at the corner of Hope Street and Doyle Avenue.

We apologize for any confusion this may have caused our readers.

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