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**Sports
Feature**
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The Phones Were Humming

Super Sunday fell on Dec. 11 this year, and the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island auditorium was crowded with tables full of people soliciting support over the phone for the coming year. There were balloons and delectable pastries to keep everyone's spirits high.

Herald photo by Alison Smith

Congressional Blacks and Jews Line Up Together

by Debra Nussbaum Cohen
NEW YORK (JTA) — Despite a popular perception that blacks and Jews no longer share a common core of values, their representatives in Congress have been closely aligned on key issues of concern to the two communities, a new study has shown.

The American Jewish Congress conducted a study of the voting patterns of the 39 members of the Congressional Black Caucus and the 32 Jewish members of the House of Representatives on issues important to the Jewish community.

The issues included foreign aid, public funding of private schools and school prayer.

AJCongress analyzed the information and found that "Jewish members of Congress were far more likely to support votes by the Congressional Black Caucus than the other members of the House of Representatives," according to the report.

By the same token, "on vote after vote, black members of Congress supported the Jewish community position in significantly larger percentages than did other members of Congress."

The Jewish community position was represented in the study by the AJCongress position, which generally reflects the views of the community at large, but not always.

Jewish members of Congress supported the Black Caucus' position an average of 72 percent of the time, far in excess of the 49 percent average of the total House.

Likewise, an average of 79 percent of Black Caucus members supported Jewish issues, as opposed to 53 percent of the full House.

"There is more commonality than discordance" between the two ethnic groups when it comes to policy issues, said Flora Perskie, chairman of AJCongress' Commission on

National Affairs, in a news conference recently announcing the results.

Phil Baum, AJCongress executive director, said the purpose of the analysis was "to put the rumors of extremists in both communities to rest."

Also at the news conference was the Rev. Jesse Jackson who met with AJCongress leaders earlier that day.

"Over the centuries our interests have converged again and again. We must not underestimate our power to protect our interests when we coalesce,"

500 Delegates Convene at ORT Conference

More than 500 delegates from throughout the United States convened for the 20th National Board Conference of Women's American ORT in Atlanta, Ga., on Oct. 21 to 23.

The conference focused upon charting the future of Women's American ORT through the development of a long-range plan for the organization, and changes in its policies and structure. Human rights activist Helen Suzman was a featured speaker at the conference.

Women's American ORT, an organization of membership chapters across the United

States, supports vocational and technical training for Jews around the world, particularly in the United States, South America, France, India, Morocco and Israel. It is the largest affiliate organization of the World ORT Union and a major source of financial support to its central budget.

More than 250,000 students presently are enrolled in ORT's 800 schools and projects which include comprehensive and vocational high schools, colleges, apprenticeship programs and teacher-training institutes.

Gravestones Repaired

by Neil Nachbar
Herald Associate Editor

The 47 gravestones that were broken by vandals at Lincoln Park Cemetery on Nov. 30 have been repaired.

The restoration was done by Jack Conti of Providence Monumental Works on Dec. 6 and 7. The repairs, which totaled \$2,650, were at the expense of the cemetery.

Lincoln Park has received a number of inquiries about the crime. "It's generated a fair amount of concern," said Murray Gereboff, president of the cemetery.

Although a list of names has been compiled from the toppled gravestones, there has been difficulty, according to Gereboff,

said Jackson, who serves as the non-voting shadow senator for D.C. statehood representing the District of Columbia.

Citing an example of how that coalition can work outside Congress, Jackson said that former Ku Klux Klan leader David Duke would be governor of Louisiana "if not for the black-Jewish coalition, since 55 percent of whites voted for him" in 1991.

The alignment of blacks and Jews in the House was in part based on the fact that the majority of both groups were Democrats, according to the report. Their relationship may shift in the newly elected Congress, where there will be fewer Jews and a greater proportion of Republicans.

in getting the word out to relatives because 40 of the 47 stones were dated before 1940.

"The people we can find, we'll make an effort to contact," said

Gereboff. "But there will be some that we won't be able to find."

As for the employee who was on duty when the crime was committed, Gereboff said

**The repairs,
were at the
expense of the
cemetery.**

director Herman Wallock was wrong to describe him as a "watchman" to the *Providence Journal-Bulletin*. "It was a poor choice of words," said Gereboff.

Gereboff made it clear that the man working that night is simply an employee whose tasks include such things as digging graves and closing the gates. The employee also lives in a house at the front of the cemetery property.

Gereboff said he wouldn't have expected the employee to hear gravestones being knocked over, "especially if they were hitting soggy ground."

The question remains, what can be done to prevent something like this from happening again?

"That's a good question," said Gereboff. "Vandalism is an occupational hazard in the cemetery business. It happens more than we would like."

Gereboff is considering different security measures. "Obviously we can't light up the place like a baseball field," stated Gereboff. "We're checking on the feasibility of motion detectors."

See next page for a description of the Rhode Island hate crime and vandalism laws.



ORT IN ACTION — From the left, Women's American ORT National President Sandra Isenstein, Dr. Ellen Isler, director general of the World ORT Union, and Helen Suzman, human rights activist.

INSIDE THE OCEAN STATE

Nature Conservancy Buys Unique Acres Along Pawcatuck River

The Rhode Island field office of the Nature Conservancy has announced the purchase of an environmentally significant parcel of land in Charlestown. One hundred nineteen acres along the Pawcatuck River will be added to the state's Burlingame Management Area. The land was acquired from A. Walter Gardner. The property contains the only known occurrence in

Rhode Island of the pinus rigida-Hudsonia tomentosa or "a sparse woodland community." The site includes two unspoiled sand barrens, with extensive bare, shifting dunes. Characteristic resident plant

species include poverty grass (Hudsonia tomentosa), pitch pine (pinus rigida), scarlet oak (quercus coccinea), scrub oak (quercus ilicifolia), little bluestem (andropogon scoparius), teaberry (gaultheria procumbens), and holly (ilex opacum). Lichens also cover large areas of the property. The Champlin Foundations funded the property's \$56,000

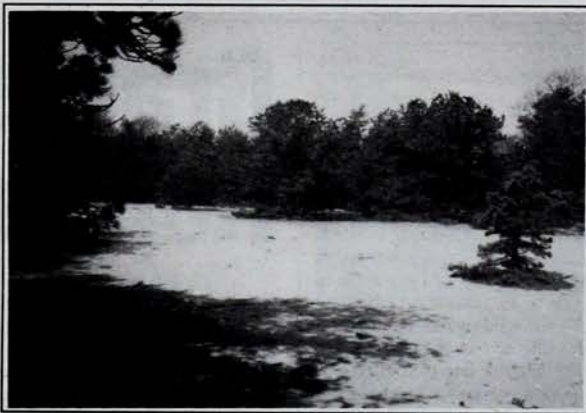
purchase price, along with appraisal, survey, and closing costs.

"I'm extremely happy that I can make this contribution to the Nature Conservancy," said benefactor Gardner, "... it's gratifying to know that this land will be safeguarded for future generations.

Doug Parker, acting director of the Nature Conservancy's Rhode Island field office said, "The sand barren along the Pawcatuck River contains the only example in our state of this type of woodland environment."

The mission of the Nature Conservancy, a non-profit, tax-exempt organization, is to preserve plants, animals, and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on earth, by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive.

In Rhode Island, the conservancy has secured protection of nearly 9,000 acres of the state's most unique natural areas. The group is a membership organization. For more information, call 331-7110.



SUNNY, SANDY RHODE ISLAND — a small patch of the "pine barrens" land so ecologically unique that the Nature Conservancy acquired it to save it for future study and enjoyment.

Museum Schedules Vacation Week Activities

The Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design is offering vacation week workshops for children from Dec. 27 through 29.

Each day will feature a different workshop. The three-day lineup is collage on Tuesday, drawing on Wednesday and assemblage on Friday. Children may participate in all the workshops or any session in which they have a special interest.

The workshops will be held from 1 to 2:30 p.m. The classes are free for Museum of Art, RISD members. Nonmembers are invited to attend for a nominal fee of \$5 per child per day. Participants may pay at the door or pre-register by calling 454-6534.

In addition to the workshops, the museum will also host a special "First Night Afternoon Kwanza Celebration" on Dec. 31. Held in conjunction with Providence's First Night activities, the workshops feature Kwanza, the African-American "first fruits" festival with storytelling, music, art and gift-making (zawadi). Sessions, which are appropriate for the entire family, will be held hourly at 2 p.m., 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. The museum's workshops are free; however, participants must have a First Night button.

The Museum of Art, RISD, is located at 224 Benefit St. in Providence.

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Give Blood This Month

Blood drives are scheduled on Dec. 20 at Wickford Community with Lions Club (St. Paul's Parish House), 76 Main St., Wickford, R.I., from 4 to 8 p.m.; on Dec. 21 at the WJAR TV-10 Blood Drive at (Howard Johnsons), Jefferson Blvd., Warwick, R.I., from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and on Dec. 22 at Central High School (Auditorium), 70 Fricker St., Providence, R.I., from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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The Difference Between A Hate Crime and Vandalism

The following was taken from the Rhode Island legal code:

Hate Crime

11-42-3. Ethnic or religious intimidation — Severability. — Whoever, verbally or by a written or printed communication, maliciously threatens any injury to the person ... by reason of their race, religion or national origin, shall be punished by imprisonment in the adult correctional institutions for not more than five (5) years, or by a fine of not more than \$5,000 or both...

11-53-2. Threat by terror — Any person who ... displays a sign, mark, symbol, emblem, or other physical impression, including but not limited to Nazi swastika on the property of another or group of others without authorization shall be punished by imprisonment in the adult correctional institution for not more than two (2) years, or by a fine of not more than \$5,000 or by both such fine and imprisonment for the first such conviction and by imprisonment ... for not more than ten (10) years, or by a fine of not more than \$15,000, or by both such fine of not more than \$15,000, or by both such fine and imprisonment for any subsequent conviction.

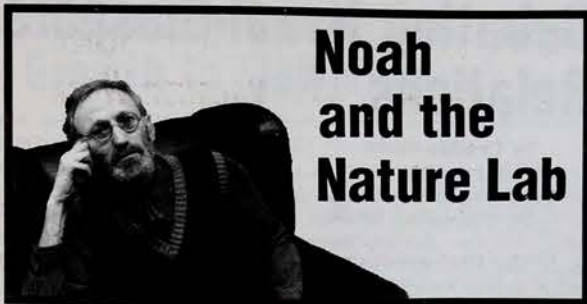
Vandalism

11-44-1. Vandalism — Obstruction of lawful pursuits. — Every person who shall ... injure or destroy or write upon, paint, or otherwise deface the property of another, or obstruct the use of the property of another, or obstruct another in the prosecution of his or her lawful business or pursuits, in any manner, the punishment of which is not specifically provided for by the statute, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not exceeding \$1,000 and/or be imprisoned not exceeding one year and shall be liable to make restitution for the injury or damage caused.

The Hate Crimes Penalty Enhancement Act, proposed last year, would have strengthened the law concerning hate crimes, but the legislation did not pass.

FEATURE

Noah and the Nature Lab



by Mike Fink

Herald Contributing Reporter

I walked through a heavy portal into a strange realm, under a spell. A pigeon, a starling, a robin sat perched still and fixed on polished twigs. A group of skeletons hung in a ghastly row in an inner gallery. Crickets chirped cheerfully, doomed fodder for the box turtles swimming in glass boxes. This disen-

seum for some dazzling display in the inner sanctum.

I read Genesis at the JCC and always liked best the parts with birds, trees and animals in the stories, like the raven and the dove that Noah sent forth from the ark. We had crows and pigeons on our cobbled sidewalk at home, and on the tables of the nature lab. Rhode Island had floods not so different from



ARE THEY ON A STREET CORNER? No. They're in the Rhode Island School of Design Nature Lab...three "stuffed" birds that haven't perched on a Providence street for a long, long time.

Herald photo by Mike Fink

chanted garden is the 60-year-old Nature Lab at the Rhode Island School of Design.

It hasn't changed much since I first stared through the glass cases when the Jewish Community was tucked down a narrow alleyway a block or so across Benefit Street. My brother and I walked the length of the lane each weekend, to study both art and religion. On Sunday afternoons we might stop in at a gallery opening of Uncle Herb's latest pictures, or at the mu-

Noah's. What a small world! You can walk all round it and still get home in time for soup, safe and sound.

My own best boy, my darling son, asked me a December question. "Dad, what was your favorite gift?" It's a down to earth request, nothing philosophical. But I'm not a present sort of fellow. To the noble mind, it's the thought, not the thing. But I came up with a weird reply. "A stuffed bird."

My mother was shopping in New York. You could get anything among those shining skyscrapers. She came upon an antique specimen in some musty pawnshop and brought me back a small black bird with a flat head and some crimson markings. I think it came from Costa Rica. I liked it because my mother had gone out of her way to get it. I told this odd tale to my likely lad, who goes in more for toys you see on television.

Nowadays I find taxidermy a morbid and perverse practice. Love may be here to stay, but all life goes back to the clay it's made of. What appealed to me back then was the stopping of a moment of time, like a tableau on the school stage, or a snapshot from yesteryear. You don't think about death, but about owning something wild and keeping it on a shelf in your room. Once you grow up, you have to go out and deal with your wilderness, whatever you come across or bump into.

Maybe fate is spelled out in your name. Michael has giant wings like a great bird. In some myths he weighs souls and flies over the pyramids of Egypt. The School of Design nature lab brings me back to Egypt like old movies about pharaohs and Hebrews. A lot of my history is covered along the trail a-winding between my house and my office. Like Walter Mitty, I relieve it daily like winding a clock.

Big Blood Drive Coming

The Rhode Island Blood Center and WJAR Channel 10 invite eligible blood donors to participate in their annual holiday blood drive scheduled for Dec. 21 at the Howard Johnson's Lodge on Jefferson Blvd. in Warwick between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Donors will be treated to Ronzio Pizza and Pepsi.

Hospice Is Here To Stay

"Hospice care will be part of health care reform... whenever Congress approves a bill."

That was the word from newly re-elected Sen. John Chafee at his keynote address to the board and staff of Hospice Care of Rhode Island at its 18th annual meeting.

Chafee believes a health care reform bill has a "60-40" chance of becoming law in 1995. The senator went on to say that the Clinton bill failed, not because of timing, but because it went way beyond the two main goals: 1) extending health care insurance to the 15 percent of the population that has no care, and 2) cost containment of health care benefits on both the state and federal levels.

While the future of health-care reform simmers in Congress, the reality of hospice care continues to grow in Rhode Island. HCRI President David Rehm stated that patient care increased 31 percent over the previous year, while nursing visits rose by 26 percent and social work calls went up 114 percent.

In an effort to respond to the challenges ahead, Hospice Care of Rhode Island created a unified, statewide board of trustees.

Arthur S. Robbins, who held the office of president for the last two years, is now chairman of the board.

Rehm, HCRI's executive director for the last six years, will now assume the office of president.

Existing board members will remain in place. New board members include Edna Wells, Newport; Les Flood, Wickford; Rev. David Shire, Cranston, and Stefani Hulitar, Middletown.

Hospice Care of Rhode Island is the oldest and largest such agency in the state, having served more than 1,200 patients last year.

CORRECTION

It has been brought to the Herald's attention that Caroline Marks, women's health advocate, is the cousin (not the niece) of Fred Friendly.



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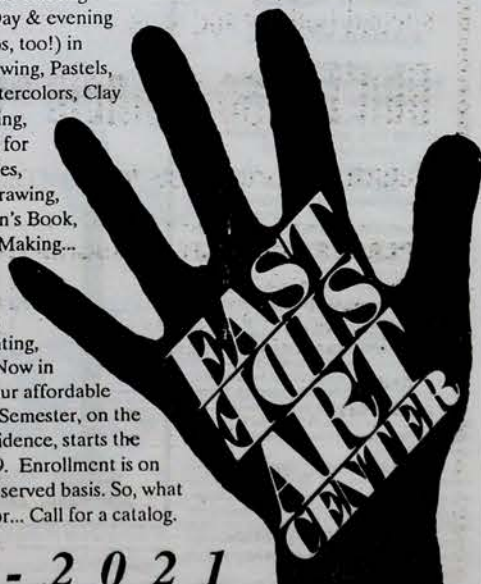
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EDITORIAL

The Bell Curve is Bent Out of Shape

by David H. Strassler

There is a long history of intellectual and scientific racism in the modern world that became a basis for governmental racial policies. In Nazi Germany, the destruction of European Jewry was made easier by the 19th-century racist theories of Joseph A. Gobineau and Houston S. Chamberlain. While the centuries of Christian anti-Semitism and the conspiracy theories about Jews in the forged document "The Protocols of the Elders of Zion" played a role in Nazi anti-Semitism, the defining feature was the notion of race, which meant that even a minute Jewish ancestry resulted in the individual being doomed to death.

In the United States, volumes were written justifying slavery and later Jim Crow legislation on the grounds of alleged black inferiority — genetic and immutable.

It is, therefore, astonishing that in 1994 a book — *The Bell Curve*, by Richard J. Herrnstein and Charles Murray — would appear that introduces the concept of genetic inferiority of blacks. Yet, since its publication, Murray has sought to play down the issue of race in his book. If his objective was simply to try to assess the connection between I.Q. and genes and their connection to success in society, why introduce the concept of race at all?

Murray draws conclusions about race and I.Q. that are questionable at best. He pretends to have made a serious

study of the impact of various social programs on black I.Q.s. He concludes that they have had relatively little impact, leading him to say that this lack of progress demonstrates the overwhelming influence of genes and race on I.Q. Why not argue that those policies may not have been sufficient in themselves, that matters such as prenatal care, family culture, and the like have never been properly addressed, thereby leaving untested areas for improvement?

Moreover, as social critic Stanley Crouch recently pointed out, Murray and Herrnstein have accepted the definition of the black race as it was designated by a racist America in the 18th and 19th centuries, which defined a black as anyone having some black blood. Of course, there is nothing genetically accurate about that definition. Thus, when I.Q. scores are measured along racial lines, they are based on false assumptions and inevitably produce questionable results.

This is only one of many weaknesses of *The Bell Curve* analysis which make it insidious for the authors to draw broad conclusions on race and intelligence. Murray's denial that his assumptions need result in any derogation of blacks, or that blacks themselves need not feel offended by the analysis, is disingenuous.

As noted, there is a long history in our country of books and articles portraying blacks

as genetically inferior in intelligence. For most of our history, these works received legitimacy from an intellectual climate dominated by white racism. With the rise of the Civil Rights movement, however, such racial approaches fell into disrepute.

Unfortunately, recent trends within the Civil Rights movement, ironically, give greater credibility to a book like *The Bell Curve*. A new respectability has emerged for thinking in terms of groups, rather than individual rights, this time coming from some within the black community. It manifests itself in a focus on quotas, race-based redistricting, and extreme forms of multiculturalism.

Moving away from Martin Luther King's focus on judging people "by content of one's character rather than the color of one's skin," the group became all. And so when Murray and Herrnstein chose to resurrect the concept of race and intelligence, they could be emboldened by this new legitimacy for thinking in group terms, coming from those who should have an interest in weakening this thrust that has been so destructive to black life in America.

If any good can come from the publication of a book propounding racist theories, it is to remind us of the moral and practical power of the message of equality and dignity of Martin Luther King.

David H. Strassler is national chairman of the Anti-Defamation League.

Debating Israel-Diaspora Relations

by Cynthia Mann

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Differing prescriptions for strengthening the faltering ties between Israel and the diaspora have made fiery adversaries of Yossi Beilin, deputy foreign minister, and Yehiel Leket, acting chairman of the Jewish Agency for Israel.

But at a forum on Dec. 3, sponsored by the B'nai B'rith World Center, the two former sparring partners sounded surprisingly conciliatory.

At the forum, "Expectations and Fulfillment in the Israel-Diaspora Equation," both Beilin and Leket stressed the need to respond to the problems of assimilation and intermarriage that threaten diaspora ties to Judaism and Israel.

And both agreed that a new, more balanced Israel-diaspora partnership has to be devised to address common Jewish challenges in the face of changing politics, economics and demographics.

But the two have radically different formulas for structuring the new partnership.

Beilin repeated his standard call to abolish the World Zionist Organization because he believes it is an anachronism. And he said the Jewish Agency should be replaced with a more democratic organization whose centerpiece focuses on free trips to Israel for diaspora youth to help curb assimilation and instill Jewish pride.

He said the WZO, which consists of diaspora Zionist organizations and representatives

of Israel's political parties, has no ideological *raison d'être* since the Zionist movement is made up of people who "support Israel and like Israel," but have no intention of "fulfilling the Zionist dream and making aliyah."

The Jewish Agency, he said, "is not a democratic organization and does not reflect a real picture (of) the Jewish world today."

Beilin's much-touted plan is to replace the Jewish Agency

... The money ... should come from funds now dedicated to Jewish Agency activities in Israel such as social welfare, which should be the sole responsibility of Israelis.

with a new organization he has tagged Beit Yisrael, which he says would be based on a Jewish census in "which every Jew will be counted and will count."

Its principal purpose would be to strengthen Jewish identity and stop the trend toward assimilation.

Since universal Jewish education is not feasible, he said, he has proposed fully subsidized visits to Israel for diaspora youth.

He believes the money to fund the trips should come

(Continued on Page 15)

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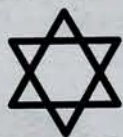
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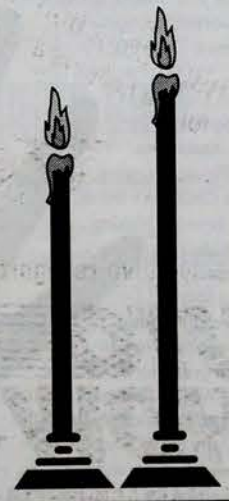
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Candlelighting
December 16
3:58 p.m.



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



Submitted by Rabbi Yehoshua Laufer.

Why Not A Happy Ending?

With this week's Torah portion, Vayechi, we conclude the book of Genesis. "So Joseph died, being 110 years old ... and he was put into a coffin in Egypt" is its final verse.

This conclusion to the entire book is somewhat surprising, in light of the principle that "one should always end on a positive note." Why couldn't Genesis have concluded a few verses back, when we learn that Joseph lived a long life and merited to see grandchildren and great-grandchildren? Why couldn't the description of Joseph's death have waited until the book of Exodus?

We must therefore conclude that Joseph's passing is somehow related to the theme of Genesis itself. The primary difference between Genesis and the other four books of Moses is that Genesis relates the early history of our forefathers and the 12 tribes — the preparation for our existence as a distinct nation — whereas the other four books contain a narrative of our history as a people.

The book of Genesis begins with an account of the creation of the world. The sage, Rabbi

Yitzchak, explained that although the Torah should have begun with a practical mitzva, G-d chose to commence with the creation to refute the arguments of the gentiles, who would one day claim that the Jews had stolen the land of Israel from the seven nations who lived there prior to its conquest. To counter their assertion, the Jews will say, "The entire world belongs to G-d; He created it and divided it as He saw fit. It was His will to give it to them [the seven nations], and it was His will to take it from them and give it to us."

Surely G-d did not change the entire order of His Torah just to supply an answer to the arguments of the gentiles. The comments of Rabbi Yitzchak must therefore contain a more fundamental teaching for the Jewish people as a whole.

The nations of the world are already cognizant of the Jew's uniqueness and his special mission. Their claim, however, is that precisely because Jews are different, they should limit themselves to the spiritual service of G-d and not tie themselves down to a physical land. Because Jews are a nation like

no other, they have no right to claim ownership of a homeland. To the non-Jew, the spiritual and physical realms are incongruous and incompatible.

"The entire world belongs to G-d," the Jew responds — the worldly as well as the spiritual realm. Both require sanctification through the light of holiness — the sacred mission of the Jewish people.

With this concept the book of Genesis begins, and on this note it concludes. Joseph's coffin remained in Egypt in order to give strength and inspiration to the children of Israel in their Egyptian exile. The power of Joseph is symbolic of the ability of the Jewish people to overcome even the most difficult of obstacles, imbuing even the coarsest of physical matter with holiness and bringing the full and completed redemption.

Adapted from Likutei Sichot of the Rebbe, Vol. XXX.

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WORLD AND NATIONAL NEWS

Continuity Commission Urges Growth to 'Jewishness'

by Larry Yudelson

NEW YORK (JTA) — American Jews are being urged to invite fellow Jews to Shabbat meals, organize study groups, and form havurot.

Helping "other Jews grow in their Jewishness" is one of the recommendations in a 36-page report of the North American Commission on Jewish Identity and Continuity presented Nov. 16 to the General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations.

The 88-member commission sought help from people in all walks of Jewish life in mapping out new directions as the American Jewish community shifts focus from rescuing endangered Jews abroad to strengthening Jewish life at home.

The draft described Jewish identity as "the bedrock of Jewish continuity."

But the report did not define Jewish identity.

Discussing the draft at the recent commission meeting, Rabbi David Elcott said it was "disturbing" that the commission came up with neither a description of what a Jewish identity entails, nor the building blocks for creating one.

"If the report was talking about enhancing health, we would expect recommendations, such as 'don't smoke, exercise,' etc.," said Elcott, academic vice president at CLAL: The National Jewish Center For Learning and Leadership.

As an amalgam of reports from the four separate working groups, the report contains some inconsistencies.

While one group was urging that the high school, college and young-family years be seen as the prime focus of new efforts, the working group on

"reaching and involving Jews outside the intensely affiliated core" zeroed in on young people out of college and not yet married.

In one of its strongest messages of how money should or should not be sent, the draft report insists that Jewish identity must be built through both ongoing "formative" experiences, such as family life, Jewish schooling and summer camps, and through "transformative" experiences such as Israel trips.

"We see a tendency in continuity to value transformative over formative, to put the big bucks on the singular experiences," said Joseph Reimer, director of the Hornstein Program in Jewish Communal Service at Brandeis University, summarizing the report of the working group he helped lead.

"We're pleading with planners of Jewish continuity to find the right balance between formative and transformative. The formative takes that moment of high intensity and turns it into a regularized part of our Jewish life," Reimer said.

They Ate The Hole Thing

by Ilana Polak

NEW YORK (JTA) — Entries in the Guinness Book of World Records have become holiday traditions at the Hadassah College of Technology in Jerusalem.

The students in the college's department of hotel management will be listed in the book's 1995 edition for frying the world's largest sofghania (jelly doughnut) for the first night of Chanukah.

On Purim in 1993, Hadassah College students earned an entry in the Guinness Book with the world's largest haman-

tashen.

To assemble the 35-pound sofghania, the culinary students used 13 pounds of flour, five pounds of jelly, six pints of oil, 10 eggs and one pound of yeast.

And frying the doughnut was not as easy as pie.

Nine gallons of cooking oil had to be used in the cooking process, which left the potential for a fire always looming near.

Luckily, for the students and the sofghania, the cooking proceeded accident-free.

Clinton Taps Rubin for Treasury

by Jennifer Batog

WASHINGTON (JTA) — President Clinton recently tapped economic adviser Robert Rubin to replace Lloyd Bentsen as secretary of the treasury, making Rubin the second Jewish member in Clinton's Cabinet.

Although Rubin has not been a key leader in Washington on Jewish issues, observers welcomed his appointment and said Rubin has always maintained good ties with the com-

munity.

"He has always been involved in the Jewish community and always been sensitive to the Jewish community's issues," said Monte Friedkin, national chairman of the National Jewish Democratic Committee.

Jewish leaders praised Rubin's work as the head of the National Economic Council, a position which gave him "a direct path to the Oval Office," Friedkin said.

Nobel Dissenter Speaks Out

by Michele Chabin

JERUSALEM — When the 1994 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasser Arafat in Oslo, Kaare Kristiansen was not at the ceremony.

Kristiansen, the Nobel Prize committee member who resigned in protest in October after Arafat was named one of the peace prize recipients, instead flew to Jerusalem last week to show support for Israel.

A former president of the Norwegian Parliament and a longtime supporter of Israel, Kristiansen said he could not attend the awards ceremony, on Dec. 10 in good conscience. Instead, he accepted an invitation from the World Zionist Organization to attend a Christian Friendship Conference taking place in the capital.

Interviewed at a kibbutz guest house recently, Kristiansen, a spry 74, said he had no regrets about resigning, despite the storm of controversy generated by his anti-Arafat position.

"Arafat has been one of the most renowned terrorists in the world," Kristiansen said. "He has, so to speak, built the bridges for many other terrorists in other countries. He has killed a lot of innocent people."

He said that because the committee's statutes require "an absolute consensus" among its five members, he had to resign in order to voice his dissent.

Since resigning from the committee, Kristiansen said he has received "mixed reactions."

Kristiansen pondered only briefly when asked whether awarding the 1978 Nobel Peace Prize to former Prime Minister

Menachem Begin was equally controversial, given Begin's role in the Jewish underground in the 1940s.

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MILESTONES

A Hero Named Suskind East Side West Side

Part of the Grand Lobby of The Wang Center in Boston, is the Suskind Lobby on the second floor. An article in the winter/spring issue of *Fanfare* gives some background on the lobby.

The Walter Suskind Memorial Fund was established five years ago by Wang Center Trustee Dr. Maurice Vanderpol and his wife Netty as a permanent Young At Arts endowment.

During the Nazi occupation of Amsterdam, Walter Suskind, a Dutch Jew, worked at De Hollandse Schouwburg (The Dutch Theatre). Once a thriving center for the performing arts, the theater was converted into a detention center for Jewish families awaiting deportation to concentration camps.

At extreme personal risk, Suskind moved back and forth between the theater and a nearby day care center, hiding children to be saved.

With the help of co-workers and a network of Dutch farmers and clergy, Suskind and his group smuggled 1,200 children to safety in the Dutch countryside, rescuing them from certain death.

Suskind's legacy of offering life and hope to children during World War II lives on at The Wang Center through the Walter Suskind Children's Honor Roll.

Established in 1988, the honor roll celebrates the lives of the children Suskind saved by memorializing the names of 1,200 of today's children in the center.

The Suskind Lobby and Children's Honor Roll are scheduled to be unveiled at the fifth anniversary celebration of the Walter Suskind Memorial Fund Benefit on April 22, 1995.

New Dance Group Forming

Every Thursday evening, beginning Dec. 22, there will be a meeting of an Israeli dance group for women from 8 to 9 p.m. at Congregation Beth Shalom, 275 Camp Street (corner of Rochambeau Avenue), Providence.

Beginners are welcome. All women in the community are encouraged to attend.

There will be a \$1 fee for each session.

For more details, call Sharon at 751-1251.

Sandy Bass-Comen Retiring

The *Jewish Herald* learned Dec. 9, that longtime staff member at the Jewish Community Center, Sandy Bass-Comen, was retiring at the end of December.

The *Herald* hopes to do a profile feature on Sandy early in January, when she has wrapped up her work at the center and has time for an interview.

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by Mike Fine

Herald Contributing Reporter

"You think of that Paisley curlicue as a Scottish motif in fabric, but it goes way back into the human mind, and into life itself in all its ways."

It's just amazing how names suit people. Diane Chain hunts down ideas for prints on cloth she creates for a living. She sees the chain that connects colors, and links patterns common to us all. For parnosseh and for pastime, this artist and designer seeks truth and beauty. My former student throws an annual get-together at the close of Chanukah and the start of winter. She keeps her flat like a bird nest, high above the East Side in the Miriam neighborhood. Aptly, mystically, her address is Seventh Street.

From her high eyrie she looks out her windows down onto the sunsets across from the tenements and across to other wooden three-deckers that crowd land that once lay out as pasture or orchard. She paints pictures of her views. Her walls show wondrous things, mandalas, close-up portraits, and, more recently, paisley paramacia abstracted into Kabbalistic symbols. "Rabbi Worch helps me to find the secrets in the forms and the hues." Diane's shelves and tables hold funny, odd groups of fetishes — dice, dogs, marbles and agates, plants, flotsam and jetsam. "Yes, it's hard to dust, even with feathers. I have to rearrange my toys into new games."

Diane moves among her chambers and studio spaces in a long hostess gown, looking a bit magical and folkloric herself. She mixes in a crowd from Beth-El along with co-workers, former teachers and longtime friends. It is ironic that the Reform movement keeps its reputation for countering ritual with chill reason, yet Diane draws

spirit, sustenance and support from its society. "I've given them several of my pictures that include Hebrew calligraphy, which I do free-hand, by a kind of inspiration. I'm saving some pastels for a show I'd like to



ARTIST AND FRIENDS — Diane Chain and her friends at an informal get-together in Chain's apartment on the East Side.

Herald photo by Mike Fink

put up at the JCC."

Diane Chain guides us round her apartment and opens the pages of a brilliant book of linear concepts taken from computers and mathematical formulae. "The whole world with everything in it looks like my prints," she says, as we gaze at butterflies hovering over newborn babies under a bright light at her drawing table. I pore over a book on the souls of animals, with a special chapter on Martin Buber and his grey mare.

I snap a photo of her guest Howie Rabinowitz. "Yes, I grew up here on Twelfth Street, but I never saw it glowing the way the blocks do in Diane's drawings."

Meanwhile, on the other side of Hope Street, Susan and Butch Norman keep up their own tradition for the winter solstice

Horowitz Appointed To BCC Board

Jay L. Horowitz, Esq., of North Dartmouth, Mass., has been appointed to the board of directors of the Bristol Community College Foundation.

Horowitz has a bachelor's and master's degree in business administration and a doctor of law degree from Suffolk University. He also has a master's degree in professional accounting from Northeastern University.

He has been editor-in-chief of the Massachusetts Corporate Tax Manual, the major corporate tax reference for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. He is also a member of the Massachusetts Bar Tax Council. Horowitz concentrates his practice in tax and corporate law.

The foundation helps find funding for scholarships and other unbudgeted expenses.

Horowitz will also sit on the Grants Committee, which selects projects that will receive financial assistance.

Historical Assn. Expresses Thanks

by Eleanor Horvitz

The "Can You Help Us?" article and picture for Nov. 25 has brought an unprecedented number of telephone calls.

Identified and seated around the table are the following: extreme left, Sarah Koffler; pouring the tea, Bertha Kaspar. Standing are: second from left, Rose Komras; seventh from left, Mrs. Abraham (Ida) Foster, and eighth from left, Mrs. Edith Kabalkin.

Further information has come forth on this Knitting and Sewing group of women. It is believed that they may have made children's clothes during a period right before and during the early years of Israel.

Ten ladies are still unidentified, but we do appreciate the calls which were received giving us the names of those we do have.

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ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Grant Opportunities Available for Visual Artists

Fellowship grants are available to New England artists working in the disciplines of crafts, photography, and sculpture through the National Endowment for the Arts/New England Foundation for the Arts Regional Fellowships in the Visual Arts program.

The fellowships program recognizes excellence and the continued commitment of artists in the visual arts.

Up to 15 grants of between \$5,000 and \$7,500 will be

awarded in each category. All awards are based on the quality of the work and the impact of the award on the artist's career.

In addition to the regional fellowship awards, an additional grant opportunity will be available to this year's fellowship applicants: the Polaroid Foundation Domestic Life Interpreted Award. This award provides photography fellowships to artists who demonstrate an ongoing commitment to the photographic exploration

of issues in contemporary domestic life.

The deadline for submission to the Regional Fellowships Program is Feb. 1. To receive an application, contact the New England Foundation for the Arts, 678 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, Mass. 02139 (617) 492-2914. Candidates may also call AS220 in Providence, 831-9327.

Day of Wine and Photos

South County Hadassah is holding "A Celebration of Beaujolais Nouveau" on Dec. 18 from 5 to 8 p.m. in the Upstairs Gallery at E.G. Photo, 631 Main St., East Greenwich.

Photo Art will be on display and for sale. Wine will be donated by Thorpe's Liquors of East Greenwich, and explained by Richard. Other refreshments will be provided by Pick Pockets who have locations in both Wakefield and East Greenwich.

Proceeds of the \$12 per person donation will go the Hadassah Medical Organization.

Co-chairwomen of the event are Lori Suprock and Joani McCullough. For additional information call Joani at 295-2954 or Lori at 789-1391.

New England Invitational Opens Dec. 16

The Wimbledon of Craft Shows, In Worcester

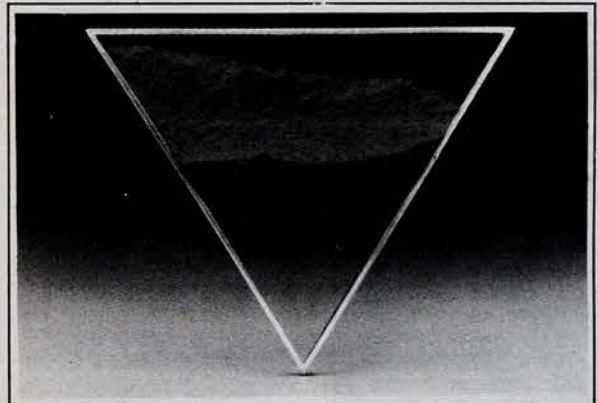
by Alison Smith
Herald Editor

Sixteen craft artists from all over the northeast will display their work at the "New England Invitational," at the Worcester Center for Crafts, at 25 Sagamore Road in Worcester, from Dec. 16 through Jan. 20.

There will be examples of the best in workmanship in clay, fiber, metals and wood.

little things than anything else I've ever done. For a month I spent an incredible amount of time working out the exact proportions in the models. How will it fold up?"

You could wear a brooch by Friedlich, or you could mount it on a piece of beautiful velvet or silk and place it where you could see it often during the day. Like a piece of sculpture.



"INTERFERENCE SERIES BROOCH" — created by Donald Friedlich of Cranston. The dimensions of the brooch are 2 1/4" by 2 1/4" x 3/8", and it is made of slate and 18 karat gold. Price, \$1,300.

Photo by James Beards.

One of the artists chosen for this exhibit is Donald Friedlich of Cranston.

Friedlich is a jeweler, but his work cannot be considered merely adornment. He takes his inspiration from other artists like the Japanese sculptor Noguchi and painters like Diebenkorn and Matisse.

He has studied at the University of Vermont, and the Rhode Island School of Design, perfecting his vision under the direction of Claus Bury and Arline Fisch.

He loves Japanese gardens. He speaks eloquently of "the simplicity and order of the Japanese garden, the stability and refinement of geometric forms, and delicacy and texture of handmade paper, and the monumentality and power of geological formations."

"The challenge is getting powerful impressions, powerful images, in a two-by-two-inch piece of stone."

One of his lines — "Clothes Pins" — is extremely popular. It consists of tiny jackets, vests and ties fabricated out of printed brass. He says, "Although they are cute, there is also more design time in those

Call (508) 753-8183 for information on the exhibition.

A New Nutcracker

by Alison Smith
Herald Editor

Everyone has seen at least one "Nutcracker" — or part of one. The music is so familiar that some of us, a few of us, have gotten heartily sick of it by the end of the "Nutcracker" season. But for a few days, there was a new Nutcracker in town. And boy! there was a difference.

The music sounded earthier, more masculine, more vigorous — and that was a refreshing change. The musicians hurled themselves at the notes instead of handling them delicately like old china.

The dancers — particularly the two leads — gave "Nutcracker" a marvelous sexual tension that I had never seen in it before. It was not obtrusive ... after all, at least a quarter of every "Nutcracker" audience is under 15, but it was there — subtle, and exciting, and enlivening the dialogue of motion.

The sets were imaginative, and were changed without any disruption of the mood or action. They contributed greatly to the ambience of the ballet.

If I had a criticism, it would be that the show was slow to get off the ground. That group singing could have been cut in half and we would have been launched into the action very

nicely.

If the Moscow State Ballet of the Natalia Sats Theatre comes to Providence with the "Nutcracker" again next year, get your tickets early.

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SPORTS FEATURE

After Shaky Start to the Season, Things Look Brighter for Brown

Senior Joel Koplik Leads the Defensive Effort

by Neil Nachbar
Herald Associate Editor

Last year the Brown men's basketball team made great strides. The Bears finished with a 12-14 record, the most wins by a Brown team since 1986. Early in the season the team played a close game against powerhouse Duke and defeated the University of Rhode Island.

With all of their key players returning, Brown is expected to have an even more successful season this year. However, six games into the schedule, the team is just now snapping out of a prolonged shooting slump that has had them playing below their potential.

In their first game, Brown was

blown out at ninth-ranked Duke. Shooting woes continued in losses to URI and Providence College. The Bears won their next two games versus Navy, 61-53 and Holy Cross, 61-60, but still shot poorly from outside.

"Joel's the best defensive player on the team," said Dobbs. "He sets the tempo for the defense and gets the team motivated. I know I can rely on him."

One of the players who has had difficulty finding the range is senior Joel Koplik.

"Right now I'm just trying to figure it out," said Koplik. "I guess it's better for it to happen now than later in the season."

Koplik's confidence in shoot-

ing the ball may be off, but his coach's confidence in his starting forward's ability remains strong.

"He's going to snap out of it," said coach Frank "Happy" Dobbs. "He's no worse off than the other perimeter guys."

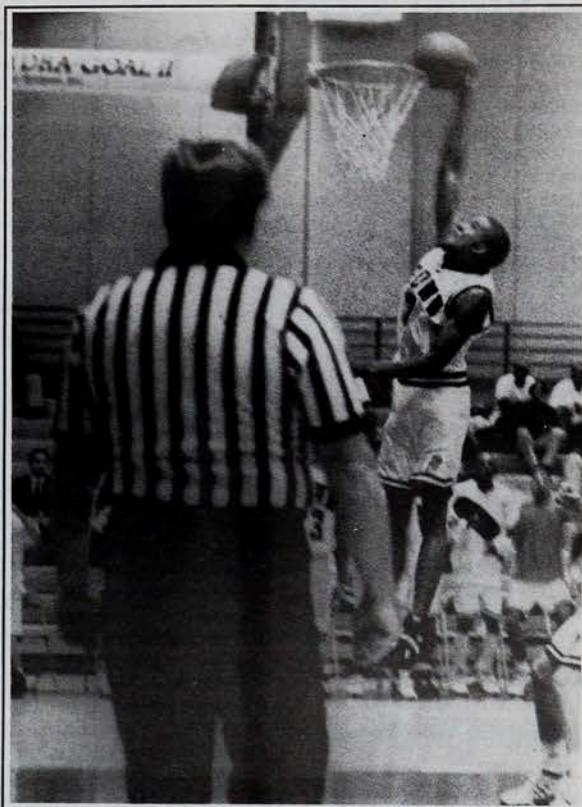
In the Bears most recent game on Dec. 10 against Maine, the team's shooting touch returned. Brown sank nine of 19 three-pointers, en route to an 87-78 win, raising their record to 3-3.

Koplik scored only three points against the Black Bears, but where he really makes his presence felt is on the defensive end and in his overall hustle.

"Joel's the best defensive player on the team," said Dobbs. "He sets the tempo for the defense and gets the team motivated. I know I can rely on him."

While players who score more points usually receive more credit, Koplik seems to relish his role on the team.

"I stay active on defense and try to set other people up for shots," stated Koplik.



UP AND IN — Joel Koplik puts in a lay-up against Holy Cross last week. Brown won the game, 61-60. Herald photo by Neil Nachbar

After watching Koplik play for a little bit, it comes as no surprise to see him diving for the ball or fighting for a rebound

against bigger players. What does come as a surprise, because of his skin color, is the fact that Koplik is Jewish.

"People are most definitely surprised when they find out," said Koplik with a smile. "Because I joke around a lot, they think I'm kidding."

"Sometimes people ask, 'How did that happen?' I tell them 'I've been Jewish my whole life,'" said Koplik, a Reform Jew from Albuquerque, N.M.

Although Koplik was accepted to schools with stronger basketball programs, he has no regrets for choosing Brown.

"Brown offers the best of both worlds, as far as academics and sports are concerned," said Koplik. "I was originally looking at schools in California, but I know going to Brown will help me down the road."

Koplik is a double major — business economics and organizational behavioral management.

Compared to New Mexico, Rhode Island has seemed like a different world to Koplik.

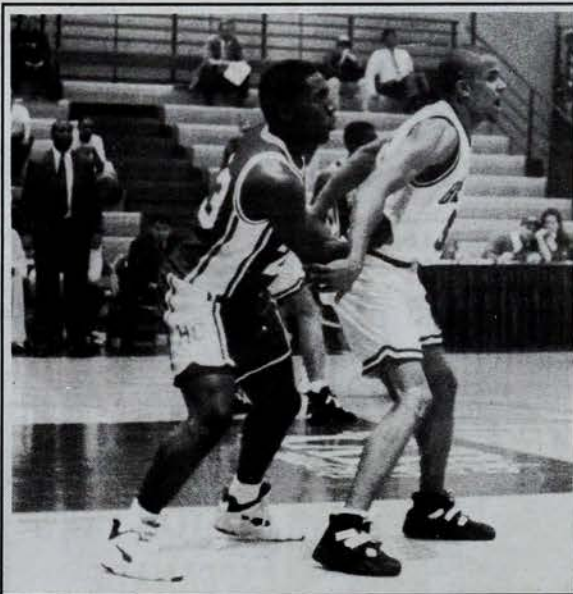
"Out west there is a more relaxed attitude," explained Koplik. "Things are more conservative out here."

After graduating this spring, Koplik plans to play basketball professionally in Israel for a couple of years. It won't be his first trip to the Holy Land. A few years ago he played in the Maccabiah Games in Israel.

"The Maccabiah Games was a lot of fun," said Koplik. "I saw the different areas of Israel. It was very different than I anticipated. (For example) there were a lot more trees than I thought there were."

As for the rest of this season, Koplik believes the team will come around.

"Slowly but surely, we're getting better," said Koplik. "I think we'll do well."



FIGHTING FOR POSITION — Koplik, a tenacious defender, battles for position against Holy Cross. Herald photo by Neil Nachbar

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SPORTS FEATURE

Classical Player Earns High Marks On and Off the Basketball Court

by Neil Nachbar
Herald Associate Editor

Every team needs a player who, even under the most dire circumstances, has the ability to remain poised and guide his teammates.

Gordon Liss, a guard on the Classical High School basketball team, is such a player.

"Gordon has good leadership capacity," said coach Richard Deutsch. "I have a lot of confidence in him."

Averaging about eight points per game, Liss isn't one of the leading scorers, but his contribution to the team can't be measured by statistics.

"Guys like Gordon are an invaluable asset on the court," said Deutsch. "He understands the game academically and he's always thinking of ways in which he can improve himself and his team."

When Classical was without a point guard last year, Liss was asked to fill the position. Although he was only a sophomore, he did a great job of directing the offense.

This year Liss has been asked to switch over to the shooting guard spot.

"Last year I was very unselfish with the basketball," said Liss. "Now I would like to get a pure shooter's mentality and

fire away more."

In the classroom Liss has been firing on all cylinders. For the third year in a row he's a straight A student. Last year he won an award from the *Providence Journal-Bulletin* for an article he wrote

leave practice early to attend Midrasha at Temple Emanu-El (in Providence).

"I have responsibilities in both," said the 16-year-old. "Midrasha reminds me about the importance of Judaism in my life."

Judaism has always held an important place in Liss' life. After his family moved to Rhode Island from Binghamton, N.Y., he attended Schechter in grades six through eight.

Deutsch not only respects the religious commitments of Liss and other players on the team, but he works the team's schedule around such activities.

"We never put basketball first," said Deutsch. "All religions are represented on the team and we try to work practices and games around those commitments."

Some coaches shy away from kids who are unable to dedicate most of their time to the team. Deutsch, on the other hand, considers such individuals an asset to a team.

"If a kid is the kind of person who follows through on academic, religious and family commitments, then that's the kind of person I want on the team," said Deutsch.



Gordon Liss
Herald photo by Neil Nachbar

for his school newspaper. Aside from journalism, Liss' other favorite subjects include history, social studies and Spanish.

"His intelligence shows up on the court," stated Deutsch. "It's very helpful against bigger and stronger players."

As dedicated as Liss is to the basketball team, he often has to



LEADING THE WAY — Gordon Liss pushes the ball upcourt against the opposition.
Photo by Chuck King

Last year was a rebuilding year for Classical. But this year the team is off to a flying start. After blowing out Warwick Vets and Tiverton, and going 1-1 in the recent West Warwick tournament, the squad's record is 3-1. However, a tough division schedule in Class A awaits the team.

"We have a lot of potential," said Liss. "We're an unselfish team. We just need some more time together."

Of course, when the team is winning, it makes the games that much more fun.

"It's a lot easier to play this year, especially now that we have won a couple of games," stated Liss. "The team is in good spirits and we're beginning to really click."

When the basketball season ends, Liss prepares for outdoor

track, in which he runs the 400 meter, 200 meter and 4 x 400 meter relay.

"Track helps me stay in shape during the off season," said Liss.

During the summer, Liss attends Camp Ramah — an overnight Jewish camp. As a result, he misses many of the summer basketball leagues, but his experiences at camp make up for it.

"I've established long-lasting friendships with kids from all over the United States," said Liss.

While many kids find it difficult to balance sports, family commitments, academics and religion, Liss doesn't let his active schedule become a burden.

"Gordon has a clear focus of what he wants out of life," said Deutsch. "He wants to succeed, but also wants to have fun — and he does both."

Who Says Horses Can't Fly?

Always interested in performing a mitzvah or good deed, El Al Israel Airlines recently carried three horses to their new home at the Therapeutic Riding Club of Israel.

Through horseback riding, the Therapeutic Riding Club promotes the recovery of disabled individuals ranging in age from 3 to 70 plus. Hippotherapy (therapeutic horseback riding) is the interaction of the horse with the disabled rider which strengthens muscle tone, balance, posture, coordination and motor development and is highly beneficial to the emotional well-being of the participants.

The three horses will join 15 other horses already in Israel that are providing more than 650 therapeutic riding lessons each month to disabled veterans and other Israeli individuals with cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, blindness, learning and hearing disabilities, and head and spinal injuries.

The Therapeutic Riding Club of Israel is a non-profit organization based in Beit Yehoshua, Israel, near Tel Aviv.

Preparing for their new job, the three horses fortified their strength by eating more than 25 pounds of hay during their El Al flight from New York to Tel Aviv.

For more information on the program, call (212) 353-2169.



WHOA NELLIE — Pictured with Therapeutic Riding Club founder Giora Shekedi are horses Sasha and Little John.

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School Beat



Four Students Win Grant For River Study

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The University of Massachusetts at Boston has been awarded a \$78,000 grant from the NYNEX Foundation to oversee a team of high school students from Providence, as they work with scientists to help save a polluted river.

The Rhode Island team was the first-place winner in the 1994 NYNEX Science and Technology Awards, which challenges students to propose solutions to community prob-

lems, and then provides college scholarships to the winning teams as well as development grants to carry out their proposals.

The winning team of four students from Wheeler School in Providence (12th-graders Christopher Gordon, Alison McLennan, Aimee Olin, and Lillian Shuey, directed by teacher Robert Brown), proposed efforts to improve the quality of their local Runnins River.

The plan includes testing various aspects of the river's health to identify sources of pollution, and alerting citizens of the lifestyle changes required to reduce toxins in the river.

The project will be implemented during 1995 under the direction of the grant's principal investigator, Dr. David Nellis, chair of the geography department at the university.

The students will be interns at the school during the summer to work on the project.

Bridgewater State Announces Black Achievement Events

To introduce Black History Month in February, the Bridgewater State College Foundation announces the activities of the Hall of Black Achievement for the month of January.

HOBIA is a repository of the records of the significant achievements and contributions of Blacks, Cape Verdeans, and Hispanics of African descent. The hall serves as a forum for research, discussion and analysis of the contributions that people of color continue to make to this country and beyond.

On Jan. 16, the eighth annual

Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration and Breakfast will be held in the Flynn Dining Commons, Tillinghast Hall at 8:30 a.m. Tickets are \$6.

The Bridgewater Performing Arts Series presents a concert in honor of HOBIA featuring William Brown, tenor and Henry Santos, pianist. The concert will be held at the Rondileau Campus Center Auditorium on Jan. 26 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$12 for orchestra and \$10 for balcony.

For more information, call (508) 697-1290.

Publication Compiled on Scholarships

Each year individuals preparing to go to college or graduate school face the dilemma of how to pay for tuition, room and board, text books, lab fees, and other expenses.

Yet there are over 375,000 funding sources available for these students. Contrary to popular belief, over 80 percent of the scholarships and grants do not depend on family need or high grades. Many are based on factors such as the student's interests, hobbies, academic focus, age, ethnic background or parent's work or military service.

Six billion dollars goes uncol-

lected each year simply because people do not ask for it, according to a report by the National Commission on Student Financial Aid. Now a new academic funding publication, updated for 1994-95, promises to help guide students through the process and identify sources for assistance.

Send a No. 10 self-addressed, double-stamped envelope plus \$2 to cover handling to the National Academic Funding Administration, 815 Middle Street, Suite 1300, Portsmouth, N.H. 03801, for information on this funding assistance.

Center for Human Rights Opens at Hebrew University

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem inaugurated its new Center for Human Rights with a public lecture on the Mount Scopus Campus on Nov. 30.

The lecture, titled "The Community, Authority and Human Rights in an Age of Violence," was given by Yehoshua Arieli, James G. McDonald professor emeritus of modern history at The Hebrew University.

The Center for Human Rights, sponsored by The He-

brew University's Faculty of Law and the Harry S Truman Research Institute for the Advancement of Peace, was established to promote, support and coordinate academic activities in the field of human rights. Its activities include promoting research, providing a base for academic cooperation in human rights among lawyers, social scientists, philosophers, historians and other interested individuals, and sponsoring

public symposia, conferences and lectures.

Support for graduate students and grants for research projects are being offered with financial assistance from the Ford Foundation.

To provide researchers with access to relevant materials, the center is compiling a computerized bibliographical database of all information relating to human rights in Israel and the territories.

Recipe Contest Offers Scholarships To Johnson & Wales

High school seniors from across the nation will have a chance to win full-tuition scholarships — worth more than \$39,000 each — to Johnson & Wales University in the culinary school's sixth annual National High School Recipe Contest to be held April 7 to 9 in cooperation with the American Cancer Society.

Last year, more than \$350,000 in Johnson & Wales scholarships was awarded at the conclusion of the three-day cook-off.

From a field of more than 400 applicants, 20 finalists were flown to Providence for the competition.

Each year the world's largest culinary school invites every high school and secondary vocational senior student in the United States to participate in the recipe contest which has attracted growing national attention over the past four years.

High school seniors are

asked to submit original recipes for a healthful family dinner, which includes a hot main entrée, a vegetable and a starch, or recipes for a healthful bread and dessert.

Applicants are asked to follow the American Cancer Society nutrition guidelines, which are included with the official entry blank, when planning their menu entries. The deadline for entries is Feb. 12.

Zeiterion Theatre Presents 'Babes In Toyland'

The musical "Babes in Toyland" opens the Zeiterion's School Vacation Series on Dec. 28, at 10:30 a.m. Based on the much-loved Victor Herbert Broadway classic, this production has been updated specially for young audiences.

"Babes in Toyland" is the story of Jack and Jill who wish to be married, but Jill's mother

Student entries will again be judged by a panel of food professionals on the basis of taste, cost effectiveness, ease of preparation, presentation and appearance, nutritional value, originality, calorie content and creativity.

Entry forms are available by calling the university information center toll free at 1-800-343-2565, ext. 1892, or by writing to Recipe Contest, Johnson & Wales University, 8 Abbott Park Place, Providence, R.I. 02903.

(Hubbard) must pay the rent to Barnaby, who holds a special wedding contract, before they can be married. To help Jill, Little Bo Beep wants to sell her sheep, but she discovers that they have disappeared.

Tickets for all the school vacation shows are \$5 each, general admission. Group rates are available. Tickets are available at the Zeiterion ticket office, which is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. To charge tickets over the phone, call Ticketmaster in Massachusetts at (508)/(617) 931-2000 or in Rhode Island at 331-2211.

The Zeiterion Theatre, a member-supported and non-profit performing arts center, is located in an historic, landmark building at 685 Purchase St. in downtown New Bedford. The theatre is wheelchair accessible.

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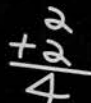
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School Beat



CAT

Students Learn Arabic At Solomon Schechter

by Donna Ezor

MetroWest Jewish News

WHIPPANY, N.J. (JTA) — It could be any classroom in Israel. Jewish high school students are learning Arabic. The instructor, writing Arabic words on the blackboard, speaks to the pupils in Hebrew, "Mah zeh b'ivrit?" — What is this in Hebrew?

Teacher Shoshana Cohen, an Israeli, is asking her students to translate the Arabic words into Hebrew. But the classroom is not in Israel, it's in West Orange, N.J., and the students are American. The 11 seniors at the Solomon Schechter Upper School, a Conservative movement high school, have decided to study Arabic.

Begun this fall as an elective, the Arabic half-year course has a twofold purpose.

Learning Arabic includes becoming familiar with Arabic culture and, gaining a greater understanding between Jews and Arabs.

Cohen, who holds a master's

degree in Arabic from the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia has seen a change in her students' attitudes toward Arabs since taking her course.

"They're learning not to hate," she said, pointing out the difference between followers of Islam and the terrorists of the radical Muslim group Hamas.

The students are using Israeli textbooks, and the class is taught completely in Hebrew.

"We tell everyone this is the best class," said Sarah Allen, 17, whose parents "think it's great" that she's studying Arabic. "In fact, after class each day I teach it to my parents."

That parental enthusiasm is typical, according to Cohen, who says the parents' response to the Arabic study has been overwhelmingly positive. Jennifer Weitz, who is 16, sees a practical reason for taking the class. "I think it's really excellent with everything going on with the peace relations" in the

Middle East.

Many in the class will be studying in Israel next semester, so a knowledge of Arabic will come in handy.

During a typical Arabic class at the Solomon Schechter school, students take turns reading in Arabic as they translate the words into Hebrew. They also sing in Arabic and learn about Islam and Arab culture.

The culture is familiar to Cohen, a native of Baghdad who later moved to Israel.

Not everyone can make the class, she explained. "You have to be on a certain level of Hebrew to be accepted."

Arabic grammar is much more difficult than Hebrew grammar, and "I demand" diligence from the students, said Cohen, who is also a coordinator of the Hebrew honors curriculum. Although after six months studying Arabic, said Cohen, the students will not be able to carry on a sophisticated conversation in the language, "they will understand a lot."

Bronfman Youth Fellowship Applications Available

ALBANY, N.Y. — Applications are now available for the 1995 Bronfman Youth Fellowships in Israel.

The fellowships offer 26 students an opportunity to spend five weeks in Israel next summer. Fellows should be entering the 12th grade and are 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.

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 Weinstein, former Orthodox chaplain of Harvard University.

The fellowship program begins on July 10 with a two-day seminar in New York City. The students return from Israel on Aug. 16. 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 the 12th grade in the fall of 1995 may obtain application forms and detailed information by writing: The Bronfman Youth Fellowships in Israel, 17 Wilbur Street, Albany, N.Y., 12202, or by calling (518) 465-6575.

Completed applications must be postmarked no later than February 1, 1995. Finalists will be notified March 5 and finalists interviews will be held during the week of March 27. Names of the 1995 fellowship recipients will be announced on April 7.

University Fined For Failure to Accommodate Religious Practice

A federal judge has refused Southern Illinois University's request to set aside a \$93,000 judgement for its failure to accommodate an employee's religious practices, the Justice Department announced recently.

Judge William L. Beatty of the U.S. District Court in East St. Louis, refused to alter an earlier order in which he found that the university unlawfully terminated Jeffrey A. Cloud on the basis of his religion.

Cloud, a member of the Worldwide Church of G-d, requested leave without pay from his civil service painter position to attend a religious observance in October 1990.

The university denied Cloud's request, but Cloud still attended the observance.

Upon his return from the observance, known as the Feast of Tabernacles, Cloud was terminated by the university.

In his order, Judge Beatty found that Cloud's absence would not have caused the university an undue hardship and that the university should have granted his request.

"All employers must reasonably accommodate the religious beliefs of their employees unless it is an undue hardship."

Deval L. Patrick
Asst. Attn. Gen. for Civil Rights

The court said that the university must rehire Cloud, offer him retroactive seniority and retroactive pension benefits, provide him back pay of \$93,030, and pay for the government's court costs. Last summer following the trial the university reinstated Cloud.

"All employers must reasonably accommodate the religious beliefs of their employees unless it is an undue hardship," said Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights Deval L. Patrick.

The court found no reason why the university could not reasonably accommodate Cloud's religious beliefs by granting his request for leave without pay.

It found that no one at the university expressed any concern regarding the work load of the painting crew in his absence, no other painters were required to work overtime or other unscheduled hours as a result of his absence, and there was no evidence that any painting job was left uncompleted or that any other work suffered.

Lincoln School Opens Early Childhood Center

Joan Cannady Countryman, head of Lincoln School, has announced the opening of its Early Childhood Center, which offers a developmental infant/toddler program. The program, which serves girls and boys ages 6 weeks to 3 years, is located at the school's main campus, 301 Butler Ave. on Providence's East Side.

Hallie Sammartino, a current Lincoln administrator, will serve as director for the early childhood center. She holds a B.S. in human development and family studies and an M.B.A., both from the University of Rhode Island. Eve Everett, who holds a B.A. from

Rhode Island College and is state certified in early childhood, will manage the program as head teacher.

Lincoln's infant/toddler program will be housed in the newly renovated Mary Nichols

building with the existing preschool. The program will run 50 weeks a year, daily from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

For more information on enrollment in the program, call 331-9696.

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THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Jewish Scouts Work On Sabbath Prayerbook

Jewish Boy Scouts attending Yawgoog Scout Reservation next summer will continue development of a special prayerbook for use at the Temple of the Ten Commandments.

This and expansion of the library at the Jewish Scout chapel top the list of activities for the next camping season.

Rina Sky-Wolfgang of South Kingstown, Jewish chaplain at Yawgoog, told the Jewish Committee on Scouting of Narragansett Council, Boy Scouts of America, that the prayerbook was well received by Scout and adult participants at Sabbath services.

Her hope is that the prayerbook, which contains standard prayers and writings by Scouts, can someday be published and become part of the Jewish Scout experience throughout the country.

Last summer, Sky-Wolfgang, along with the Protestant and Catholic chaplains and Tim Sheldon, deputy reservation director, created a staff awareness training program. The

purpose was to "provide education and sensitivity training for staffers who have not always had the opportunity to associate with people of different races and religions."

The chaplains also established an award to recognize one of the staffers who showed the "most dedication to diversity."

The first award, accompanied by a \$500 U.S. Savings Bond, was presented at the end of the camp season to Ari Lowenstein of Barrington, one of eight Jewish staffers at Yawgoog last summer.

Jules A. Cohen of North Kingstown, chairman of the Jewish Committee on Scouting, said 207 Jewish Scouts camped at Yawgoog last summer, and 29 earned Yawgoog Jewish Scouting Awards for participation in a special program under

the supervision of Sky-Wolfgang.

At the same time, the chaplain helped 12 Scouts start work on the Ner Tamid Award, which is earned through programs that test a Scout's knowledge of Judaism through advanced activities. Sky-Wolfgang said Scouts who are at camp three or four weeks are able to complete about half of the requirements there, and continue this activity as part of their ongoing Scout experience at home.

The past summer was highlighted by the dedication of the Jerome Aron Memorial at the Jewish chapel. Aron, who died in May 1993, was a major force in the creation and promotion of the chapel.

Touro Fraternal Association continues to be the primary benefactor of the chapel library. Committee chairman Cohen said additional gifts are welcome to provide books with Jewish themes for use by the boys while at camp.



He's Honored Again, By George

Federation board member, George Miller, was among those honored as an Unsung Hero at the Westin Hotel, recently, for his dedication to the Meeting Street Center. Shown, from the left, are heroes Patricia Fournier Moran, Miller, William DeAngelus and Adelaide Nicholson.

New England Region USY Plans 1995 Reunion

New England Region United Synagogue Youth Alumni and Friends is holding its annual reunion at Temple Emunah, 9 Piper Road, Lexington, Mass., on Jan. 7 at 7:30 p.m.

There will be hors d'oeuvres and a gala dessert buffet.

This year the organization is honoring all the past presidents of the organization since its inception in 1952.

The alumni group was formed as a fund-raising unit to enhance the lives and culture of Jewish teens and to renew old friendships.

This year's reunion is dedicated to the memories of Barry Locke and Adam Slotnick.

Over the past two years the group has awarded 25 scholarships to individual teens to attend USY encampments.

An additional sum was given to subsidize major regional events of USY.

For more information, call (617) 964-8210.

Majestic Senior Guild

The December meeting of the Majestic Senior Guild will be held on Dec. 20 at Temple Torat Yisrael in Cranston at 12:30 p.m.

The guest speaker will be Ginger Casey of Channel 10 TV. Refreshments will be served.

This will be the last meeting of the guild until March of '95. Deposits and payment in full for future day trips and overnight excursions must be made at this time.

On Jan. 31, there will be a trip to the Hu Ke Lau Restaurant

and Supper Club in Chicopee, Mass. The trip price of \$36 includes a luncheon choice of prime rib or scrod and a show by five entertainers who recreate the atmosphere of the Hawaiian Islands.

Everyone will receive a lei. Running waterfalls, giant banyan trees, aquariums, and simulations of the caverns of Mt. Fuji are featured at this restaurant.

The bus leaves at 10 a.m. and returns at 5 p.m. Payment must be made at the December meeting.

UJA Chairman Cardin To Serve On Israel-Diaspora Relations Committee

Israeli President Ezer Weizman has invited Shoshana S. Cardin, chairman of United Israel Appeal, Inc., to serve on a special ad hoc committee being

formed to study the issues of Jewish continuity and Israel-Diaspora relations.

According to Weizman, the committee will continue the discussions begun during the well-publicized Dialogue on Israel-Diaspora Relations that Weizman convened this past June in Jerusalem. In his letter to Cardin, Weizman explained that he regards the June Dialogue as "an important attempt at defining our relations in a changing world and at working out a new agenda for Jewish life in Israel and the diaspora" and that the ad hoc committee should serve as "a vehicle for attempting to define the problems and suggesting solutions applicable to the different communities."

Governor and Senator To Speak At Touro

Touro Synagogue will welcome Gov. Bruce Sundlun and Sen. Clairborne Pell at a special Shabbat service on Dec. 16, at 7:30 p.m.

During the program, "Dedicated To Peace Throughout The World," the governor and senator will discuss their experiences and unique perspectives as members of the presidential delegation at the signing of the Israeli/Jordanian Peace Treaty.

Touro Synagogue invites the public to attend. Call 847-4794 by Dec. 15 for reservations.



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THE JEWISH COMMUNITY



Breaking Bread At The Embassy — Literally

At left, Rabbi Jacob Rubenstein of New York, chairman of the UJA Rabbinic Cabinet, offers bread to Ayman Aamiry, second from the right, and second secretary of the Jordanian Embassy in Washington, D.C., while Rabbi Harold Berman of Columbus, Ohio, between them, and Rabbi David Fass of New York, watch. This was the first kosher luncheon in an Arab embassy. More than 50 American rabbis were present.

UJA photo by Robert A. Cumins

Brooklyn Bridge Gunman Convicted

by Debra Nussbaum Cohen

NEW YORK (JTA) — The conviction of Rashid Baz for the murder of Ari Halberstam and the attempted murder of 14 other Lubavitch boys has been greeted with relief by those whose lives were most touched by the violence, as well as by others in the Jewish community.

The verdict "was a big relief," said Chana Kalmenson, the older sister of Nachum Sosonkin, who was seriously injured when Baz opened fire on a van full of Lubavitch teens traveling across the Brooklyn Bridge on March 1.

"We're not getting back what we lost, and we don't have the death penalty in New York, but at least we're getting as much as we can," she said.

Sosonkin, 18, still has a 9-mm bullet lodged in his brain and is undergoing medical tests related to his brain damage.

After the verdict was announced Dec. 1, Halberstam's father, Rabbi David Halberstam, told New York *Newsday* that Baz "has no remorse. His only remorse is that he didn't kill every boy on that van."

Baz, a Lebanese immigrant who has said he was traumatized by his war-torn childhood, could face up to 146 years in prison when he is sentenced on Jan. 18.

Two Jordanian men, charged with hindering prosecution and with weapons possession, will be tried separately next year.

According to Rabbi Shea Hecht, a cousin of Ari Halber-

stam's mother, the guilty verdict brought "a tremendous sigh of relief and a tremendous thanks to G-d" in the Lubavitch community. "We hope that the judge will be very, very strict," he said. "Baz was successful in killing one, but his intention was to kill 15..."

Kalmenson, who has five children under the age of 8,

takes her brother to his doctors and therapy appointments several times a week, and helps him with his thrice-daily exercises and with his eating.

Sosonkin still cannot swallow and must be tube-fed. Because his balance is also still affected by the injury, he cannot be left alone.

"We have our hands full, but we thank G-d for all his miracles and hope for more," said the 28-year-old Kalmenson.

Jewish Community Center Events

Dec. 20 at noon — The attorney general's office will provide information to the Brown Bag Club about such topics as consumer fraud, swindles, cable TV rates and the public utilities. Bring a brown bag lunch, dessert and beverage will be provided. A \$1 donation is appreciated. Yiddish Vinkel will follow at 2 p.m. Contact Evy Rappoport at 861-8800 for details.

Dec. 22 — The JCCRI will host a trip to the Jewish Theatre of New England to see the musical revue, "That's Life." Warm up your December with the laughter, song and dance of this delightful and energetic musical that celebrates everything that's great and not-so-great about being Jewish in America today. Those interested can meet for lunch at the JCCRI at 11:30 a.m. The bus leaves for the Jewish Theatre of New England in Newton at 12:30 p.m. and will return at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$18 for the show only or \$19.75 including the catered lunch at the JCCRI. Please reserve a place as soon as possible by contacting Lori Broomfield at 861-8800.

Dec. 28 — The JCCRI will offer an opportunity for children in grades 4 to 6 to go "tubing," or sledding with large, inflatable inner tubes, down the children's ski trail in Yawgoo Valley in Exeter. The group will meet at the JCCRI at 9:45 a.m. The bus will leave at 10 a.m. and return by 4 p.m. Children should bring a bagged lunch or money to buy lunch. The cost is \$15 for Club 456 members and \$20 for non-members. Call Alisa Yanow by Dec. 21 at 861-8800.

The JCCRI is located at 401 Elm Grove Avenue on the East Side of Providence.

Jewish Activists In Quandary

by Matthew Dorf

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Jewish activists here are in a quandary.

When they look at Rep. Newt Gingrich's official rise to speaker of the House of Representatives last week, many activists express grave concern over his positions on domestic issues.

At the same time, however, the same folks laud him on his solid pro-Israel credentials.

Since the election, Jewish organizations have led the charge against the Republican push for balanced budget and school prayer amendments as well as aggressive welfare reform.

"The new leadership on the House side has made its agenda clear," said Mark Pelavin, Washington representative of the American Jewish Congress.

While that agenda is "fundamentally at odds with the American Jewish community," he said, "we will work with them when we can."

On the Israel agenda, "the new leadership has demonstrated clear support of Israel

and AIPAC feels well positioned to work with them in a dramatically changed congress in what will be an enormous and doable task," an AIPAC spokesman said.

Gingrich who "brought the house down" at last year's AIPAC policy conference, according to many present, led Republicans in the last Congress to two record-breaking pro-Israel initiatives.

While Gingrich's record on Israel is praised across the board by activists, Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan.) has a mixed record. In the past, he has floated proposals to cut foreign aid to Israel.

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Dvorah-Dayan Group To Meet Dec. 19

The next meeting of the Dvorah-Dayan Club of Na'Amat/USA will meet on Dec. 19, at 7:45 p.m. at the home of Alice Eichenbaum, 96 Savoy St., Providence.

The club hostess will talk about, "My Past and My Present," and her experiences on her recent trip to Austria and Bulgaria.

Friends and members are invited.

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OBITUARIES

REBECCA ABRAMS

PROVIDENCE — Rebecca Abrams, 96, of the Summit Medical Center, died Dec. 9 at the center. She was the widow of Herman Abrams. A lifelong Providence resident, she was a daughter of the late Morris and Fannie (Orlove) Kortick.

She was a member of Temple Emanu-El, its sisterhood and its leader club. She was a member of the Women's Associations of the Miriam Hospital and the Jewish Home for the Aged. She was a member of Hadassah.

She leaves two daughters, Hope Mellon of Cranston and Leila Green of East Greenwich; two sisters, Ethel Kortick and Beatrice Goldstein, both of East Providence; six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Sarah Brier and Joseph and Jack Kortick.

A graveside funeral service was held Dec. 11 at Lincoln Park Cemetery, Post Rd., Warwick. Arrangements were by Mt. Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

ELLIS EARL BLACKMAN

STUDIO CITY, Calif. — Ellis Earl Blackman, 79, of 4329 Colfax Ave. in Studio City, Calif., died there on Dec. 5, after a lengthy illness. He leaves his wife of 52 years, Ethel (Sydel) Blackman of the same address.

Born in Providence, he was the son of Morris and Celia (Lisker) Blackman of Providence.

He attended the University of Rhode Island before serving in the U.S. Armed Forces for five years during World War II. The family settled in California after the war.

Besides his wife, he is survived by a son, Jeffrey Evan of Los Angeles; a brother, Louis of Los Angeles; a sister, Claire Cohen of Providence and Delray Beach, Fla. He was the brother of the late Miriam Gershkoff of Providence and Sophie Cort of Providence and Texas.

The funeral services were held on Dec. 8 at the Sinai Mortuary in Burbank, Calif.

MINNIE GURSKY

PROVIDENCE — Minnie Gursky, of the Tockwotton Home, 75 East St., a secretary

for the former Holt Insurance Co. and the Industrial National Bank, now Fleet Bank for many years, before retiring, died Dec. 8 at the home. She was the widow of David J. Gursky. A lifelong Providence resident, she was a daughter of the late Joseph and Fannie (Bolotin) Millman.

She leaves a daughter, Anita Clymas of Framingham, Mass.; two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. A funeral service was held Dec. 9 at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

CELIA W. HOFFMAN

PROVIDENCE — Celia W. Hoffman, 90, of Rosewood Manor, 140 Pitman St., died Dec. 8 at the home. She was the widow of Sydney Hoffman. Born in Fall River, Mass., a daughter of the late Kopel and Fannie (Odinitz) Weiner, she had lived in Cranston and Pawtucket, moving to Providence in 1989.

She was a member of Temple Beth-El and its sisterhood, the Jewish Home for the Aged, and she was a life member of Hadassah. She was a member of the B'nai B'rith Women.

She leaves a son, Allen R. Hoffman of Pawtucket; and a sister, Lee Gertner of Providence; four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She was the mother of the late Dr. Melvin Hoffman and sister of the late Jacob and Vincent Weiner, Ida Ladd, Sara Goldstein and Mae Smith.

A funeral was held Dec. 11 at the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

HAROLD SHAPIRO

PROVIDENCE — Harold Shapiro, 72, of Concord Avenue died Dec. 5 in Miriam Hospital. He was the husband of Shirley (Snyder) Shapiro.

Born in Poland, a son of the late Jacob and Hilda (Fineman) Shapiro, he lived in Providence before moving to Cranston 38 years ago.

He was a supervisor for the Leviton Manufacturing Co. in Warwick for 34 years before re-

tiring 10 years ago. He was a member of the Touro Fraternal Association and Temple Beth-El. He was a former member of Temple Sinai. He was an Army veteran of World War II.

Besides his wife, he leaves a daughter, Debra Shapiro of Waterbury, Conn.; a son, Steven Shapiro of North Falmouth, Mass.; two stepsons, Jon Tolchinsky of Warwick and Howard Tolchinsky of Phoenix, Ariz.; a step-daughter, Marjorie Tolchinsky of Boston; a sister, Ann Furman of Cranston, and three grandchildren. He was the brother of the late Rebecca Garbatsky.

The funeral was held Dec. 8 at the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, in Warwick.

ROSE SUGARMAN

PROVIDENCE — Rose Sugarman, 92, of the Rosewood Manor, Pitman Street, died Dec. 10 at the manor. She was the widow of Myer Sugarman.

She was a member of the former Congregation Sons of Abraham and its Sisterhood, and of Temple Torat Yisrael in Cranston when it was known as Temple Beth-Torah.

A graveside service was held Dec. 12 at Lincoln Park Cemetery in Warwick. Arrangements were by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

Resisting Divorce Man Dies

by Naomi Segal

JERUSALEM (JTA) — An 82-year-old man who had been in prison for 31 years for refusing to give his wife a get, or a religious bill of divorce, died recently after suffering a cerebral hemorrhage while still in jail.

The couple was married in their native country of Yemen when Ora was 12 and Yihye was 28. She bore him two daughters, but he reportedly berated her and abused her for not bearing sons.

For three decades, Yihye Avraham refused to grant the divorce, explaining that he loved, and still loves, his wife, Ora.

Panamanian Jews Paranoid and Frustrated

by Larry Luxner

PANAMA CITY (JTA) — Nearly five months after the bombing of a small Panamanian commuter plane in which 21 people, including 12 Jews, died, authorities still do not know whether the attack was the work of Islamic fanatics or Colombian drug thugs out to kill one specific Jew aboard the plane.

The lack of answers has led to frustration, anger and a certain degree of paranoia among Panama's 8,000 Jews, most of whom are wealthy and very religious.

At Congregation Shevet Achim in Panama City's Bellavista neighborhood, three teenage boys stood guard one recent afternoon, suspiciously eyeing two Jewish visitors who had asked to meet with the rabbi.

When community leader Ruben Abadi finally came out, he would not let the visitors in and he refused to discuss the bombing.

"The press has taken all our comments out of context. I'm not talking to any more journalists," Abadi snapped, turning his back on the visitors and retreating into the synagogue.

Joseph Harari, president of Shevet Achim and chairman of the Latin American section of B'nai B'rith International, later apologized for the incident. But he said that it illustrates the suffering felt by Panama's Jews in the wake of the worst tragedy ever to hit the close-knit community.

The bombing in Panama occurred one day after a powerful bomb ripped apart the Buenos Aires offices of Argentina's central Jewish organization, killing nearly 100 people.

In a Nov. 29 letter to President Clinton, Harari was one of several Latin Americans who asked that the issue of terrorism be placed high on the agenda at the Summit of the Americas, which began Dec. 9 in Miami.

Neither the White House nor any of the agencies investigating the July 19 crash have any solid answers.

The Alas commuter plane, carrying 21 people on a 50-mile flight from Colon to Panama City, crashed in mountainous terrain shortly after takeoff.

On board were 12 Jews — including four Israelis — who ran businesses in the Colon Free Zone, which annually trans-

ships about \$11 billion worth of electronics, liquor, designer clothing and other luxury goods from the Far East to Latin America.

Four non-Jewish Americans were also killed in the crash.

The Lebanese-based Party of G-d terrorist group immediately claimed responsibility for the bombing.

There were people in the free zone who wouldn't get on the same plane with Schwartz.

To date, the investigation has centered on Lya Jamal, a Lebanese national who was on the plane and whose body was the only one left unclaimed after the crash.

Panama's leading newspaper, *La Prensa*, recently reported that Jamal refused to give airline employees a local address when purchasing his ticket, and that he had entered Panama illegally.

Harari said that Jamal's body was the most mutilated by explosives, and that "our contacts with intelligence organizations give us the general impression that this is linked with the Middle East, above all because of the type of explosive utilized in this attack," he said.

Yet some prominent Panamanians have suggested that the attack was not aimed at Jews in general, but against one Jew in particular, Saul Schwartz, who reportedly was under investigation by Italian authorities for his alleged links to the Medellín, Colombia, cocaine cartel.

A few weeks before the crash, said Harari, someone planted a bomb in the car of a cousin, Alan Schwartz, but no one was injured in that attack.

According to Roberto Eisenmann, publisher of *La Prensa*, "Saul Schwartz was definitely in the hanky-panky business. There were people in the free zone who wouldn't get on the same plane with Schwartz."

According to Eisenmann, "Most of the Jewish community would prefer to call it an anti-Semitic act than to accept that one of their own was involved in drug trafficking."

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Aaron and Sharon Got Married

by Alison Smith
Herald Editor

Aaron and Sharon got married, Dec. 10, at Temple Am David, and it was some wedding, let me tell you.

That rabbi! Some rabbi! It turns out he's Orthodox, with the beard and everything. Orthodox! And so Sharon's uncle goes up to him and says, "Reform! You were supposed to be Reform." He tears off his beard, this rabbi, and yells, "You want Reform? You got Reform!" I was never so shocked.

There was a little trouble also with the grandfather...the one who passed away seven years ago — Reuben Rabin, of blessed memory. The grandmother — Aaron's grandmother — didn't want him to miss the ceremony. He was always saying Aaron would never get married... "You're too

particular, Aaron,"...and the grandmother wanted him there, to see for himself, so she brought him. In his urn.

When she walked in with that big handbag, I thought, "Not to a wedding, Bubbie, something you could carry a small pony in..." but I said nothing. Naturally. Then she gets excited and forgets what she's got in her purse, and need I say more? Ashes everywhere! There were more than 200 people there. Guests. Some of them I never saw before, but what can you say? They might be friends of the bride. Who knows, really? I hear she was in the theatre, in New York, before she came here. You know the kind of life they lead!

Anyhow, everybody had a good time. The food was nice — catered by Izzy's. Hors d'oeuvres and dinner. There was dancing after...I think that's when Grandmother lost Grandfather. Temporarily.

Someone said it reminded them of an Italian wedding they'd been to — the same faces.

(Marty Cooper, president of Temple Am David, says this was the first Meshuganah Wedding performed in Rhode Island, and that the troupe who put it on said the audience at Temple Am David was one of the most responsive they'd ever worked with. Interactive theatre at its best. Marty said, "I laughed so hard..." and laughed again, remembering.)

Want To Bet This Alligator Is Real?

by Naomi Segal

JERUSALEM (JTA) — A man came close to being lunch for an alligator recently after he jumped into the alligator and crocodile compound at the Hamat Gader Hot Springs, located south of Tiberias, to settle a bet that the reptiles were not for real.

Site manager Ronni Lothan said the visitor had taken a branch and started beating the tail of a 12-foot-long alligator lying in the grass.

The reptile suddenly turned its head and snapped at the intruder, who jumped back and climbed over the fence, with all body parts intact.

Lothan said the fact that it was winter, when the reptiles' metabolism drops and slows their reactions, probably prevented a more gruesome outcome.

"Had this happened in the summer, when the alligators and crocodiles in the park are alert and react with lightning speed, he wouldn't have stood a chance," said Lothan.

The manager said there were more than 200 alligators and crocodiles lying motionless in the compound at the time.

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Israel-Diaspora

(Continued from Page 4)

from funds now dedicated to Jewish Agency activities in Israel such as social welfare, which should be the sole responsibility of Israelis, he said.

For his part, Leket agreed there is an urgent need for reforms that would broaden the base of participation in organized Jewish life.

But he believes that the Jewish Agency and WZO are the best — indeed the only — existing framework for a viable Israeli-diaspora partnership and that they are strong enough to sustain the necessary reforms.

Though Leket in the past has labeled Beilin's plan "ridiculous" and "impractical," the Jewish Agency official said at the forum over the weekend that he would support any new democratic organization that would attract unaffiliated Jews.

He also said Zionist ideology has a critical role to play in combating the increasing failure of Israelis to identify with Jews of the diaspora. He believes this failure of identification poses a critical threat to Israel-diaspora unity which must form the backbone of any partnership.

While "the future of the diaspora as a Jewish people isn't guaranteed without Israel," he said, the future of Israel, as a Jewish country, "is not guaranteed without the diaspora."

He also said he believes the Israel experience for diaspora youth should be a major part of any effort to stem assimilation. And, though he said he does not believe Beilin's plan would be effective, he is not opposed to trying it as a pilot program.

Leket stressed, however, that bringing youth to Israel is not enough.

"We must bring them to an attractive Israel," he said. "The diaspora shares the responsibility for making Israel attractive" and rich in Jewish culture and creativity.

He also said the Jewish Agency and WZO are deliberating over how to expand the institutional partnership beyond the Zionist political parties and the diaspora fundraising establishment that are now represented.

Gift Certificates

The Travelers Aid Society of Rhode Island has been chosen to receive a donation amounting to five percent of each gift certificate purchased during the month of December at Squires Salon in Providence.

An initial check in the amount of \$100 was presented by Squires owner David Shwaery to Marion Avarista, society president, to kick off the program.

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Avarista stated, "We are very grateful to Squires for stepping forward to assist us at this especially critical time of year."

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Estate Planning Concepts

This is the thirteenth article in the continuing series highlighting estate planning sales concepts by Halperin & Lax, Ltd.

Q: Why is an estate creation program useful in estate planning?

A: One of the first steps for mapping out your estate is to have a true course for creating an estate large enough to meet all of your goals. To reach your destination you have to chart your path and navigate around many obstacles.

Estate planning is much broader than just minimizing estate taxes and settlement costs. Proper estate planning takes many factors into account including but not limited to the following: your lifetime needs, your survivor's needs, impact of inflation on you and your survivor's needs, property ownership, maximizing spendable and investable income, management of assets, liquidity, continuity of possessions and distribution of property. At any given time you are creating, accumulating and/or conserving your estate. You can rapidly create an estate through the purchase of life insurance. An estate is accumulated gradually over a long period of time. You conserve an estate by properly planning the distribution to your heirs. Since you never know exactly how long you have to gradually accumulate and conserve your assets, you should purchase life insurance immediately in order to create an estate large enough to satisfy as many of these planning factors as possible.

Example: You have just finished your residency and have over \$100,000 in medical school loans to pay off. You also have two young children, one of whom is disabled and will need special care for life. Although you know that eventually you will accumulate a nice amount of possessions, it would be irresponsible for you not to create a sufficient estate through life insurance to meet these obligations.

Q: Why is Survivor UL useful for estate creation purposes?

A: Since this is a second-to-die policy, the premiums are extremely low when compared to insuring an individual life.

Example: You and your spouse are both 60-year-old smokers and you want to purchase a million dollar policy to create an estate for your heirs. For a \$1,000,000 LFP 100 policy on yourself you would pay \$60,825. If you purchased one for a \$1,000,000 on your wife, it would cost \$44,655. On the other hand, since you don't want an insurance payment until after you are both deceased you could pay the target premium of \$21,600 for a Survivor UL policy. The target premium for a Survivor UL is roughly one-third the target premium for your LFP 100 policy.

Due to the universal life structure of Survivor UL you have tremendous flexibility in creating your estate. If you want to pay a single premium, vanish the premium after a specified number of years, or pay varying amounts depending on the flow of your commission income, then Survivor

UL is the policy you need.

Example: You are in your mid-20s, you have just finished graduate school and have begun a promising career, your wife is expecting your second child in six weeks and your house has a sizable mortgage. In addition to other products to cover your disability and spouse's needs, you want to purchase a Survivor UL to make sure there are enough funds to care for your children during their minority, send them to college and graduate school, and set them up in business. However, due to the many demands for your limited cash flow you can't pay as much premium today as you would like. Also you want to make sure the premium vanishes before your 3-year-old reaches college age. One approach is to have a low but gradually increasing quarterly premium over the next 15 years.

Q: Do the Survivor UL riders also help in the estate creation process?

A: Yes. The Waiver of Cost of Insurance rider and Scheduled Death Benefit Increase rider are both very useful in estate creation planning. The waiver rider will pay for the monthly insurance and expense charges if the insured is disabled. This rider may be on either or both of the insureds. The cost of insurance rates are based on the attained age of the insured covered. The rider terminates at age 65. The waiver rider enables you to meet your estate creation goals even if you are unable to earn an income.

The strength of the Increase rider is that the amount of insurance for the base plan increases automatically each year by the benefit amount (up to 10 percent of the initial face amount) specified by you. The total increases can be as large as twice the initial specified face amount. There is no additional charge for the rider, and the

cost of insurance rates on the increased coverage will be at the same rate as the original face amount. This rider lets you meet your estate creation needs as they change and grow through the years.

Q: Who pays the life insurance premium?

A: The trustee of your irrevocable life insurance trust should be the premium payor, as well as the applicant, owner and beneficiary.

Dollars and Sense, a monthly column submitted by Lawrence M. Halperin and Marvin William Lax of Halperin & Lax, will answer your questions about life and disability insurance and investments. Mail questions to: 335 Centerville Road, Warwick, R.I. 02886-9990 or call 738-2350.

East Side

(Continued from Page 6)

stomp up and down the blue carpeted steps under the banister lamp to the out-of-date tune of big band music quietly and elegantly rising and falling in drifting counterpoint.

Shy couples can settle on the settee in a nook tucked beside the doorway. Statues from China brought back from a recent tour stand guard on the mantle.

I have reached the point in life where I recall everybody's aunt and uncle, and the childhood these parenting, partying couples left behind as they trade tips on how to raise their broods. This fellow in his 40s dyes his hair like my mother's sisters used to do. That lady has an earring in her navel. In my day only Gypsies even pierced their ears. It's a luxury to stay put in one town. You miss out if you keep moving. It doesn't take much time to turn into the Old Man or the Old Woman of folk legend.

When winter comes, these houses, grand or humble, with their lamps and lanterns, can-

Break Out the Photo Album

On Dec. 18, from 2 to 5 p.m., the Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston will present "Taking Care of Your

Family Photographs," with speaker David L. Mishkin.

The event will take place at Hebrew College cafeteria, 43 Hawes St., Brookline. For members it's free, for non-members the cost is \$3. For more information, call (617) 784-0387.

A Happy, Free New Year!

On Jan. 1, from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., the Children's Museum of Rhode Island is open free of charge for Fleet Free Sunday, courtesy of Fleet Bank's Fleet Youth Initiative.

Children and their families are invited to drop into the museum and celebrate the new year exploring hands-on exhibits designed for fun and learning.

delabra and sternos, they make Providence all aglow like an imagined London of long ago, a make-believe realm of the night.

We don't get invited every place, but we make our rounds, from one side of town to the other.

Announce your graduation, new job or promotion in the *Herald*. Black and white photos welcome.

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- Recommendations based on a formal analysis of your needs
- Will work closely with your important advisors (CPA, lawyer, banker)
- Stays on top of all the latest financial regulations, products and trends.
- Ability to construct a balanced program from a range of financial products including life & disability insurance, mutual funds, bond funds, trust plans, real estate and investment trusts.
- Acts as a broker so that he can shop for the best financial products at the lowest cost.
- Can serve as both personal and business financial advisor.
- Professionals with years of financial planning experience.
- Conservative but effective. Puts your best interest first.

If you have a financial advisor who meets these qualifications, consider yourself fortunate. Listen carefully to his recommendations. If you don't, contact Halperin & Lax, Ltd.

Call for an appointment. 401-738-2350.



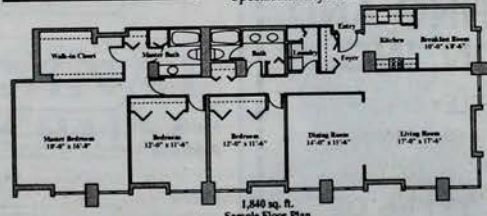
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