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Chanukah Greetings

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Ray Eichenbaum, My Friend

by Mike Fink

Herald Contributing Reporter

I met Ray Eichenbaum through the pages of the *Jewish Herald*. I had written a letter about putting up a stone in the cemetery to the memory of the six million, a small haven for birds and flowers where you could dwell on the mystery of life and rebirth. Ray rebutted the idea in print, a dozen years ago.

He and his friend Lenka Rose proposed a "living monument" fashioned of words in schools, not stone and soil. Ray drew me over to their side — but in an interview I filmed about the Holocaust survivors, Ray said, "I want to be buried with those who died in the mass graves. I want my number, not just my name, on my stone."

Ray said to his son Cary, "Some of us are born with a purpose. Yours and mine, our purpose is to remember the tragedy, but for good, not for evil." Ray had a calling, to teach, to heal, and to gather his adopted community together into a larger family.

We made friends, as buddies and as households. We shared lunch here and there about town. Ray and his wife Alice would stop by our deck in Narragansett, our sukkah, our parlor on New Year's, and they brought a blessing with them, a sense of the honor and privilege of our alliance and affection.

Ray came to Hope High School only a few semesters before me. He wrote for the *Jewish Herald*, a story about his friend Ben Bomba, the first survivor I had met, who sat beside me in junior high. I had translated for him. But now, Ray alone linked

Ray's rose stood in the center of the table, like his heart or soul quietly taking leave, and also taking root in our lives.

me to a generation we shared. He brought its realities, its tragedy. I supplied the period movies of the era we watched in my classrooms, like, "The Boy With Green Hair." Ray spoke to my students about his past, in the museum garden, in the R.I.S.D. auditoriums, in the studios. Always about how precious life is, and how you learn that in the presence of the aura of death.

I read a part for Ray's play about Bronia, on the back porch of his East Side house, just across from the Hebrew Day School and the J.C.C. That was a few seasons ago. It was my wife who narrated the production this past Sunday. He sent each member of the cast a single red rose.

After we heard the sad report of Ray's passing, we went into

our dining room, where Chanukah menorahs line the window-sill, reflecting rows of candle flames against the black double panes. Ray's rose stood in the center of the table, like his heart or soul quietly taking leave, and also taking root in our lives.

Ray once stood in our summer garden and spoke of the rich flowers of Jewish Poland that is no more. He came out of it like an Elijah among us.

Now he brings the story of his life of good deeds and loving sons, wife and neighbors into the world of his brother, his sister, and his parents, whom he rejoins.

Ray used to sometimes bring his columns to my house to hand-deliver on Mondays. Once in a while I might cross out a word or change a comma. "Write everything twice," I said. But Ray worked at night, typed in capitals, got his message out and across. I added, "You like people too much. You'll get hurt."

Ray wanted to work a miracle, to make good come out of evil. He took the task upon himself. Did I let him down? I will recall the hugs, the laughs, the sense of privilege and honor, which he bequeaths me. I once asked Ray, "What did you bring, what object, out of your past?" He said, "My belt." In Jewish lore, the sash tells us that we have a higher self. Ray reminds me of that.



ELDER STATESMAN OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY — Ray Eichenbaum passed away unexpectedly Tuesday morning in Providence. The Holocaust survivor will be deeply missed by all at the *Jewish Herald* and in the community. See page 3 for his final column.

Local Hero Rina Wolfgang Saves Christmas Tree

by Alison Smith

Herald Co-Editor
It was in all the papers — how Rina Sky Wolfgang, Jewish chaplain at the University of Rhode Island, saved the Rev. Norman M. MacLeod's Christmas tree from tree rustlers, on the night of Dec. 6.

She saw three youths loitering suspiciously in the vicinity of Rev. MacLeod's station wagon and its roof adorned with a newly-cut evergreen. She reported the situation to Rev. MacLeod and gave him all the information necessary for him to follow the rustlers and reclaim his tree.

It was, she says, something anyone would have done. "What's right is right, and what's wrong is wrong, whether you're a Christian or a Jew. 'Thou shalt not steal' is in the Ten Commandments."

Wolfgang has been the Jew-

ish chaplain at the university for seven years now. She loves her work. After achieving a double master's from Columbia, and a master's from the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, she elected to go into

education instead of pursuing a rabbinical career. But still, there are problems.

During the same week when Wolfgang was saving someone's symbol of Christmas, she was the object of a violently anti-Semitic attack because of an article she had written on Nov. 12 for the *Religious Notebook* in the *Narragansett Times*.

In the Nov. 12 article, she said that it could be very difficult being Jewish in South County.

"There are over 400 identified Jewish families in the South County area, including about 100 Jewish faculty who teach at the university. The Jewish popu-

(Continued on Page 6)



Presidential Party

President Clinton joins some children playing with a dreidel at a Chanukah party at the White House recently. The president also joined the children in lighting the Chanukah menorah.

Photo courtesy of the White House

INSIDE THE OCEAN STATE



Hadassah Meeting

Rhode Island delegates attending Hadassah's Northeast Cooperative Outreach Institute are (seated, left) Barbara Block, Susan Ginsberg, Linda Fleischer, Betty Levitt, (standing, left) Diane Jewett, Lesley Zuckerman, Rosalyn Guarnieri and Fran Mendell.

Photo courtesy of Hadassah Nirim

Counseling Center Starts Drive

The Community Counseling Center of Pawtucket announces the kick-off of the Center's Annual Appeal fundraising drive. The funds raised are used to provide services to clients who might not be otherwise able to afford them, as well as helping to

meet criteria necessary to insure the receipt of federal grants necessary to maintain the child's sexual abuse treatment program.

The Center has opened the Blackstone Children's Home (BCH), a six-month residential treatment center that provides

intensive individual, group, and family therapy.

The Annual Appeal campaign started in early December and will continue through January. To make a donation or obtain more information, contact Diane Smith, 722-5573.

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Miriam Hospital, Harvard Community Team Up to Give the Gift of Sight

Thomas McCauley, MD, a Harvard Community Health Plan ophthalmologist, and The Miriam Hospital have teamed up to give the gift of sight to lah George, a volunteer Sunday school superintendent and student lay minister for St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Providence.

George needs cataract surgery, but doesn't have health insurance and can't afford to pay for the procedure. McCauley heard about George through another of his patients and offered to perform the surgery free of charge.

The Miriam Hospital is donating use of the operating room in the Norman and Rosalie Fain Health Centers, supplies and pharmaceuticals; an

anesthetist from Anesthesiology Associates and an operating room nurse will donate their services, and the Alcon Company has agreed to donate the necessary intraocular lens.

Majestic Senior Guild Meets

The next meeting of the Majestic Guild will be held Dec. 21 at 12:30 p.m. at Temple Torat Yisrael, Cranston, R.I.

Entertainment for the afternoon will be Professor Burton L. Fishman, a very dynamic entertainer everyone will enjoy. Refreshments to follow.

There will be no meetings in January and February 1994 to allow for winter vacations.

First Night

December 31, 1993

1-4:30 p.m. — Festival opens with emphasis on children's activities.

4:30 p.m. — Grand Procession from Convention Center to City Hall.

5 p.m. — Opening Ceremonies at City Hall followed by the Early Fireworks Show.

6-11:30 p.m. — Evening Performances all over central Providence.

11:50 p.m. — Fireworks Finale on State House Lawn.

The kaleidoscope of celebrations that has come to define Providence First Night activities offers 171 ways to mark the final day of 1993 and the start of the new year.

Providence's ninth annual New Year's Eve arts festival provides 11 hours of safe, alcohol-free celebrations, transforming both private and public space into stages for more than 800 performers.

The Rhode Island Convention Center will play center stage this year, providing weather-safe sites for 70 events on three levels. The Rhode Island Black Heritage Society also joins the list of venues for the first time.

Among the hundreds of performances over the festival period will be a specially commissioned Intergalactic Circus performance designed by the Big Nazo Puppet Studio. The Rhode renowned illusionist/magician, Magic of Lyn, will perform at Veterans Auditorium. A New Year's Resolution Tree will grace Kennedy Plaza, which will remain closed to traffic during the festival. Churches, halls, bars, lobbies, universities and various auditoriums will also shelter performances ranging from jazz and classical music to ethnic dance and theater to magic shows and mask workshops.

The Children's Festival begins at 1 p.m., culminating in the 4:30 p.m. Grand Procession leading to 5 p.m. Opening Ceremonies at City Hall. The Early Fireworks Show will mark the end of the afternoon events and kick-off the evening performances. The spectacular Fire-

(Continued on Page 16)



A clothing sale to benefit the East Bay Coalition for the Homeless will be held Dec. 17, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., at Burhardt's Limited, 1086 Willett Ave., Riverside, R.I. Refreshments. Call 433-1460.

The Professional Photographers Association of R.I. is holding an exhibit of members' work at the Cranston Public Library from now till Dec. 30. The exhibit is free, and open during library hours; call 943-1905.

"Entering the Circle: Native Traditions in S.E. New England" is a current exhibit at the Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology in Bristol. The exhibit and associated programs will continue through Dec. 31. The focus is on efforts of Native Americans to maintain a balance between their traditional past and the present. Admission is \$2.00, \$1.00 for seniors and children. Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

The Learning Enhancement for Adults Program at the University of Rhode Island's College of Continuing Education, a non-credit course designed to build confidence and polish skills in math, reading and writing, will hold an informational meeting on Dec. 20 at 10 a.m. in Room 209 at URI's College of Continuing Education in Providence; call 277-3898.

The Matzo Ball, the ultimate holiday alternative for single, young professionals who aren't celebrating Christmas, will be held on Dec. 24, starting at 8 p.m. at Avalon, 15 Landsdowne St., Boston, Mass. (617-262-2424), and a similar celebration for those over 25, entitled *The Big Chill*, will be held at Romy, 279 Tremont St., Boston, Mass. (617-227-7699). For admission prices, reservations, and general information, call 617-376-393, or The Boston Event Hotline, 617-576-9775. Both events are sponsored by The Society of Young Jewish Professionals, Inc.

FEATURE

Denying the Holocaust — It Shall Not Happen

by Ray Eichenbaum

Special to the Herald

Most of the people everywhere must be aware by now that dark forces are at work whose aim it is to deny that the European Holocaust took place, or to revise the number of its victims so as to diminish the impact of its meaning.

These sinister groups, on the extreme right and left of the political spectrum, had at first tried to justify by some reason why the slaughter of millions of innocents had occurred. Having failed at that, they have now resorted to outright denial that the mass murder of Jews and other took place in places which are by now household words.

These vicious extremists try to perpetrate their hoax by using scholarly dupes—men who would do anything to obtain celebrity and financial gain. And this is, unfortunately, not so hard

to achieve in today's world, where the scruples and consciences of people are almost always for sale.



The denial of the Holocaust is particularly important to the extreme right political parties which are now coming into existence in the new nations created by the break-up of the Communist monoliths in eastern Europe, namely in the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia.

For these anti-Semites and assorted fascists, the truth about the Holocaust happenings is like a "bone in the throat," since the known excesses and brutalities that these regimes allowed when they were in power, are closely associated with the Hitleristic ways of governing people.

Hence, these people are trying very hard, with a lot of money supporting them from other interested parties, to destroy the stain with which they covered themselves during the cataclysmic years of the Holocaust.

They arrived at the conclusion, and rightly so, that as long as the horrors associated with the Holocaust remain in people's memories and consciousness, their murky ways of demagoguery and antidemocratic means cannot succeed. They'll use lies, distortions, outright fabrications of forged documents, and false testimonies obtained by bribery, to support their malicious claims.

But they shall not succeed. As if by divine intervention on the side of the truth, two factors came into play which dealt a devastating blow to the Holocaust

deniers.

The first was the publication of a great mass of documents which came out of the huge Soviet archives of the K.G.B. after the fall of the Communist regime. These documents provide further, undeniable proof of what transpired during the catastrophe that was the Holocaust.

The second factor is the success story of the recently opened National Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. This magnificent edifice, built right in the midst of great works of architecture dedicated to the greatest heroes of the U.S.A., demonstrates to all corners the tragedy that was the Holocaust, and the lessons that should be learned from this horrible happening. Judging by the attendance, and reviews of its effects on the public thus far, this is exactly what is happening.

We, the Holocaust survivors are uplifted because for now, at least, the attack of the brutal deniers has been repelled, and we hope that such occurrences will not happen again.

But in our collective hearts we know that the enemies of the

truth will strike again in the future, and we hope that righteous people everywhere will know how to rebuff the murderous, vicious liars once again when we are no longer on the scene. For this we fervently pray.

We hope that the truth about the Holocaust shall prevail into the future, and what can be learned from the history of this bloody period of history will be beneficial to people all over the world, forever.

Let the story of the Holocaust be retold to the people of the world and become a part of

(Continued on Next Page)

An Artist's Attic

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

I call him Gus, but he spells it Guus. He says his name with the right Dutch accent. Guus takes my class on the history of cinema "With a Pen of Light." You write your life story with images in a dark room.

Guus grew up in the Hague. His mother was born in the first months after World War II. Her parents had hidden like Anne Frank's family, in the attic of a Christian household. Two other sisters had survived concealed in the attic of other Christian friends. Some Dutch citizens welcomed the Nazis as a Netherlands Nazi Party existed. Some saw themselves as Germanic, part of the greater Teutonic Aryan race and claimed they didn't know about the anti-Jewish part till too late.

Guus takes in the old movies I show about the war, drinks deeply of the bitter aftertaste of this moody past and its values which all decent people share. "But sometimes American sophomores strike me as shallow. At home, all through school we study about World War II, even in grammar school. You look into the lives of your grandparents, what they did, what they lived through. If you fly a flag on some special occasion, you worry about the dangers of too much nationalism. On our Memorial Day you try and summon up respect for the sufferings and sacrifices of the Resistance."

Little by little Guus's family saga unfolds. After a documentary of the duration years called

"Here in Germany" by Lubitsch and Litvak, Guus went on with his history. "My grandmother, early in her pregnancy, dared to go out to shop for food on her bicycle. She took

her life in her hands; it was very risky. And she had to make sure to get back in time for the curfew. Guards patrolled key spots in town. But she couldn't stay cooped up day after day for years. She was a writer and I have the account she kept about that bike ride through the flat open streets of treacherous wartime Holland. She also put together a postwar journal spelling out her memories of that time."

I try to get Guus to set his mind, eye and heart on making his thesis film about his grandparents. Out of a great, wealthy, accomplished Jewish Dutch family on his mother's side, only

those two atticful of poor prisoners got through the war. But they practice Judaism no more. Guus might be accepted as Jewish by religious standards in America or Israel. But he was not reared and raised within its fold.

His non-Jewish father, a man learned in comparative religion but non-believing, teaches Islamic history and culture.

Actually, Guus was born during his dad's "peace corps" stint in Africa, in a Dutch hospital. "I don't know who or what I am. I'm trying to figure it out." Guus hands me a 20-page manuscript titled "On the Meaning of Life."

"My grandfather, a physician, now 87, lost his power and prestige during the confinement of the war. His name was Ossendrijver, oxdriver." We chuckle about the patience, force and dominance the name implies about his character. I look like him, like his side of my roots.

I go back in our chat, over a plain pine coffee table in front of a VCR, on the image of the attic. "What does Freud say about attics as symbols?" Guus answers, "It's where we hide our secret treasures, matters of conscience, heirlooms, the super ego, the past." "Go up the stairs of your ancestors, that's where you'll find your script, your studio to work in. Don't wait till the time leaves like an ebb tide."

"What about your other

grandfather?" I inquire. "My Jewish side I can only go back to before and during the war. My dad's side stretches way into the Middle Ages. But my dad was poorer than my mother's people. During the occupation, my grandfather went to Germany to find work. I don't know what he did. I think maybe he worked in a concentration camp."

The image stunned me and I looked away around the room with its piles of high-tech entertainment equipment. Guus said: "Nobody talks about it. The silence tells the tale."

Who is teaching and who is learning? It's up to me to find Guus. It's up to Guus to put his finger on himself. We're working it out. He's my story with a pen of light.



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OPINIONS

'Peace Without Truth'

by Rabbi Eli Hecht

South African Premier F.W. deKlerk won the prestigious Nobel Peace Prize. His partner is none other than Nelson Mandela, the anti-apartheid leader. What strange bedfellows they make. Imagine, the Nobel Peace Prize going to people who still accuse each other of the most heinous crimes. Selecting such people for the Nobel Peace Prize is nothing short of insanity.

The way Israel and the PLO are acting, it may be that Prime Minister Rabin and Yasser Arafat are more deserving of the Nobel Peace Prize. What they are doing in the name of peace is truly insane. By early next year the PLO movement, which still has a charter to destroy Israel, will be granted statehood, with Jericho its capital. The PLO will be expected to take care of all the Arab problems, from the Gaza Strip to Jerusalem.

Yasser Arafat is accused of stealing more than 500 million dollars from the PLO. He cannot account for the three billion dollars he had a year ago. Now, he is becoming the new Arab spokesman for peace with the Jews. Can you think of anything more absurd?

Originally, Rabin stated he would shake hands with Arafat as soon as Arafat rewrote the PLO Charter, eliminating the clause to destroy Israel, and stopped the Arab embargo. The U.S. agreed that these requests are prerequisites for an agreement. The Arab boycott office has a blacklist of 96 countries.

In the U.S.A. 12,000 firms were asked by the Arab boycott not to deal with the Jewish state. This boycott has cost the Israeli economy 10 percent of their expected exports. With limited seaports and airports open to Israel it cannot have economic growth. The Arab embargo is as strong as ever. Israel has promised to donate 75 million dollars to help the PLO with its plans for self-rule. Percentage-wise, that is the largest amount pledged by any country. Why should Israel do such a thing? Even as Jews and Arabs meet, there is no understanding of where Jericho begins or ends. According to Rabin, Jericho is just a bit over 21 sq. kilometers. The Palestinians believe it encompasses over 300 kilometers! The PLO claims that there will be a return of 800,000 while Israel says they will only grant a return of 300,000. More differences crop up every day.

Imagine, PLO guerrilla fighters who languished in Israeli prisons will be given guns and allowed to join a 12,000 man army to govern Gaza and Jericho. Would you arm your enemy on a promise that he'll behave?

There are leaders in Israel who say they have nothing to lose; if the PLO makes trouble, they will take back the areas. How naïve! Does anybody believe that you can give autonomy to people such as the PLO and then take it back?

A major difference between the Arab countries and Israel is that Israel is a democracy and the only true friend America

has in the Middle East. It has proven itself to the United States for the past 45 years. At the same time the PLO sided with Iraq during the latest major conflict and is still supporting terrorists in Egypt and other countries friendly to the United States.

True, the United States believes in giving peace a chance but, at the same time, the U.S. should not feel Israel into thinking that she will be able to help her. When and if there is a problem between the PLO and Israel, America will be powerless.

To think that the world will not blame Israel if the PLO moderate leadership fights between themselves is foolhardy. Does anyone remember what happened in Lebanon? The Israeli army pulled out of Beirut and the Christian Lebanese army came in and slaughtered hundreds of PLO families and fighters in their refugee camps at Sabra and Shatila. Who was blamed? Israel!

We have heard cries for peace before and we ought to be very prudent. In pre-war World War II it was Chamberlain who said that by trading land for peace there would be no war. "I believe it is peace in our time," Chamberlain said. How wrong he was! Hitler said, after receiving the Sudetan mountains, "I could not be satisfied with the Sudetan territory," and then continued in overrunning and conquering Czechoslovakia. So, we are not sure about the PLO. Today it will be Jericho, tomorrow Jerusalem.

So now we have peace with neither plans, brains nor truth.

How can the world perceive peace talks as honest when Israel is forced to abandon the 125,000 Jewish settlers on the West Bank, give 75 million dollars to build Arab cities, and give arms to its former prisoners, enemies of the state? The feuding within Arafat's Patah organization shows that there is no true leadership. To whom is Israel relinquishing her money, security and land?

There are so many loose ends that the leaders of both sides will soon be forced to accuse each other of the most awful things. And guess what, that may make them eligible for the Noble Peace Prize.

Submitted by Rabbi Yehoshua Laufer. Printed with permission of L'Chaim publications.

Denying the Holocaust

(Continued from Previous Page)

human consciousness concerning genocide. By this means we shall keep the fascist and anti-Semites at bay.

And perhaps, in the distant future, when the dark forces that dwell in mankind no longer persist in spreading vicious lies about the Holocaust, the story of this human drama will recede into history to become a legend which will still warn humans against their brutal, primitive inclinations.

Perhaps the A-mighty will be kind and let us, the survivors of this great tragedy of mankind, live out our years with the truth about the Holocaust intact.

Here's What I Think

by Rabbi Hershy Worch
Special to the Herald



Who's In Charge Here?

The people making decisions which affect our lives and death are, more often than not, confused about their obligations, and without much due to those interests they represent. They don't properly understand the dynamics of charity.

Here's an academic question for you.

When a person is entrusted with the task of disbursing charity funds, who is he representing:

- the donors, who give him the money?
- the public, the Jewish community who appoint him?
- the needy, who will receive it eventually?

Jewish law is very specific. Once you have given money to the trustee, you have given charity. "For his hand is like the poor man's hand."

If the trustee were now the owner of large temporary, no act of charity would have taken place. No funds in his possession are in the hands of the poor. Therefore, if someone were to steal the money from him, he could sue the thief in court, the thief could not claim, "Let the real owners of the money come and sue me."

It is as though he the trustee is the body of poor people. Remember this point for it has far-reaching ramifications. We, in modern America, have become so accustomed to the concept of a legal entity known as "The Corporation," we forget that it is a legal fiction designed to ease the government of large business enterprises and their liabilities under law.

In Jewish law there may be institutions, partnership, responsibilities and accountabilities, but there are no corporations except those of physical bodies. Estates always belong to people, living or dead. Here's another academic question for you. Who owns the building, plant, assets and endowment of the Rhode Island Jewish Home.

- (a) donors?
 - (b) the trustees?
 - (c) The corporation?
 - (d) the residents?
 - (e) the needy?
- If I answer, "the residents," you will argue, "But hey, there are no residents."
- If I answer, "the needy," you will argue, "But hey, they may, or may not exist at the present time. Perhaps no one needs the Jewish Home." (Don't forget you've also been arguing that the home is inadequate to the housing of the elderly.)

Reminds me of a story... In

Cracow, ancient capital of Poland, in the year 1565, a man died leaving an unusual bequest in his will.

"Let my money endow 10 children with scholarships to learn Torah without interruption for 50 years after my death."

Now the trustees and executives of the Jewish Federation in Cracow brought the case to court, demanding the heirs be enjoined to fulfill their obligations, implementing the terms of their father's will.

The heirs for their part retorted, "Who invited you into our affairs? Who are you? By what authority do you contest our inheritance? Did our father make you executors? Are you the teachers or children who would learn Torah?"

The case came before Rabbi Moses Isserles, chief rabbi of Cracow, author of the famed glosses on the Shulchan Aruch and Tur Codes, ultimate authority on all Ashkenazi law to this day.

His final ruling on the matter is skill fresh: "Accounts payable to the poor of this city may be sued for in a court of law. Such funds are considered to have proper owners though the amount was never clearly specified. The federation executives are acting on the clear understanding that their name is that of the poor. Indeed they may, if they wish, force the liquidation of assets to collect such pledges."

In terms of precedence hostages must be ransomed before feeding the starving. Women must be ransomed, fed or clothed before men.

Dowries for orphan girls take priority over orphan boys.

Torah scholars and the wives before boys.

One's parents before one's children, before one's family before one's neighbors. Before sending money out of town, the needs of local poor must be taken care of.

The lists of precedences on and on. As I mentioned, law is complex with exception to every rule. (e.g. When men and female hostages are sexually abused, the men are ransomed first.)

Things can get complicated. Who ought to be saved first — your mother, father or your brother? What if your father — bigger scholar than your rabbi? But what if your rabbi is also Cohen? See what I mean?

Call your local federation rectifier / trustee / executive tell them to get with it.

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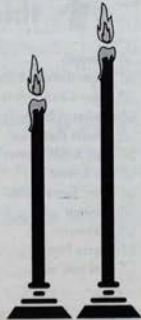
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Candlelighting

December 17
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OPINIONS

The Benefits of Peace

To the Editor:

We, the Embassy of Israel, would like to share some thoughts on the recent budgetary initiatives in Israel which indicate that benefits from the peace process are already visible.

Prime Minister Rabin's determination to make progress in the peace process goes hand in hand with the government of Israel's commitment to re-order national priorities and redirect resources. A clear expression of this commitment is the significant reduction in spending on settlements in the West Bank and Gaza.

By increasing investment in advanced infrastructure, cutting-edge research and development, the absorption of immigrants, and the education of a new generation, Israel is preparing itself to meet the challenges and demands of the 21st century.

As reflected in the 1994 budget, the government's focus has been in the following four areas:

1. Education

The 1994 budgetary allocation for education has risen by more than 700 million dollars, a real growth of 25 percent as compared to 1993.

2. Increased Investment in Infrastructure

In 1994, the high level of government investment in physical infrastructure — highways, electricity, sewage, and water systems — will continue to grow. The figure for 1994 represents a 15 percent increase as compared with 1993, and a 100 percent increase over 1990.

3. Research and Development

The 1994 budgetary expenditure on R&D stands at 300 million dollars, an increase of approximately 100 million dollars over the previous year.

4. Absorption

Since the end of 1989, more than 550,000 immigrants have come to Israel, the overwhelming majority from the former Soviet Union. In light of the continuing instability in that region, it is predicted that more

Letters to the EDITOR



than 100,000 immigrants will arrive at Israel's shores in 1994. To meet this influx, Israel has allotted more than 3 billion dollars in the 1994 budget. This figure represents an increase of more than 300 million dollars as compared with the previous year. Of Soviet newcomers, more than 50 percent are scientists, engineers, and academics.

Amnon Neubach
Minister for Economics Affairs

Questions for Trustees

To the Editor:

Let's see if I've got this straight. According to an article by Richard C. Dujardin, in the Dec. 1 issue of the *Providence Journal Bulletin*, the lawyers for the trustees of the Jewish Home insist they should not be bound by the "higher standards" expected of trustees of charitable trusts but rather to the less vigorous standards of performance of directors of non-profit corporations. That's funny. I thought the Jewish Home was to be held to "higher standards." It had/had something to do with a commandment.

I've had relatives in four nursing homes in the last two years. Only at the Jewish Home could one see smiles on faces, and fingers tapping to Yiddish and Hebrew music. Only at the Jewish Home did the residents feel comfortable displaying their Judaism by wearing a yarmulke or going to the chapel.

And now the Jewish community, through the auspices of the corporation, will innovate new ways of servicing the religious needs of the elderly Jews in their new locations.

What a laugh! What a shame!

Stanley L. Freedman

Jewish Community Thrives in Peru

To the Editor:

When I came to RISD two years ago none of my friends could understand that I was a Peruvian Jew. I had never thought about it before because I grew up in the Jewish community and all my friends had the same background.

It was very hard to explain that I do not have any Peruvian blood. I am 100 percent Jewish, but I was born and raised in Peru. Jews immigrated to other countries besides the United States and although the community in Peru is very small (about 2,500 people) it is very active.

My grandparents got to Peru before World War II started in Europe, from different places and with very different social backgrounds.

First came my father's father to a little town south of Lima. His family was from Aleppo, a town in Syria, but my grandfather was actually born on his way to Peru.

Then came my mother's father from Rumania. He was very young and did not have any money. He planned to work and little by little to bring the rest of his family. He sold ties in downtown Lima, but he was never able to bring his family over because the war started.

He thought they had died, but some 10 years ago he found out that they were still alive, so he helped them get to Israel.

My mother's mother came to

Peru in a very different situation. She came with her whole family from Poland and had enough money to go to a good school and even to the university.

Finally my father's mother came to Peru when she was ready to get married, since her marriage had been arranged by her family. She tried to run away by she didn't get very far. Her father stayed in England and did not have a lot of money, so she was sent to her rich cousin in Peru.

Both my parents were born in Peru and we all feel that is the place where we belong. I am also very Jewish, so I guess if anyone says, "You are a Peruvian Jew" I will have to tell this story all over again.

Andrea Chrem

Tribute to the J.E.R.I.

To the Editor:

Though it was necessary to close the Jewish Home, and though it was sad to see the end of an era of service, the community should be aware that the Jewish elderly have not been forgotten, nor has the organized Jewish community turned its back on its obligations to care and to be concerned with the quality of life of not only former residents of the Jewish Home but also for all Jewish clients in all nursing homes throughout the state.

Bonnie Ryckiver has assumed the enormous task of changing this wonderful and enthusiastic band of more than 70 volunteers who travel from home to home, visiting the residents, talking to the families, bringing Shabbat and Yom Tov with them.

All of the community agencies are involved: JERI's headquarters are in the Jewish Com-

munity Center; the Bureau of Jewish Education has published material that is shared with home administrators to educate them to the needs of Jewish clients; and Jewish Family Service is also available to oversee many projects and functions involved with these precious citizens. The Board of Rabbis and the day schools are also involved.

The federation's allocation to the home is being utilized to fund the services necessary for a quality lifestyle. These funds are therefore being used productively to provide human services rather than trying to keep an edifice from collapsing.

The R.I. Jewish community has never shirked its responsibilities nor ignored the needs of all of its citizens young and old. Please let us have some objective reporting so that your readers will know the entire story.

Selma Stanzler

Jewish Videos? Yes!

Ergo Media is the world's largest publisher of Jewish videos. The company offers over 130 videos on all facets of Jewish life.

There are films about Jewish cooking and Yiddish music, interviews with Isaac Bashevis Singer and a tour of the Bar Kochba Caves, dramatizations of children's stories and very adult films.

Most of the videos are priced at \$39.95, although some are a little less expensive, and a few are about \$80.00.

The press releases say the videos may be found at local video and Judaica stores, but random calling in this area by a member of the *Herald* staff did not produce positive results. Your best bet might be to order the Ergo Media catalog by calling 1-800-695-3746, or by writing them at P.O. Box 2037, Teaneck, N.J. 07666. The catalog is free.

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WORLD AND NATIONAL NEWS



INTERNATIONAL

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Last week's visit by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher may have helped change the atmosphere between Syria and Israel, but it is far too soon to talk about breakthroughs, observers say. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin lauded as significant Syria's decision to allow a U.S. congressional delegation to investigate the fate of Israel's missing servicemen, who are believed to be in Lebanon. The prime minister also welcomed Syria's agreement to grant exit visas to Syrian Jews.

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin is pressing ahead with the peace process despite mounting violence that left five Israelis dead in less than a week. Rabin told reporters he was sure the purpose of the killers was to kill the peace process. "They have just one goal," he said. "To create a chain of events that will bring the negotiations to an end." Some 18 Israelis and 34 Palestinians have been killed since Israel and the PLO signed their accord on Sept. 13.

JERUSALEM (JTA) — A regional group of health-care professionals and policy-makers is trying to bridge political differences to improve hospital care in the Middle East. Palestinians and Egyptians joined Israelis at an international conference last week under the auspices of the Alumni Association of Harvard University's Institute for Social and Economic Policy in the Middle East.



Airman's Wife

Tami Arad, wife of captive Israeli airman Ron Arad, addresses a Plenary session of the Council of Jewish Federation in Montreal recently. Ron Arad was shot down over Lebanon seven years ago and is believed to be held by pro-Iranian forces.

Photo by Robert Cumins

Oldest Fortress Found

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Archaeologists have uncovered what they believe is the oldest fortress wall ever found anywhere, the Antiquities Authority has announced.

According to archaeologist Eli Yana, an 83-foot-long wall unearthed near Hadera in more than 5,000 years old, but some experts estimate the wall to be as old as 7,000 years.

The remains of the wall came to light during construction to widen a road that runs through the Wadi Ara valley of the southern Carmel range, south of Haifa. Along with the wall, which is 3.6 feet tall, a watchtower was uncovered at the

site. The wall originally surrounded a 200-acre site. Also found at the site were the skeletons of a young couple clasping each other and the house of a well-to-do family in which a rare copper axe was found.

The Carmel range has proved to be a rich source of prehistoric sites. In its caves have been found remains identified as "Carmel Man," among the oldest skeletons in the world. Fields of wild wheat, the genetic ancestor of all modern grains, are still found in the area.

Along the coastline near Haifa, remains of ancient prehistoric agricultural and fishing settlements have been discovered on the shore or under the sea.

Chagall Exhibits in Israel

Seven virtually unknown Chagall murals, together with 50 early works, are on exhibit at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem.

The murals came from the State Jewish Chamber Theatre in Moscow where Chagall was commissioned to paint sets and costumes for Moscow's Jewish Theatre in the 1920s.

A new exhibition of more than 60 Chagall drawings is on display at the Mane Katz Museum in Haifa.

Rina Wolfgang

(Continued from page 1)

lation in the community is on the increase...

"It is simply a fact that people don't consider that there are Jews and many other religions and races living in South County besides Christians.

"Sometimes, this attitude can become rather trying. The Christmas season is particularly difficult. Many local businesses do make an effort to decorate their stores in a more sensitive way, by hanging 'Season's Greetings' signs and 'Happy Chanukah' signs beside the 'Merry Christmas' signs. However there are those businesses that show no sensitivity whatsoever to the population that does not celebrate Christmas.

"Certainly, as Jews, we have made a conscious choice to live in South County. We realize that we are the minority, and it is understandable that the majority would have a strong influence on our community. However, this does not mean that we cannot be sensitive to one another. We can learn to respect each other's practices and way of life, so that we can co-exist in this society."

In addition to casual insensitivity, Wolfgang says there have been incidents of overt anti-Semitism both on and off the university campus, in spite of the efforts of a president dedicated to diversity, and an emphasis on sensitivity and tolerance on the campus.

On Dec. 10, a response to her

Pollard Appeal

NEW YORK (JTA) — When senior Clinton administration officials would meet with Jewish organizational leaders in recent months, a question was often put to the Jews: What is the sentiment in the community concerning Jonathan Pollard?

It was an important question for President Clinton, who was trying to decide whether to grant a request for clemency for Pollard, the former civilian naval analyst imprisoned for 8 years, who has been serving a life sentence for spying on behalf of Israel.

Little surprise, then, that unnamed White House officials told *The New York Times* this week that Clinton wanted to hear from American Jews on the issue.

The article indicated that Clinton is leaning against commutation of Pollard's sentence.

The River Jordan

In winter, the Jordan River swells with water, most of which comes from the melting snow of Mount Hermon. The Hebrew name for the river, Yarden, is comprised of two words: yored, "descending (from)," and Dan, the Jordan's largest tributary, which emerges near the base of the mountain.

From Israel Government Tourist Office newsletter.

Night Fell

by Niles Welch

When night fell,
day over
sunset faded;
Pale moon gleamed
lighting up
Heaven's face.

article appeared in the *Narragansett Times* that was so vitriolic it shocked her. Apparently it shocked other members of the community also, because many of her Christian friends and acquaintances have called to say how much they deplored the attack.

The letter, written by William I. Tyler of Narragansett, says, among other things, "The self-centered, narrow vision approach to her discomfort is readily alleviated by abiding to the age-old concept, 'When in Rome, do as the Romans.'"

"Her total fantasy is based upon (ethnic) eternal thrust to dominate! And, therein lies their unfortunate path to diaspora, pogroms and eventual Holocaust.

"Her 'pain'... can be readily assuaged—Emigrate to Israel!"

Wolfgang says, "There has to be a response (to such anti-Semitism), not only from the Jewish community but also from the Christian community." In fact, she thinks strong rebuttal from Christian leaders and clergy may be the most effective way to squelch this type of intolerance. And education. "We must start with the children," she says.



INTERNATIONAL

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Rabbi Avraham Toledano, a former leader of the right-wing Kach movement, has been charged in Tel Aviv District Court with importing weapons from the United States and attempting to manufacture arms. Toledano was arrested late last month at Ben-Gurion Airport after customs officers found about \$50,000 cash in his luggage, as well as radio scanners, bomb fuses, detonators and instructions on how to use explosives. Police reportedly believed that Toledano, a resident of the West Bank town of Kiryat Arba, was planning to attack Palestinians with the weapons.

BERLIN (JTA) — A neo-Nazi film, supported with subsidies from several German state governments, has provoked a swarm of controversy as viewers say director Winfried Bonengel allows neo-Nazi Bela Althaus to rave on about Auschwitz without any opposition. The film, "Profession: Neo-Nazi," was withdrawn from distribution after it received pressure last week from its sponsors.

PRAGUE (JTA) — A bill before Parliament providing for the partial return of confiscated Jewish property faces no open opposition by any Czech political party, but its fate remains uncertain, according to Jiri Danicek, the president of the Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic.

Lawrence M. Halperin on All-American Team

LOS ANGELES — Lawrence M. Halperin, President of the Warwick office of Halperin & Lax, Ltd., has been named to the All-American Team of The American Funds Group of mutual funds. Mr. Halperin was cited for outstanding service to investors in the Rhode Island area and for excellence in financial counseling in mutual fund investments and variable annuity contracts.

Mr. Halperin has been with Halperin & Lax, Ltd. since 1983. He has been in the financial services field for 26 years. In addition, he is a 25-year qualifying member of the Million Dollar Round Table and a recipient of the National Quality Award as well as the Sales Achievement Award. Mr. Halperin is also a National Sales Leader for Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company and Penn Mutual Equity Services, Inc.

Mr. Halperin lives in Warwick, R.I., with his wife, Debbie, and their children.

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WORLD AND NATIONAL NEWS



NATIONAL

WASHINGTON (JTA) — A memorial to a Romanian Nazi collaborator has been erected near Bucharest to the dismay of Jewish groups, who fear the emergence of a wave of anti-Semitism in Romania. At least one statue of wartime despot Ion Antonescu has been seen near the capital in recent weeks. During Antonescu's dictatorial rule, from 1940 to 1944, more than 250,000 Jews died in territories controlled by Romania.

NEW YORK (JTA) — Bombings aimed at advocates of minority groups, including the pro-Jewish mayor of Vienna, have raised concern in Austria about the rise of anti-immigrant sentiment. At least 10 letter bombs have been sent, and Austrian authorities believe neo-Nazis are behind the attack.

NEW YORK (JTA) — A Syrian pledge to grant exit visas to Syrian Jews is being greeted with pleasure but also with a good deal of skepticism by American Jewish groups. Syrian President Hafez Assad has promised that the roughly 1,200 Jews remaining in Syria will be allowed to travel by the end of the month. U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said after meeting with Assad in Damascus on Sunday.

WASHINGTON (JTA) — News that President Clinton will meet next month with Syrian leader Hafez Assad has caused concern among some in the Jewish community here. But others are taking a position similar to that of the Clinton administration, which views a meeting with Assad as furthering a comprehensive peace settlement in the region.

NEW YORK (JTA) — Greece will throw its full support behind the Middle East peace process when it assumes the presidency of the European Community next month, Deputy Foreign Minister George Papandreu said at a meeting here last week.

SAN FRANCISCO (JTA) — In an effort to improve its reputation within the American Jewish community, Amnesty International has begun to meet with mainstream Jewish groups. For years, the international human rights organization has been criticized for giving far more coverage to Israel in its reports of human rights abuses than to countries such as Syria.

Have an opinion?
Express it in a letter to
THE HERALD.

Kaplan Foundation Essay Contest

NEW YORK (JTA) — The Morris J. and Betty Kaplan Foundation is sponsoring its third annual Essay Contest for young people between the ages of 12 and 17.

Level 1 contestants, who must be between the ages of 12 and 14, have as their essay topic, "Growing Up Jewish: Is it Different? What makes it Special?"

The second topic, for level 2 contestants between 15 and 17 years old, is "What is Jewish Identity and How Does One Maintain a Jewish Identity in a Non-Jewish World?"

The essays are to be typed double-spaced and should have a maximum of 1,000 words for level 1 and 1,500 words for level 2.

The contestant's name, address, phone number and date of birth should appear on the top right of page 1 of their essay.

The contestant's name, along with the page number, should appear at the top right of all subsequent pages.

Entries must be postmarked by Jan. 14, 1994. Finalists will be notified by April 30, 1994.

The first prize for each level is \$1,800, with five additional prizes of \$750 each.

The first 100 essays submitted for both level 1 and level 2 will also receive \$18 each.

Prizes will be awarded by June 15, 1994.

Mail entries to: Morris J. and Betty Kaplan Foundation, Inc., Essay Contest Committee, P.O. Box 234428, Great Neck, N.Y. 11023.

Anti-Semitism Rising in Japan

Anti-Semitic stereotypes still persist in today's Japan. This was the assessment of Rabbi Abraham Cooper, Associate Dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center following the week-long meetings in Tokyo with leaders of the Japanese government and media.

A Wiesenthal Center visit to Japan was prompted by a recent upsurge of anti-Semitic publications in Japan. "Unfortunately, the stereotypes of the conspiratorial Jew seeking domination over Japan and the world still sells books and magazines," Rabbi Cooper noted. "Indeed a brand new translation of Henry Ford's *The International Jew* is a bestseller in Tokyo's leading book shops.

"On the positive side, we received assurances from the *Nikkai Shimbun* and *Yomiuri Shimbun* that they will no longer run advertisements promoting anti-Semitic works. Perhaps of equal significance is the commitment on the part of the Japanese Newspaper Publishers and Editors Association to take steps to bar such advertising from any of their publications in the future," he said.

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Mayoral Welcome

New York City Mayor-elect Rudy Giuliani (right) joined the senior rabbi of Park East Synagogue of Manhattan in welcoming Rabbi Israel Meir Lau (left), newly-elected chief Ashkenazi rabbi of Israel, on his recent visit to the Big Apple.

Photo by David Karp

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Digging Diplomat

The Turkish Foreign Minister in Jerusalem Hikmet Cetin plants a tree in the Jewish National Fund Peace Forest in Jerusalem to mark normalization of relations between Turkey and Israel.

Photo courtesy of Jewish National Fund.

Moskovits Honored

BUDAPEST — On Nov. 17 the Hungarian government awarded the Budapest Prize to David Moskovits of New York. The prize is bestowed on those making major contributions to democracy, freedom, and education in Hungary.

Mr. Moskovits is particularly being honored for his key role in founding and guiding, without compensation, the progress of the American Endowment School (AES), a unique Budapest primary and secondary school. AES is the first parochial school to receive recognition for achievement

and the first time a school teaching Judaic subjects has received this award.

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FEATURE

Jewish Peace Corps Sending Jews to Third World

by Leslie Katz

Jewish Bulletin of Northern California
SAN FRANCISCO (JTA) — Jews have served in the Peace Corps for decades. But until now, they have lacked a specifically Jewish context for aiding the developing world.

The newly established Jewish Volunteer Corps sends American Jews on volunteer stints in Third World countries. Upon their return, the volunteers will be encouraged to share their experiences with the Jewish community.

It is hoped this will "help the Jewish community here understand the difficulties of the Third World; make them understand that we're all linked with these people and that it's our responsibility to reach out," said David Blumberg a co-chair of the local JVC committee.

The JVC is in its pilot phase and is seeking an initial group of volunteers willing to share their professional skills in such countries as Mexico, Honduras, Colombia, Guatemala, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Senegal and South Africa.

They will work in those places for periods ranging from one month to one year, contributing time and knowledge to a variety of projects already supported by the American Jewish World Service, an international development and relief organization.

They might build schools in the tangled jungles of Central America, inoculate African children against the ravages of

cholera or help a group of struggling South American farmers write grants for updated farm equipment.

The program already has gained wide support from Jewish leaders. Its rabbinic advisory committee, chaired by Rabbi Albert Vorspan, senior vice president emeritus of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, includes three local rabbis.

Though volunteers of any age can apply, the program seeks people with professional skills in specific areas.

To work in primary care medicine, the JVC needs pediatricians, general practitioners,

public health nurses, midwives and nutritionists.

People with business consulting and marketing experience are sought to teach and assist cooperatives in managing finances, developing computer database systems and marketing products.

Engineers are sought to help design and build in remote Third World areas. The JVC also seeks writers and administrators to help groups write, edit and translate proposals for funding.

Though the program is aimed at professionals, the JVC will consider well-qualified students.

Most JVC volunteers will find themselves in remote areas of the world where residents know little if anything of Jews. It is hoped, therefore, that volunteers will serve as ambassadors of sorts.

"We will be training people before they go to deal with local customs and also how to explain what a Jew and Jewish culture is," Blumberg said.

"There will be no missionary activity, but certainly (an attempt to) present a positive image."

Information regarding the Jewish Volunteer Corps can be obtained by calling (415) 824-4396.

Vinacco Has Great Moves

by Jeff Goldberg
Special to The Herald

I really had a good time doing this interview. What a low key, unaffected person Brian Vinacco is. He had just returned from New Orleans, Louisiana, from an international Kenpo karate tournament.

Not only did he represent Rhode Island, he came home as a World Champion in the amateur karate world championships. Vinacco is the son of Mike and Francine (Abrams) Vinacco, the brother of Lori, and the grandson of Estelle Abrams, Phillip Abrams, and Evelyn Vinacco.

Vinacco became involved with Kenpo karate at age 13. He had a paper route, and one of his stops was at the home of Michael Burton. Vinacco got interested in watching Mike go through the steps in his workout and began to ask about Kenpo.

His interest paid off when Burton became Vinacco's sensei. Under his tutelage, Vinacco began to bring this artform to new personal heights.

Kenpo is a combination of circular blocks, direct strikes, sweeping, grabbing, throwing, and joint-locking techniques.

Vinacco trains three days a week up to 2 hours at a time. He spars, and goes over moves again and again to finely tune his attack, while building discipline, respect, and confidence. In 1990 he took first place at the Ocean State Grand Nationals held at Rocky Point. He won in the sparring division.

The competition in New Orleans was international. Besides the United States, 11 foreign countries were present. These included Guatemala, El Salvador, Germany, Mexico, Canada, and England to name a few. Vinacco beat out his competition in the amateur under black belt class, self-defense division.

There were 20 other students representing New England Kenpo Karate. Vinacco's mentor, Burton, took first place (black belt) making him a world champion in his division. Jeff Hall took two first places in weapons forms and empty hand forms.

Vinacco says he owes his success to his three senseis, Mike Burton, Donna Burton, and Edward McGovern. Their guidance and instruction have helped him attain new heights. He has his sights set on gaining his black belt and someday having students of his own.

In the meantime, Vinacco has become a disk jockey under the name of Musically Yours. When he isn't working on his karate moves, he will be entertaining you with his music. I'm sure he gets a kick out of both. This Warwick Vets grad has only just begun.



Greta and Fans

Greta, new canine addition to the family and the subject of Mike Fink's column in last week's *Jewish Herald*, receives the adoration of Mike and his family.

Many Thanks to Goldberg

The *Herald* wishes to thank Jeff Goldberg for his dedicated coverage of the facts and fig-

ures of the Beth-El Bowling League.

In an effort to provide wider sports coverage, Taylor Hol-

land, *Herald* reporter, will be out there interviewing local Jewish sports figures and following promising teams in every sport.

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ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Galaxy of Factors Propel Spielberg To Take Risk, Film 'Schindler's'

by Tom Tugend

LOS ANGELES (JTA) — Steven Spielberg, just past his 46th birthday, is the most successful filmmaker in the history of motion pictures.

Four of the films he directed are among the all-time top 10 hits. His "Jurassic Park" is the highest-grossing film ever, with his "E.T." in second.

Spielberg's latest movie, "Schindler's List," represents a radical change and a calculated risk.

Based on the book by Thomas Keneally, the film tells the story of Oskar Schindler, a veteran Nazi party member who came to Krakow shortly after the German conquest of Poland in 1939 to make his fortune as a free-wheeling entrepreneur.

Schindler employed 1,100 Jews in his enamelware factory and, at some point, the hard-drinking, womanizing, black market-dealing German Catholic decided to use his fortune and risk his neck to save every one of his "Schindlerjuden" from certain death in the nearby Auschwitz extermination camp.

His motives remain a mystery.

"I was always trying to discover through the survivors who knew him, who saw him, who were saved by him, why he did this," Spielberg said in an interview. "And most of the survivors said, 'We don't know why he did this. We only know that he did.'"

Filmed in black and white, the movie has the feel of a documentary and includes some of the most graphic Holocaust scenes ever shown in a Hollywood picture.

The director first thought about making "Schindler's List" in 1982, but he did not make the movie until 1993, when it overlapped with the production of "Jurassic Park" by three months.

"I could have been much easier and kinder to myself and my family by simply waiting until January '94 to start 'Schindler's List,' but I had just seen too many things on television that horrified myself and my wife," Spielberg said.

"What was happening in Bosnia — it was so familiar and it was so much a part of what I thought could never possibly happen again," he said. "And I just felt that sooner rather than later, a movie like this should come out and at least stir the pot."

When Spielberg was 3 and living in Cincinnati, he learned to read numbers from an Auschwitz survivor by using the concentration camp numbers on the man's forearm. The survivor enlivened the lesson with a flip of his arm and magically changed a 9 into a 6.

"I had a familiarity as a sec-

tor make a donation to a Holocaust museum and save the distributor grief.

Instead, the suggestion added to his motivation to make the film. "I felt that was a message," he said. "That was sort of a very, very quiet message to be passed on to me, which kind of capped my resolve to make the movie immediately."

The birth of Spielberg's son in 1985 led him to re-examine Judaism and to a road that also led to "Schindler's List."

"When I began to read books to him, I had to make a choice," he said. "Do I read books about Santa Claus or do I read books about Moses and Abraham and Isaac?"

"I made a very strong choice to raise him Jewish with my first wife, Amy Irving, who was half-Jewish."

Spielberg's second wife, Kate Capshaw, converted to Judaism.

Her conversion was a beautiful experience for all of us because I studied along with her," the director said. "She studied and I was the beneficiary of everything that she was learning that I had forgotten."

"I re-emerged (to Judaism), I would say, through the birth of my children and through a decision I had to make about how I was going to raise them."

"I think that's what led me, that and events around the world, very naturally, and I think in a very smooth way, to the decision to make 'Schindler's List,'" he said.

When Spielberg began to look for movies to inspire him as he prepared to tell Oskar Schindler's story, he could not find any.

"But they did not produce movies of the Jewish race, religion or culture or tradition. I also understood that they did struggle between the Jewish culture and race and the American culture and race, and they chose being American with fiercer determination. And all I can say is that it's reflected in their choices of movies they didn't make."

To prepare himself for "Schindler's List," the director turned to documentaries that chronicled the Holocaust.

"Documentaries were my only source of inspiration, because Hollywood flees from subjects like this," he said. "They always have and they still do."

Spielberg's \$23 million film premiered Wednesday in 12 American and Canadian cities.

"I hope that people will say, 'Yes, I've heard of the Holocaust but I never knew anything about the Holocaust and now, maybe, I know more than I wanted to, but I feel I need to tell my children,'" he said. Spielberg also hopes people

(Continued on Page 20)

"I re-emerged (to Judaism), I would say, through the birth of my children and through a decision I had to make about how I was going to raise them."

Steven Spielberg

onhand witness to the Holocaust from my family, who kept the memories of those years alive. It was something I grew up with," Spielberg said.

"I recollect a lot of stories, mainly from my grandparents, who had come from Austria and Russia. They suffered heavy losses on both sides, relatives, cousins, aunts, who were all in Eastern Europe and never came out alive."

The director also experienced anti-Semitism as a teen-ager in an affluent part of northern California.

"I was physically abused. I was beaten up," he said. "At one point it became so bad that I had to stop going to physical education because most of the abuse happened there. And that's when I was struck many times and knocked down."

"I mean I am not feeling sorry for myself when I say this, it was just an experience I wasn't prepared for," he said.

When Spielberg proposed making this film, a studio executive suggested that the direc-

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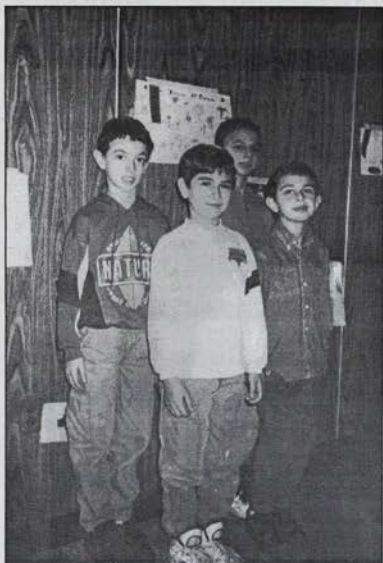
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CHANUKAH GREETINGS

Portraits of the Artists



THE AWARD-WINNING BROTHERS KONOFF—The Konooff boys, perennial winners in the Chanukah Art Contest, all managed to win a prize this year. Seth took second place and Joshua third in the 10-13 age group; Benjamin won second and Daniel honorable mention in the 7-9 age group.



William Hirschon, second place winner in the 6 and under age group.



Shlomo Friedman, third place winner in the 6 and under age group.



Ari Heckman, first place winner in the 10-13 age group.

Everyone Was a Winner

by Alison Smith
Herald Co-Editor
The Jewish Herald sponsored a party Dec. 9 in honor of all the youngsters who contributed to our Chanukah art contest.

The party was held at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island from 3:30 to 5 p.m.

The walls of the auditorium were decorated with rows and rows of the pictures submitted.

Winners posed with their artwork for the Jewish Herald photographer. Cookies and juice circulated freely, and younger brothers and sisters also circulated fairly freely.

The staff of the Jewish Herald and our panel of judges, were constantly impressed by the imagination, skill and understanding of the meaning of the holiday displayed in the artwork.

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CHANUKAH GREETINGS

Herald Chanukah Art Contest Winners



Esther Perel Krauss took first place honors in the 6 and under age group.



Shayna Hersh, third place, ages 7-9.



Danny Newman won first place in the 7-9 age group. His "pop-up" Chanukah history book was a favorite with the judges.



Rachael Blackman, honorable mention, ages 10-13.

Hirschon; third to Shlomo Friedman.

The *Jewish Herald* is rewriting its contest rules to avoid further confusion.

Art Contest Confusion!

Unfortunately the *Jewish Herald* received incorrect information about the ages of several art contest entrants, and announced that Sara Scharf had won a first prize in the wrong age category.

The *Jewish Herald* apologizes to Sara, and has awarded her an honorable mention, in an effort to compensate for this error. First prize in the class involved goes to Ester Perel Krauss; second to William

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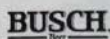
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Sportscaster Honored

WJAR sportscaster Frank Carpano receives a Touro mug from Touro Fraternal Association Membership Chairman Robert Miller at the annual new member open house.

Photo courtesy of Touro Synagogue

Meredith Danielle Glick

Stanley and Cheryl (Levin) Glick of 29 Brookview Drive, Cranston, announce the birth of their first daughter, Meredith Danielle, on Nov. 29.

Meredith's maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Norman I. Levin of Warwick, her paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Herbert S. Glick of

Cranston.

Her great-grandparents are the late Mr. and Mrs. Charles Levin and Mrs. Fanny Hassenfeld, and Mrs. Edith Linder and the late David Linder, and the late Mr. and Mrs. Henry Glick.

Meredith Danielle is named in loving memory for her maternal great-grandmother, Mildred Levin, and her paternal great-grandfather, David Linder.

Youth Fellowship Applications Available

ALBANY, N.Y. — Applications are now available for the 1994 Bronfman Youth Fellowships in Israel.

The fellowships, now in their eighth year, offer an opportunity for 25 students entering their 12th grade of high school to spend five weeks in Israel this summer.

Fellows will be chosen on the basis of character, intellectual interests, special talents and leadership qualities. In the competitive selection process, merit, not financial need, is the standard for selection.

While living in Jerusalem, the Bronfman fellows participate in seminars and dialogues with a diverse rabbinic faculty, representing a wide range of Jewish perspectives. They explore Jewish text against the background of Israel's land, culture and customs.

In addition, fellows will meet with some of Israel's prominent political and literary figures to examine contemporary issues in light of Jewish history and tradition.

The Bronfman Youth Fellowships in Israel is a program of The Samuel Bronfman Foundation, Inc., of which Edgar M. Bronfman is chairman.

In explaining the purpose of the fellowships, Mr. Bronfman said, "Our hope is to open lines of communication among a group of outstanding young people on the major issues con-

fronting the Jewish people in all its diversity. In that process, we believe, they will discover that there is a common Jewish agenda that transcends the differences among them."

Rabbi Avi Weinstein, the program's executive director, leads a team of rabbis who represent various branches of Judaism and who serve as the education faculty.

"Although Israel provides an inspirational setting, dialogue between faculty and fellows is the heart of the program," said Rabbi Weinstein, former Orthodox chaplain of Harvard University.

In addition to Rabbi Weinstein, the fellowship's rotating faculty have included: Rabbi Sharon Cohen-Anisfeld, associate director of Yale Hillel; Rabbi Ed Feld, former Hillel di-

(Continued on Page 15)

JWV Leader Condemns Rise of Neo-Nazism on Public Airwaves

WASHINGTON, D.C. — "The proliferation of neo-Nazism, racism and virulent anti-Semitism over public airwaves, is repulsive to a civilized society, and must be curtailed," forcefully declared Edward D. Blatt, National Commander of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. (JWV).

The Commander's comments follows a report that hate

groups in America are now openly using cable television, computers, the phone system and other electronic mediums to recruit members and vent their views. "This disturbing trend endangers our whole society," Mr. Blatt said. "Unmonitored hate programming can have severe consequences on this nation, and only heighten tensions between religions and races."



Touro Honoree

Mordechai Arbel is joined by David Bazarsky and Bernard Kusnitz at the Touro Synagogue as he receives the Touro National Heritage Trust Fellowship, an annual award made through the John Carter Brown Library.

Photo courtesy of Touro Synagogue

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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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Correction

The photo caption on page 6 of last week's Chanukah Issue contains a couple of errors. Daniel Konoff was the winner of the honorable mention prize in the 7 to 9 age group. Daniel is 8 years old, not 11. Rachael Blackman was the honorable mention winner in the 10 to 13 age group.



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Hadassah Group

Pawtucket Hadassah Group's paid-up dinner committee are (l-r) Barbara Hecker, Linda Sine, Ester Alter, guest speaker Ann Grant and Miriam Plitt.

Photo courtesy Hadassah News

Second Thoughts on Seeking Converts

by Jacob Stein

At the recent convention of the Reform movement's Union of American Hebrew Congregations in San Francisco, the 4,000 delegates heard their president, Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler, suggest a \$5 million program to actively proselytize non-Jews.

"Judaism," he said, "has an enormous amount of wisdom and experience to offer our troubled world, and we Jews ought to be proud to proclaim it with pride."

The proposal was not well received in many circles. Reform rabbis quickly declared that proselytism is not the policy of the Reform movement. Leaders of Agudath Israel (Orthodox) and the United Synagogue for Conservative Judaism rejected the proposal.

Jews are a 3,200-year-old people whose survival is the result of the ability to meet changing times. Conversion was one of the major survival ghettoes of Eastern Europe and tools invented and repeatedly used by Jews. We moved from a desert tribe to a nation state, from its breakup and the de-

struction of the Temple to the rebirth of the State of Israel. Quite a journey. We survived because we learned how to make the necessary adjustments for survival while maintaining the integrity of our core beliefs.

On one level of response to Rabbi Schindler, I wonder whether we could better use our limited resources, funds and manpower to strengthen the pervasively thin commitment to Judaism among our people, rather than actively proselytize for new converts.

On the other hand, we should be inviting people to join us, planting the seed of Judaism so that we might develop a literate, informed community of significant size. If we are to be "a light unto the nations," as Rabbi Schindler says, now is the time to turn on the electricity.

As a final point, when Rabbi Schindler — a distinguished leader of the largest Jewish religious community — makes a suggestion, it merits our careful thought and response.

If you are celebrating a special anniversary, announce it in the *Herald*. Include a photo with the announcement. Black and white only, please.

American Dream Challenge

by Stacey A. Pacheco

Dr. Irving A. Fradkin has many thoughts about "preserving our freedom and future," which were conveyed Friday night at Temple Beth El, Fall River.

Concerns from "the future of our country for the younger generation" to "solving our own problems without depending on state or federal support" were presented.

For example, "Let's leave the community a better place than you found it," by participation with an emphasis on a "do-it-yourself community," and remembering that "Money is a necessity, not a cure."

We look forward to covering an extensive interview with Dr. Fradkin which is scheduled for publication in the *Rhode Island Jewish Herald* on Dec. 30.



Chanukah Party

Penny Faich, coordinator of the J.E.R.I. program, talks with Celia Hoffman, a resident of Rosewood Manor in Providence during a recent Chanukah party.

Herald photo by Alison Smith

Arab-Israeli Peace Talks

With veteran TV news analyst Marvin Kalb as moderator, 12 leading authorities on Middle East affairs will serve as panelists in a simulated "town meeting" in Boston Dec. 19 to discuss the current Israel-PLO peace talks and their impact on Israel's future and American foreign policy.

The discussion will be videotaped for a nationwide telecast in January, according to Dr. Arnold Soloway of Boston, chairman of the American Leadership Conference on Israel and the Middle East (ALCIME), which is sponsoring the event.

The Rabbi and the Philosophers

Rabbi William E. Kaufman, of Temple Beth-El in Fall River, is teaching a philosophy course at Rhode Island College every Wednesday at 4 p.m.

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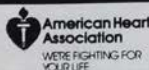
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To David Michael Castelle the only person interested in the petition hereinafter described.

A petition has been presented to said Court by Ryan Ashley Castelle of 81 Cocasset Street, Foxboro, Norfolk County, 02035, a minor, by Stacey Barton, mother and next friend, praying that his name may be changed as follows:

Ryan Ashley Castelle to Ryan Ashley Barton.

If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at Dedham before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the fourth day of February, 1994.

Witness, Robert M. Ford, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this twenty-second day of November 1993.

Thomas Patrick Hughes
Register of Probate

Notice of Comment Period Extension

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) gives notice that it is extending the comment period on its Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Report (DEIS/R) on the Northeast Corridor Improvement Project Electrification — New Haven, CT to Boston, MA. The comment period has been extended to January 21, 1994. Copies of the document should be available for review at town halls and main libraries in the project communities.

Written comments on the DEIS/R should be sent to:
Mr. Glenn Goulet, DTS-72
US DOT/RSAP

Voice National Transportation Systems Center
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Comments pertaining to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act should be forwarded to:

Mr. William T. Gage
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Menorah Lighting

Rabbi Eliezer Levy of the Chai Center in Warwick lights a menorah during a Chanukah celebration at the Warwick Mall last week.

Herald photo by Allison Smith

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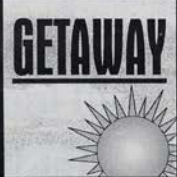
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The Legacy of Raymond Eichenbaum

by Cindy Halpern

Raymond Eichenbaum has departed this world during the Festival of Lights, a celebration commemorating the Jewish people's continued survival.

Mr. Eichenbaum, who survived the flames of the Holocaust, carried the light of wisdom to all of us fortunate enough to have known him personally, and to have read his articles written about his beloved sister, Bronia. She had sacrificed her own life to protect him, her precious little brother. But those articles represented more than the tombstone she never had.

Mr. Eichenbaum felt Bronia's life symbolized a humanity that endured not only her own physical death, but the harsh fire that had engulfed European Jewry.

One might wonder why G-d chose to take Mr. Eichenbaum, one of the youngest of the Holocaust survivors in our community, from our midst at a time when the world is plagued with intolerance and his wisdom is needed more than ever.

But perhaps what we, who knew and loved him, need to remember is that fate could have easily permitted him to perish as a teenager, behind the barbed wire fence of hatred.

Instead, destiny allowed him to become the man who continued to carry the torch he lovingly inherited from Bronia and now leaves us, the next generation, this symbol of light as we now light candles on our menorah, the true symbol of our spiritual survival.

I have this hopeful image of Bronia greeting her little brother with open arms after 50 years of separation as the gates of heaven swing open to finally reunite them.

Special Guided Tour of Dead Sea Scrolls Exhibit

PROVIDENCE — Jan. 6, 1994, the Rhode Island Historical Society is sponsoring a specially guided tour to the New York Public Library where they will view the current exhibit, the Dead Sea Scrolls.

On display for the first time outside of the Middle East, the scrolls were discovered in the years 1947-1956.

Opening a window on life in the land of Israel during the period 200 B.C. - 70 A.D., the twelve major scroll fragments and related artifacts numbering nearly 200 items are on loan from the Israel Antiquities Authority.

This guided tour will learn of the comprehensive overview of the world in which the scrolls were created, examining the scrolls as texts and relating the story of their discovery, interpretation and conservation.

Space is limited. For ticket information, please call the Historical Society at (401) 331-8575.

Photo Policy

Photographs submitted for publication in the *Rhode Island Jewish Herald* should be black and white; we cannot ensure reproduction quality of unclear or color photos.

If you want your photo returned, include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Photos will be held at the *Herald* for three months and may be picked up at our office, 99 Webster St., Pawtucket, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Call the *Herald*, 724-0200, for more information.

CORRESPONDENTS WANTED

If you would like to correspond for the *Herald* by writing about what is happening in your community, contact the editor at 724-0200.

Did You Know?

The Texas Peanut Producers Board has prepared a recipe brochure especially for kids. To receive this brochure and to become a member of the Texas Peanut Kids Club, send \$1 to Texas Peanuts, P.O. Box 398, Gorman, TX 76454. membership includes a recipe brochure, membership certificate and two collectible stickers.

Celebrating an event?
Tell us about it.



Royal Recipients

Don Juan Carlos I and Dona Sofia, the King and Queen of Spain, receive a Jewish National Fund certificate to document the Royal Spanish Forest.

Photo courtesy of Jewish National Fund

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Announce your wedding, bar or bat mitzvah, anniversary or a child's birth in the *Rhode Island Jewish Herald*. The community is interested in what happens to you!

Black and white photos are welcome. Send submissions to: RI Jewish Herald, P.O. Box 6063, Providence, RI 02940

THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

JCCRI Plans Busy Month

Don't Miss Shalansky and Dessert

The Brown Bag Club of the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, 401 Elmgrove Ave. in Providence, will sponsor a performance by singer/guitarist Steven Shalansky, at noon on Dec. 21. The community is invited. The performance will include American folk songs. Bring a bag lunch, dessert and beverage will be provided. A \$1 donation is appreciated. Yiddish vinkel will follow at 2 p.m.; call 861-8800.

JCCRI Gears Up for December Vacation Camps

The Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island will offer weeklong December vacation camps this month. There will be programs and camps for preschoolers through preteens. The schedule is as follows: Dec. 27 through 31 — 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; early arrival — 8 to 9 a.m.; extended day — 3 to 5 p.m. Call Eva Silver or Debbie Blitz at (401) 861-8800 for fee information and/or details.

The Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island also offers KidSpace Camp (Grades K

through 3) and PTC Camp (Grades 4 through 8). Groups and activities; which include daily swim, gym activities, Tuesday and Thursday trips, special guests, parties, cooking and crafts projects. The camps will run Dec. 23 through 31; 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; early arrival — 8 to 9 a.m.; extended day — 3 to 6 p.m. Call April Peters (KidSpace Camp) or Alisa Yanow (PTC Camp) at 861-8800 for fee information and/or details.

JCCRI Club 456 Goes Ice Skating

The Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island will hold an ice skating trip during vacation camp for Club 456 (ages 10 through 12, children in grades 4 through 6). The trip will be held on Dec. 30 and will cost \$10 for Club 456 members and \$12 for nonmembers (price includes transportation, admission and rentals). Those interested should meet in the JCCRI gameroom at 8:45 a.m. as the group will leave at 9 a.m. for the Franklin rink in Franklin, Mass. The group will return at approximately 1:15 p.m. RSVP to Alisa Yanow (861-8800) by Dec. 27 as seating is limited.



Gubernatorial Appearance

Rhode Island Governor Bruce Sundlun lights a menorah at the Warwick Mall last week.

Herold Photo by Alison Smith

We Will Not Forget

To conclude the "Celebration of the Printed Word," Nelly S. Toll, painter and author, presented a slide lecture about her experiences as a hidden child during her life as a fugitive in Poland, Wednesday night at the Jewish Community Center

of Rhode Island.

Ms. Toll is the author and illustrator of *Behind the Secret Window: A Memoir of a Hidden Childhood; and Without Surrender: Art of the Holocaust*. Her dreamlike paintings enhance her writing.

Her work is being reproduced on a poster by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Youth Fellowship

(Continued from Page 12)

rector at Princeton University and current rabbi of the Society for the Advancement of Judaism in New York City; Rabbi Shimon Felix, liaison for the Chief Rabbinate of Israel to diaspora communities; Dr. Judith Kates, visiting associate professor at Hebrew College in Boston; Rabbi Lawrence Kushner of Congregation Beth El in Sudbury, Mass.; Rabbi Michael Paley, director of the Earl Hall Center of Religious Life at Columbia University; Rabbi James Ponet, hill director at Yale University; Dr. Joseph Reimer, professor of Jewish education at Brandeis University; and Rabbi Ruth Sohn, former associate director of Boston University's Hill.

The Bronfman Youth Fellowship program begins on July 5, 1994, with a 2-day seminar in New York City. The students return from Israel on Aug. 11, 1994.

All meals will be kosher, and Sabbath activities will be in the spirit of the day. All expenses are covered by the program, including round-trip international transportation, room and board, travel in Israel and incidentals.

High school students in the United States and Canada who will be in 12th grade in the fall of 1994 may obtain application forms and detailed information by writing: The Bronfman Youth Fellowships in Israel, 17 Wilbur St., Albany, N.Y. 12202, or by calling (518) 465-6575.

Completed applications must be postmarked no later than Feb. 1, 1994. Finalists will be notified March 1st and finalist interviews will be held during the week of March 13. Names of the 1994 fellowship recipients will be announced on March 31.

Miriam Hospital Youth Awards

Thirty-six area high school students will be recognized for their volunteer work at The Miriam Hospital. They will receive the Presidential Youth

Service Award at a ceremony on Dec. 19 at 1 p.m. in Sopkin Auditorium. Jewish Community Center President Steven Baron; Chairman of the Board Maurice Glickman, Ph.D.; and Congressman Jack Reed will commend the students for their outstanding service to the community.

Calendar of Jewish Events

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16

7 p.m. — Children's Department Theatre Production staging of a musical comedy version of the original "Cinderella" at the Jewish Community Center, 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17

7:45 p.m. — Family Torah Service at Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19

10:45 a.m. — The Simcha Singles of Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston, will sponsor a Bagel Brunch at the temple. Guest speaker will be Professor Perry Jeffries of U.R.I. on the subject of physical and spiritual health. Call 943-7272.

11 a.m. — At the kosher meal site at the J.C.C., 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence, a video, "A World Away: Austria, the Land of Music," will be shown. Call 861-8800 for schedule of other lunchtime events.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20

7:45 p.m. — A meeting of the Dvora-Dayan Chapter of Na'amat/USA will take place at the home of Irka Gastfreund, 40 Wriston Drive, Providence. Tess Hassenfeld will speak on "Spotlight on Media Prejudice against Israel." Friends and members welcome.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21

7:45 a.m. — The Alperin Schachter Day School will sponsor a Parent Breakfast - Grade 5 - at the school, 85 Taft Ave., Providence.

12:30 p.m. — Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston, will host a Majestic Senior Guild meeting. Dr. Burton Fischman will speak.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23

7 p.m. — The annual, all-student songfest, ZIMRIYAH, will take place at the Alperin Schachter Day School, 85 Taft Ave., Providence.

Announce your wedding in the HERALD.

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FEATURE



'Let My People Know'

Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz, who recently completed a translation of the Talmud into Russian, approves of the winning poster in a contest connected with the publication of his work at the United Nations in New York.

Photo courtesy of IDC

Pollack Is Re-Elected

Lester Pollack, president of the Jewish Community Centers Association, has been re-elected chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

Pollack, 60, was unanimously chosen to serve a second one-year term beginning Jan. 1, 1994.

Long active in Jewish communal affairs, Pollack is a past president of the Jewish Community Relations Council of

New York. He currently chairs the international affairs committee of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and is a member of the executive committee of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC). He is the founding chairman and chief executive officer of the Center for Middle East Research, chairman of the board of directors of Tel Aviv University's Trilateral Peace Project and vice chairman of the Council for Initiatives in

Jewish Education. He also serves on the board of the American Zionist Youth Federation, Council of Jewish Federations, HIAS and UJA-Federation of Greater New York.

A former chairman of the board of the Associated YMWYHs of Greater New York and vice president of the UJA-Federation of New York, where he served on the executive committee, Pollack has also been a trustee of Community Synagogue in Rye, N.Y., and a member of the board of overseers of the Wurzwiler School of Social Work of Yeshiva University.

Pollack is a member of the board of trustees of New York University, where he is vice chairman of the academic affairs committee, and chairman of the budget committee of the New York University Law Center Foundation.

Pollack was born in New York, graduated from Brooklyn College and received a law degree from New York University School of Law. He is a recipient of the Vanderbilt Medal from New York University Law School, the alumni achievement award from New York University and the Scopus Award given by the American Friends of Hebrew University.

He is married to the former Geri Ruskin and has two married children and two grandchildren.

The Presidents Conference, founded in 1955, is composed of 50 national Jewish secular and religious groups whose members comprise the great majority of American Jews.

In its work of protecting and enhancing the security and dignity of Jews abroad and strengthening U.S.-Israel relations, the Conference of Presidents speaks and acts on international affairs of Jewish concern as the consensus voice of the world's largest Jewish community.

Let the community know about your organization's functions. Announce them in the *Herald*.

The Meaning of Chanukah

A Poem by Hershy Worch

Chanukah is the miracle of faith.
It's easy to believe what you cannot see.
I have never seen the Emperor of Japan
or the gold bullion in Fort Knox.
Believing is not faith.

Faith is to accept what your heart knows
in spite of everything,
your senses tell you to the contrary.
Chanukah is the war against proof-positive
against fashion, against scientific propaganda.

The main message of Hellenism
which was the science of its day
what that Judaism is nothing special
No people is special
No country is special
even Earth is just another planet
revolving around an insignificant yellow sun.
Nothing special.

The Maccabees refused to accept
this propaganda and made war.
To be a Maccabi you don't have to
shoot a policeman but you must
be ready to kill your television.

Chanukah is a festival of light,
the hidden light, the light which was
created at the beginning of the world,
but hidden for the world to come.

Chanukah is glimpse of the future,
of the world to come.

The Only One said to Moses
Go down into Egypt and tell the Hebrews
that I have come to redeem them.
Moses said: When they ask me Who is G-d
What shall I tell them is Your name?
And the Only One answered Moses
I WILL BE WITH YOU. I WILL BE
Go Moses and tell them.

The Future has sent me to You.
On Chanukah we see the light.

When people see eye to eye
their hearts are opening to one another.
When their hearts must talk to one another
people close their eyes and kiss.

There is a light beyond the seeing light.

Why is the night sky so dark
with a hundred thousand zillion stars
it should be a uniform milky white.
The answer lies in the future
the light hasn't reach us yet.

If the Only One is so giving
why is the exile so long?
why is the darkness so profound?
It is there but hasn't reached us yet
it is the future, the world to come.

Why don't we kindle Chanukah lights
all winter long?
When we have seen eye to eye
we close our eyes.
we turn out the lights.
we look for the light that
cannot be seen with the eyes
we are involved in creating the future.

(Continued from Page 2)

JCCRI Plans Ski Trip

The Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, 401 Elm-grove Ave. in Providence, will be sponsoring a trip to Vermont, to ski at Mount Snow. The one-day excursion will be held on Dec. 19. Those interested should arrive at the JCCRI by 5 a.m.; the motorcoach will leave at 5:30 a.m. and arrive back at the Center at approximately 8:30 p.m. There will be a food stop on the return home. Those who prefer are welcome to bring a bagged dinner. Make reservations by calling Alisa Yanow at (401) 861-8800 as soon as possible. There are a limited number of spaces available.

Have an opinion?
Express it in a letter to
the *HERALD*.

works Finale, scheduled for 11:50 p.m. over the State House lawn, will welcome the New Year with a burst of color.

A single First Night admission ticket provides entry to all indoor performances and workshop on a first-come, first-served basis. Prices remain the same as last year: \$7 per button until December 25 and \$9 thereafter. Value 4-packs of 4 buttons for \$24 may be purchased by calling the First Night office at 521-1166.

First Night buttons are available throughout the state, including all AAA locations, Citizens Bank, CVS, NHD Super Hardware Stores, Providence Public Libraries, Shawmut Banks and YMCAs of Greater Providence.

For further information, call the First Night Hotline at (401) 455-8205.

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School Beat



Close Reading of Beverage Labels More Important Than Ever!

Parents looking for healthy refreshments for their kids may find themselves overwhelmed with all the choices today. Supermarkets now carry five times as many beverage items as they did a decade ago, most of which are brand-new beverage categories, such as sport drinks, flavored water and carbonated juice blends. With all these new products, it takes a savvy shopper to sift through beverage labels and nutritional claims to find the good stuff for your kids.

Realizing the dramatic overcrowding in the beverage aisles, manufacturers are re-emphasizing their packaging to emphasize their strong points. For example, Libby's Juicy Juice 100 percent Fruit Juice, which provides 100 percent of the U.S. RDA for Vitamin C and has no added sugar, has re-

designed their packaging with bold, vivid colors to help consumers identify a healthy alternative to sugar-added beverages.

"With all the choices today, parents realize it's more important than ever to check food labels if they want to be sure their kids are getting the best," said Andrea Cook, spokeswoman for the brand. "Juicy Juice makes this process easier for parents with the bold new package design and enlarged '100 percent fruit juice' on the front."

The U.S. government, also realizing the increasing number of product choices, recently passed strict new labeling laws which go into effect May, 1994. The new laws give consumers better information and weed out products with misleading claims.

Lights, Camera, Action

With cameras and video recorders in hand at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, parents were ready to snap or record away, as the "Second Annual Zimriyah" took place Tuesday morning.

The enthusiastic preschoolers and kindergartners performed magnificently with lots of cheer and clapping under the direction of Anne Mittler, musical coordinator Judy Nagal, pianist, and all of the preschool teachers.

The program included such songs as: "Blessings and Candlelighting," "Chanukah, Chanukah, Holiday of Fun," "Twinkle, Twinkle Chanukah Lights," "Eight Little Candles," "I Have a Little Dreidl," concluding with "Chanukah."

The eagerness and innocence of the 3-, 4- and 5-year-olds reminds us of what it's all about.



Youth Serenade

Jane Myers, third grade teacher at Alperin Schechter School and a group of students serenade the residents of Rosewood Manor at a recent Chanukah party sponsored by JERI.

Herald Photo by Alison Smith

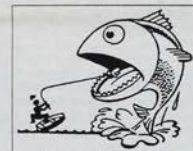
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The oldest living person is Jeanne Louise Calment who is 117 years old.



The biggest Coho Salmon on record, 33 lbs. 4 oz., was caught in the Salmon River, Pulaski, N.Y. by Jerry Lifton in 1989.



The most recent Triple Crown was won by Affirmed in 1978.

Talking Around The Table

Even though it's not a round table — more like rectangle — administration and third grade parents met early Tuesday morning at the Alperin Schechter School in Providence to discuss school curriculum with relation to their children.

Some topics included recess (which now appears under control); child development — "learning is developmental, everyone gets there the same — maybe not all at the same time"; progress in the Hebrew language, and last but not least — homework.

The general consensus from the parents is that all third graders love their computer class and hands-on science work.

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Crash Course

NEWPORT, R.I. — Aside from the annual fall "Crash Hebrew Course," Rabbi Chaim Shapiro at Touro Synagogue will teach Hebrew to a small

group of Christian friends. They want to learn for the purpose of studying the Bible," says Rabbi Shapiro, as "our general theme is we welcome everyone." This class will begin Jan. 12, 1994, at 6:30 p.m.

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Fifty Years Ago in the Rhode Island Jewish Herald

WEEK OF DECEMBER 17, 1943

Jewish Girl Is First WAVE to Die

NORFOLK — The first member of the WAVES to be killed in the line of duty is a Jewish girl, Seaman Elizabeth Korensky, 20, of Philadelphia, Pa. She lost her life in an explosion at the Norfolk Naval Air Station.

Home for Aged Ball, Dec. 25

Urgent Immediate Mail Reservations

The annual charity ball of the Rhode Island Jewish Home for the Aged will be a dinner-dance to be held Saturday night, December 25, at the Narragansett Hotel, it was announced this week by Harry Blacher, general chairman.

Temple Emanuel Mother-Daughter Holiday Pageant

Temple Emanuel will present as part of the Sabbath eve services this evening at 8:10 o'clock a Mother-Daughter Pageant. This religious pageant will be presented under the sponsorship of the Junior Sisterhood. Participants include Misses Hope Abrams, Tamara Backman, Marion Borod, Muriel Harris, Doris Meyers, Anne Resnick, Avis Strauss, Edna Sackett and Gertrude Weinberg, all from the Junior Sisterhood. Pupils from the religious school taking part are Beatrice Temkin, Barbara Spunt, Phyllis Berger, Elaine Pearlman, Gladys Carson, Judith Kapstein, Marilyn Yolin, Joan Dressler, Joy Blackman, Adele Pobirs, Ruth Flink and Lois Siskind.

OBITUARIES

ETTA BAXT

PROVIDENCE — Etta Baxt, 104, of 111 S. Angell St., died Dec. 12 at the Bethany Home. She was the widow of Hyman Baxt.

Born in Russia, a daughter of the late Max and Frieda (Kahn) Shankman, she migrated to Boston, and then moved to Providence in 1908.

She leaves a son, Victor J. Baxt; a daughter, Frieda B. Hohenemser Nemzoff, both of Providence; four sisters, Sara Price of West Orange, N.J., Ida Laughlin of Bronxville, N.Y., Helen Gottlieb of New York, and Jane Karman of Plantation, Fla.; four grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.

A graveside service was held Dec. 14 at Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

ROBERT T. BAXTER

AUBURN, Ind. — Robert T. Baxter, 91, formerly of Foster, owner and operator of the former Ark Tavern in Foster, died Dec. 8 at the Betz Nursing Home in Auburn, Ind. He was the husband of the late Mildred (Rundell) Baxter. Born in Providence, a son of the late Harry T. and Christina (Pringle) Baxter, he lived in Foster most of his life.

He served in the Marines and was a member of the Bud Hope Lodge, I.O.O.F., in Olneyville. Mr. Baxter worked for many years for the Grinnell Co. of Cranston.

He is survived by two daughters, Lauranella Kimball of Dayville, Conn., and Roberta M. Banskach of Hamilton, Ind.; six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. A graveside service was held Dec. 13 in Highland Memorial Park, George Waterman Road, Johnston.

MORTON B. BERKOWITZ

BOYNTON BEACH, Fla. — Morton B. Berkowitz, 70, of 13 Club House Lane, Boynton Beach, Fla., died Dec. 12 at home. He was the husband of Elaine (Renkin) Berkowitz.

Born in Providence, a son of Robert Berkowitz of Providence, and the late Bessie (Horvitz) Berkowitz, he lived in Florida for seven years, previously residing in Cranston.

In the late 1940s, Mr. Berkowitz founded *Splendor Magazine and Executive Jeweler*. In the 1950s, he created the *United Jewelry Show Guide* as well as the trade publication *American Jewelry Manufacturer for MJA*.

He also represented the Jewelers Buyers Guide.

In 1959, he brought AJM to the Chilton Co., Philadelphia, Pa., where he worked for 34 years as the New England manager for Jewelers Circular Keystone. He continued to represent AJM and created *Accent Magazine* in 1976. He was a member of the Providence Jewelers Club, the 24 Karat Club, and served on the board of directors of the Boston Jewelers Club. He was a former president of the Diamond Peacock Club.

Besides his wife and father he leaves a brother, Dr. Norman Berkowitz of Providence; four sons, Marc Berkowitz of San Francisco, Calif., Richard Berkowitz of East Greenwich, Steven Berkowitz and James Berkowitz, both of Los Angeles, Calif., and a granddaughter.

A graveside service was held at Eternal Light Memorial Gardens, Boynton Beach.

HARVEY BLAKE

WARWICK — Harvey Blake, 76, of 1922 Warwick Ave., a self-employed public accountant for more than 50 years, died Dec. 10 at the Jane Brown Unit of Rhode Island Hospital. He was the husband of the late Helene (Becker) Blake. Born in Providence, a son of the late David and Celia (Halperin) Blake, he lived in Warwick for 18 years.

Mr. Blake was a member of Temple Torat Yisrael, Cranston, and its Men's Club. He was a graduate of Bryant College, Class of 1937. He was a member of the Overseas Lodge 40 AF&AM, a Shiner at the Scottish Rite Temple and a 32nd degree Mason. He was a member of the Jewish War Veterans, B'nai B'rith, the Pawtuxet Yacht Club and the Rhode Island Society of Public Accountants.

He leaves a son, Frederick "Ricky" Blake of Warwick and a granddaughter.

The funeral service was held Dec. 12 at the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery.



Ray Eichenbaum

Raymond E. Eichenbaum Dies at 64

PROVIDENCE — Raymond Eichenbaum, a Holocaust survivor, died Tuesday morning at Miriam Hospital in Providence. Friends said Mr. Eichenbaum had a heart condition for a long time.

In 1991, he finally finished the play "Till Death Did Us Part," a tribute to his sister, Bronia, who died heroically at age 18 during the Holocaust.

The play debuted Sunday in front of a personal group at the Jewish Community Center.

A prisoner at the Auschwitz and Mathausen concentration camps, he was one of the founders of the Holocaust memorial of Rhode Island.

He was born in Lodz, Poland, a son of the late Chayim and Basya (Worobczyk) Eichenbaum.

A chemist with Carol Cable Co., he had lived in Providence since 1947. He was a graduate of the University of Rhode Island. His contributions to the *Jewish Herald* for the past 5

Tell them you saw
their ad in the
*Rhode Island
Jewish Herald*

years will be deeply missed by all.

"This is a great loss for the community and for those who did not even know him," says Edith E. Grant, a close family friend.

Mr. Eichenbaum was a member of the board of Temple Emanu-El and a member of B'nai B'rith and the Knights of Pythias.

Besides his wife he is survived by two sons, Howard Eichenbaum of Somerville, Mass., and Cary Eichenbaum of Providence.

A funeral service was held Wednesday at Temple Emanu-El. Burial was at Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. Arrangements were by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

STANLEY S. GERSHKOFF

MIRAMAR, Fla. — Stanley C. Gershkoff, 72, of Miramar, Fla., a retired businessman and musician, died Dec. 2 at the Hollywood Memorial Hospital in Hollywood, Fla., after a long illness. He was the husband of Phyllis (Kladky) Gershkoff.

Born in Providence, R.I., a son of the late Abraham and Sarah Gershkoff, he lived in Providence, Haverhill, Mass., and South Florida.

He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and saw combat in the Pacific area. He also played the trumpet in the Army band.

After the war he played and arranged music for many of the "Big Bands" of that era, including the Sonny Dunham orchestra, where he was a featured trumpeter.

Mr. Gershkoff was also engaged in the manufacture of shoe components in Haverhill, Mass., and Miami for 40 years before retiring. He had been a resident of Florida for many years.

Besides his wife, he leaves three sons, Arthur Gershkoff of Philadelphia, Pa., Ira Gershkoff of Arlington, Texas, and Alfred Gershkoff of Oceanside, Calif., a sister, Rose Horvitz of Providence, R.I., a brother, Irving Gershkoff of Scottsdale, Ariz., six grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was conducted on Dec. 5 in Pembroke Pines, Fla.

Memorial donations may be made to the American Cancer Society or a favorite charity.

EILEEN KANE-FRIEDMANN

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. — Eileen Kane-Friedmann of Collins Ave., Miami Beach, Fla., a founder of Mount Sinai

Hospital in Fla., died Dec. 11 in Miami Beach. She was the wife of Albert B. Friedmann.

Born in Providence, a daughter of the late David and Birdie Gilman, she moved to Florida in 1945 previously living in Providence.

She was one of the earliest supporters and a founder of Mount Sinai Hospital in Florida. She studied at Rhode Island School of Design while attending Classical High School and graduated from Brown University. She was an avid bridge player, and became a

BESS LEVIN

WARWICK — Bess Levin, 92, of the Kent Nursing Home, Commonwealth Avenue, died Dec. 4 at the home. She was the widow of Michael M. Levin.

She is survived by one son, Milton Levin of Providence and three grandchildren, Miriam Sirota, Heather Levin and Michael Levin, and one great-grandson, Zachary Sirota.

ALICE REGENSTEINER

WARWICK — Alice Regensteiner, 94, a resident of the Kent Nursing Home in Warwick for the last five years, died Dec. 8 at the home. She was the wife of the late Ludwig Regensteiner. Born in Augsburg, Germany, she was a daughter of the late Rudolph and Lina Nathan.

She was a resident of Warwick for the last five years. She lived in Providence for three years and in Cranston for more than 30 years. She was a member of former Temple Beth Israel, and had served as president of its sisterhood. During World War II she was active in the Russian war relief program.

After the war, she helped resettle European immigrants in the United States. She was a member of the Hadassah and the Women's Association of the Miriam Hospital.

She is survived by a daughter, Hannah Greenwood of New Rochelle, N.Y.; two sons, F. David Regensteiner of Warwick and Max Regensteiner of Silver Spring, Md.; eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Gertrude Bloch-Lehmann and Ernest Nathan.

A graveside service took place Dec. 10 at Sharon Memorial Park, Sharon, Mass. Service was coordinated by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

(Continued on Page 19)

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Children's Party

Rabbi Samlan helps children play with a dreidel at the Children's Museum in Pawtucket last week. Shown are Danielle, Stephen, Glenn, Renee and Monique Aissis. *Herald Photo by Alison Smith*

Pornography

by Debra Nussbaum Cohen

NEW YORK (JTA) — The Synagogue Council of America and the National Conference of Catholic Bishops have issued a joint call to step up anti-pornography efforts. "Graphic public displays, books, videocassettes, advertising displays and even telecommunications frequently portray degrading and violent sexual behavior which demeans the human character, debases the individual and is openly pornographic and morally offensive," said the joint statement.

"Right now, the climate in this country is freedom, one of doing whatever you want as long as you have consenting adults," said Rabbi Haskel Lookstein, president of the Synagogue Council.

"Catholics and Jews, from a religious point of view, are trying to say that people should practice much more discrimination in what they will look at and how they will act, and that there should be norms in society," he said.

"If people stop watching it, it won't be on television, MTV, for example makes primarily women, and sometimes men, objects of sexual curiosity. That's not the purpose of sex, which is to develop intimacy between husbands and wives," Lookstein said.

The statement will be circulated to synagogues of every denomination and Catholic churches across the country. "We call upon our fellow citizens to help stem the proliferation of pornography in our community by refusing to purchase or to view such materials," it says. "We further call upon all members of our religious communities to foster a true respect for human sexuality among all those with whom they come in contact."

"We especially appeal to parents to give guidance to their children in this area. In addition, we believe it is incumbent upon teachers and religious leaders to openly address these issues."

Spielberg

(Continued from Page 9)

will feel compelled "to be active in remembering — not just on Jewish holidays and not just on the anniversaries of the Shoah, but as a constant action of simply remembering."

"I am not saying that to devote your life to the Holocaust is a definition of being Jewish," he said. "I don't believe that."

"I think every human being owes a moral debt to the past, so that events that are happening as we sit right now, in Bosnia and with the Kurds, and just the heinousness of what

could take place in the future, is at least given some serious time and attention."

Spielberg said, "We're running out of witnesses, and certainly by the first decade of the 21st century even the youngest eyewitnesses won't be with us anymore. And everything about the Shoah is going to be secondhand information."

"This is the time for the oldest survivors to address the youngest children in the world, to let them know what it was like and what happened, so that the next generation will be vigilant about never letting a thing like this happen again."



HELPING HANDS — shown at a kick-off meeting recently for The Rhode Island Good Neighbor Energy Fund, (left to right) Charles F. Moran, Scott Wolf, Charles Goss, Captain Charles Deitrick and Walter "Salty" Brine. The meeting was sponsored by the Salvation Army, which also administers the fund.

Photo by Dodge Assoc.

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An exhibition of noted printmaker Richard Claude Ziemann's prints will be on display at the Rhode Island College Art Center through Wednesday. All gallery presentations are free and open to the public. For more information call 456-9765.

Shoshana T. Daniel will read fiction and Alison Bundy will read poetry at the Perishable Theatre's Uncommon Lunch today at noon at 124 Washington St. in Providence. The series bring southern New England's best-known local performers to the downtown area during lunchtime. For more information call 331-2695.

"L'Chaim To Life: A Musical Toast to Second Avenue" with Zalmen Mlotek will play at the Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center in Newton Centre, Mass., on Saturday and Sunday. For more information call 965-7410.

Artist Sarah Stiles is exhibiting work at the Sarah Doyle Gallery, located in the Sarah Doyle Women's Center, 185 Meeting Street.

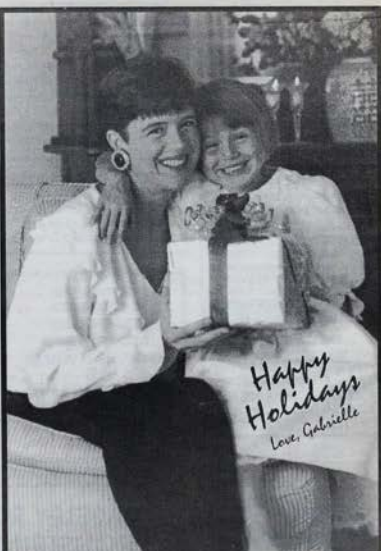
"Celebrations: An African Odyssey" by Ricardo Pitts-Wiley will be presented at the Veterans Memorial Auditorium in Providence Saturday at 2 and 8 p.m. For more information call 277-3150.

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