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NEWS AT A GLANCE

- The Anti-Defamation League is supporting an avowed white supremacist's attempts to gain a license to practice law. An Illinois state panel that evaluates the "character and fitness" of prospective attorneys denied the license to Matt Hale, the leader of a group called the World Church of the Creator, which advocates racial holy war. The ADL called Hale's views "abhorrent," but said it fears that denying a person the right to practice law because of his views could set a dangerous precedent.
- The Clinton administration warned Israel that it must crack down on rampant piracy of music, software and films on disk — or face possible sanctions. Illegal distribution in Israel of what is known as intellectual property reportedly parallels similar piracy industries in eastern Europe and southeastern Asia.
- Israeli police are investigating Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon on charges of bribery. The police are probing allegations that Sharon bribed a former general, Avigdor Ben Gal, to give false testimony in a 1997 libel trial. Sharon lost the libel suit he brought against the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz*, which had run an article charging that Sharon had misled the government of Prime Minister Menachem Begin about his plans to launch a full-scale invasion of Lebanon in 1982.
- Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-N.J.) announced that he will not seek a fourth term in 2000 due to the heavy fund-raising that would be involved. Before his first election to the Senate in 1982, Lautenberg served as national campaign chairman for the United Jewish Appeal. Lautenberg, one of 11 Jewish Senators, is known as a strong supporter of Israel, the peace process, gun control and tobacco regulation.

Finding Comfort and Serenity Through Spirituality

by Kimberly Ann Orlandi
Herald Editor

Men and women of all ages, races, religions and creeds gathered together in the Salomon Center at Brown University, on Feb. 24, for a lively discussion on spirituality entitled "Spirituality: Religion's Heart and Soul." The conference was part of the 19th annual Brown University/Providence Journal Public Affairs Conference.

In a time when negative and devastating events seem to dominate the headlines, it's only natural for people to search for some sign of hope—that sign, according to Rabbi Laura Geller of Temple Emanuel of Beverly Hills, Calif., comes by way of the simple everyday things many take for granted.

According to Rabbi Geller, in order to discover one's spirituality, one must first become familiar with its definition. "The English definition connotes that which is immaterial," she said. "But Judaism sees only one

world, material and non-material. Jewish spirituality means seeking the face of G-d, subscribing to live in His presence by fashioning a life of holiness appropriate to the presence of G-d."

Rabbi Geller discovered her spirituality while a student at Brown (Class of 1971), participating in a sit-in at the State House for fair housing. The event took place in the midst of Passover, and it was at this time that Geller discovered the meaning of spirituality by nurturing her own spirit.

"No one told me that before you commit an act of civil disobedience you should eat something," she laughed.

Geller recalls how another sit-in participant crept out and brought back a box of donuts. Famished, Geller stared at the big box but as she stretched her hand to take one, she ultimately withdrew it, choosing instead to honor the Jewish tradition of abstaining from anything leavened during Passover. It was at

that moment she realized that it was by participating in the sit-in that she was brought to her faith—therefore both events were pivotal in the celebration of Passover.

When searching for spirituality, many may begin their search by withdrawing into themselves in an effort to search from within. But that, according to Geller, is the wrong path to take. "Religious commitment," said Rabbi Geller, "means being involved in and repairing the broken world."

Using the passage of Jacob's struggle with the angel as an example, Rabbi Geller said that the first step towards spirituality is through the Torah. "It is through wrestling with the two portions of the Torah—oral and written—that we discover G-d's presence in our lives."

She tells a charming story of a young boy preparing for his Bar Mitzvah who discovers his own spirituality through the religious ritual itself. Rabbi Geller asks the boy, "What do you plan on getting for your bar mitzvah?" The boy replies, "Some clothes, CDs, and of course some Judaic gifts." "No," says the rabbi, "Besides the material, when your clothes are worn out and the CDs outdated, what will you have from your bar mitzvah?" "Memories," replied the boy.

"What he will have," said Rabbi Geller, "is a special connection to that part of the Torah assigned during his bar mitz-

vah, and each time that part of the Torah comes around, he'll be able to measure his growth as he reinterprets the text year after year."

Rabbi Geller's colleague and fellow guest speaker, Professor Albert Raboteau, also chose the story of Jacob to convey his message of spirituality through struggle.

"Wrestling with one's spirituality may involve ourselves, God himself or our perception of what God is," said Raboteau. "Through our struggles we find spirituality."

Raboteau, former dean of the Graduate School of Princeton University, a leading expert on religion in African-American life, and leader of his own Eastern Orthodox Church, suggests that the path towards spirituality begins with the ordinary. But that revelation didn't come overnight—it took the disintegration of his first marriage to open his eyes and heart to own sense of self.

"It took me a long time and the failure of my marriage for me to understand that the holy lies in the ordinary," said Raboteau. "Every moment is an island of holiness and we must submit ourselves to God, body and soul, not merely our minds in order to achieve spirituality."

Although religious philosophies differed between Rabbi Geller and Raboteau, the two spoke of similar paths one must take in order to achieve a greater

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Campaign For Downed Israeli Pilot Travels Along a California Highway

by Tom Tugend

LOS ANGELES (JTA) — Motorists traveling along the Pacific Coast Highway, skirting the ocean near Malibu, may be puzzled by an official state sign along the roadside bearing the legend "Ron Arad — IDF."

Not many of the drivers whizzing by will connect "IDF" to the Israel Defense Forces. Even fewer will identify Ron Arad as the Israeli air force navigator shot down over Lebanon in 1986, whose family and government has been trying to determine his fate and whereabouts for the past 13 years.

The man behind the campaign to find and free Arad is as unlikely as the sign along the California coastline.

He is Mark "Moshe" Hardie, a 27-year-old African-American lawyer, who converted to Judaism — Orthodox style — and has become one of the most fervent champions of Israel — Benjamin Netanyahu style — in Los Angeles.

Hardie said he got the idea for his campaign while watching Steven Spielberg's "Saving Private Ryan." The ad for the World War II movie reads, "The mission is one man," and Hardie's mind immediately applied the slogan to the search for Arad.

With characteristic fervor, Hardie said, "Ron's freedom is our freedom."

"If Hashem (G-d) could free me from a violent ghetto youth, then Hashem can also free Ron Arad."

The type of sign bearing Arad's name is a fixture along most California highways and freeways. The blue-and-white signs are put up by the California department of transportation as part of its "Adopt-A-Highway" program.

The top of the sign reads "Litter Removal — Next 2 Miles," followed by a name, usually of a commercial enterprise or Hollywood star, who has pledged to keep a stretch of the road free of trash.

In almost all cases, a sponsor pays the Transportation Department to pick up the debris along the designated stretch, but Hardie does it the hard way.

Once a month, he drives his car along the two miles of the "Ron Arad" highway, collecting bottles, cans and other junk along the roadside.

So far, Hardie has adopted four signs in Arad's name. Two, one facing north, the other south, are on the Pacific Coast Highway. The other two, also facing

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Bears, Bears Everywhere at PHDS

At the Providence Hebrew Day School, the children learn the skills necessary for verbal and written expression in many ways. Recently, the school librarian came up with the idea of a Teddy Bear Contest. The children from pre-K to grade six participated by explaining why their bear was the most handsome, the most loved and the most unique. After much deliberation, the following winners were announced: Yehuda Beker (left) won the category of most loved; the most handsome went to Hannah Kessler and the most unique bear was presented by Brahma Kessler. The prizes, of course, were bears.

Photo courtesy of PHDS

HAPPENINGS

Entertainment For Children

The Providence Children's Museum, 100 South St., Providence announces the following activities. Call 273-KIDS.

March

- 5 **Dr. Seuss' Birthday!** 9:40 a.m. to 1:50 p.m. Preschool Friday Series. Preschoolers ages 3 to 5 join the wacky Cat-in-the-Hat for some silly Seuss stories and a taste of delicious yellow figgles. By studying Dr. Seuss's wildly imaginative illustrations and comparing them to real animal photos, children find out if "sneezles" and "thneeds" really do live in wells. Kids let their imaginations run wild to create and embellish a Seussian creature of their own.
Pre-registration for an 8-week series is recommended for this program. Call 273-KIDS, ext. 234 for more information. Space may be available for same-day registration. There is a \$1 fee above the price of admission for same-day registration.
- 6 **Celebrate Seuss!** 1 to 3 p.m. In honor of the birthday of the late Theodore Geisel, a.k.a. Dr. Seuss, kids ages 3 and up celebrate his fantastic art and the wildly imaginative worlds he created. Seussian sleuths hunt the museum for the Grinch and other Dr. Seuss characters. Children create and contribute a Seuss-like creature to a huge paper mural in celebration of Dr. Seuss' life and work.
- 7 **Bell Atlantic Free Sunday.** 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Families are invited to splash into wild waters, climb into a city sewer and get in shape with geometric puzzles for free courtesy of Bell Atlantic.
- 8 **Museum Closed**
- 9 **Giant Paint-In I** 3 to 4:30 p.m. Children ages 5 and up arrive in their messiest painting smocks and get on their hands and knees to paint giant, amorphous shapes in bold primary colors. Kids go Dada over this gigantic floor painting.
- 10 **Giant Paint-In II**, 3 to 4:30 p.m. Children ages 5 and up arrive in their messiest painting smocks and get on their hands and knees to paint giant, amorphous shapes in bold primary colors. Kids go Dada over this gigantic floor painting.

Calendar: March 4th thru March 10th

- 4 **The Worcester Foothills Theatre Company** presents "How The Other half Loves." March 4 through 28. Worcester Common Outlets, 100 Front St., Suite 137. Call the box office at (508) 754-4018.
Dance: 40th Annual Spring Concert Series, Rhode Island College Dance Company, Roberts Auditorium. 8 p.m.; 2 p.m., matinee March 7. General admission \$10. Call 456-8090.
Join San Francisco architect Stanley Satowitz for a discussion of his work. Satowitz is a professor of architecture at University of California, Berkeley. Free. 7 p.m. RISD's Bayard Ewing Wing, Room 106, 231 South Main St., Providence.
- 5 **The All Children's Theatre Ensemble** presents "Mill Girls," March 5, 6, 9, 11, 12, 13, 15, 17 and 18. Explores the importance of children and young women to the growth of 1840 New England textile industry. Vartan Gregorian School Theatre, 455 Wickenden St., Providence. Call 331-7174.
- 6 **Comedy legends Tim Conway and Harvey Korman** are together again at Foxwoods Resort and Casino, Exit 92 off I-95 in Mashantucket, Conn. Tickets for the 9 p.m. show are \$49.50 to \$60.50. Call (800) 200-2882.
Cadence Dance Project performs an evening of contemporary ballet at Bryant College. 8 p.m. Call 738-5404.
Newport Art Museum, 76 Bellevue Ave., continues their winter lecture series with "Apocalypse Now: Magic and the Millennium." Dr. Raymond L. Sicking, associate professor of history, Providence College, conducts the lecture. Tea follows. Members \$3; non-members \$5. Call 848-8200.
"Dollar Off Day" at Slater Mill. One dollar off admission, 1 to 5 p.m. 67 Roosevelt Ave., Pawtucket. Call 725-8638.
URI Herbarium tour. Guided tours of the University of Rhode Island's herbarium including thousands of impressive specimens. Sponsored by the R.I. Wild Plant Society. Call 783-5895.
Maple Sugaring Excursion. Learn how to collect sap from maple trees using wooden troughs and spikes. 11 to 4 p.m. Coggeshall Farm Museum, Colt State Park, Bristol. March 6 and 7. Call 253-9062.
- 7 **One Person Show** — "Nostalgic Style" at Dodge House Gallery, Providence Art Club, 11 Thomas St., Providence. Fashion designs and illustrations from the late 1930s by Rachele D'Avanzo Modlisewski. Call 521-0195.
A musical voyage from Spain to India, co-sponsored by Perspectives. Violinist Jack Glatzer's multi-media experience features music and visual images which exemplify the interaction of Christianity, Islam and Judaism in the Mediterranean world. 4 p.m. Grant Recital Hall, Brown. Call 863-9357.
- 9 **Dancers and musicians of Bali** perform at Rhode Island College, Gaige Auditorium, 600 Mount Pleasant Ave., Providence. 8 p.m. Call 456-8144.
Atem Midabrim Ivrit? Hey all you Hebrew speakin' folk! This night is for you! Come chat with other Hebrew speakers. Refreshments 7:30 p.m., 106 Angell St., Providence. Call 863-9357.
- 10 **Get ideas on redecorating** at the 1999 SNE Home Show at the Rhode Island Convention Center, One Sabin St., Providence. Call 458-6000.
The Providence Bruins take to the ice against the Kentucky Thoroughblades at 7:05 p.m., Providence Civic Center. Call 273-5000.

Missing: 'The Twelve Dancing Princesses'

The All Children's Theatre opens its spring season of Storybook Theatre with a return engagement of the ever-popular play, "The Twelve Dancing Princesses." This audience-participation play for children ages 3 to 11, is based on the classic fairy tale by the Brothers Grimm. Where do the princesses disappear to each night? How do they wear out their dancing slippers by morning? Join the dancing maidens and a brave young soldier on his quest to solve the mystery and win the hand of a princess. The play will be held at the Vartan Gregorian School Cafeteria, 455 Wickenden St., Providence. Entrance is on East Street. The dates are March 6, 13, 20, 27 at 10:30 a.m. The cost is \$4 for children and \$6 for adults. The play is for children ages 3 to 11. Call 331-7174 for reservations or more information. Contact ACT by e-mail at <ACTinProv@aol.com>. Group rates and educational packages are available.

Exhibits at The Cranston Public Library Include a Student Exhibit

Kindergarten to Eighth Grade Statewide Student Art Exhibit

An exhibit of outstanding art by students in grades kindergarten through eight from schools throughout the state, will be held at the Cranston Public Library from March 4 through March 30. The exhibit is free, open to the public, and handicapped accessible.

Ricci Watercolor Painting Exhibit

An exhibit of watercolor, pen, and ink paintings featuring street scenes by Liz Ricci, will be held in the Rear Gallery of the Cranston Public Library from March 4 through March 30. The exhibit is free and open to the public during library hours. The Cranston Public Library is located at 140 Sockanosset Cross Road, Cranston.

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 Reservoir Ave.

Providence and Vicinity

Barney's, East Avenue, Pawtucket
 Books on the Square, Wayland Square (on Angell)
 College Hill Book Store, Thayer St.
 EastSide Marketplace, Pitman St.
 EastSide Prescription Center, Hope St.
 J. Elliott's, Hope St.
 Rhoda's Judaica, Hope St.

JEWISH COMMUNITY

Providence Plays on Purim

by Emily Torgan-Shalansky
Jewish Community Reporter

When Esther and Mordechai outfoxed the wicked Haman, they saved the ancient Jews from annihilation and also provided their descendants with an excuse to party.

On March 1 at Temples Emanu-El and Beth-El in Providence, hundreds of these modern Jews turned out to take in the costumes, spiels and hamen-tashen that mark the holiday.

With a celebration geared toward members young and old, Temple Beth-El offered a cos-

Over at Emanu-El, where the Purim spiel has become a major event for all of Rhode Island Jewry, "Schmaltz" put a finger-snapping spin on the musical "Grease" and the scroll of Esther alike.

More than 600 people turned out to see the original musical revue, which featured a cast of 80 plus the efforts of 15 more, a band and 18 choreographed numbers.

Written by seven congregations, produced by Bruce Phillips and directed by Wendy Garf-Lipp, "Schmaltz" was



A SCENE FROM "SCHMALTZ" Temple Emanu-El's jubilent Purim spiel.
Herald photos by Emily Torgan-Shalansky

tume parade, a hamen-tashen buffet and a unique set of 10 spoofs created to illustrate the megillah.

"We take groups from the temple community and give them sections of the megillah to interpret with songs, stories and costumes," explained Rabbi Michael Cahana. "That way, a lot of people are able to get involved and to get creative."

This year, members affiliated with the Beth-El Brotherhood, Sisterhood, Adult Enrichment Program, Outreach Program, School Board, Music Committee and Junior Provty sang, danced and acted their respective parts of the story, as did groups of teachers from the religious schools, young families and staffers.

"Members of the Brotherhood making themselves lovely during the beauty contest in which Esther was selected was really something," said Rabbi Michael Cahana, who himself dressed up as Bill Clinton in a skit that featured staff members in Monica-gate garb.

"We felt that Congress had the biggest spiel going on this year," explained Rabbi Cahana of the staff skit, which also featured Cantor Ida Rae Cahana in Monica's signature blue beret. "Right now, Monica Lewinsky is the most famous Jewish woman in America."

based on an original spiel from 1990 and featured new material as well.

Haman (Michael Mellion) never looked greasier than as, well, a greaser, for "Schmaltz" placed the players in Shushan High School, where Esther (Leslie Hamilton) was a co-ed in bobby sox, Mordechai (Artie Shapiro) was the editor of the school newspaper and Ahash-veroush (Toby Marwil) was the football team's quarterback and Esther's boyfriend to boot.

Through hilarious lyrics set to '50s tunes, Haman lets the audience know that he's mad at the Jewish student body for setting high academic standards, and vows to wipe them out in a rumble.

However, Mord and Esther are able to win high-school king Ahash's assurances that the Jews will be just fine.

"We did a lot of new things this year," said director Bruce Phillips. "We got a lot of new people involved, and Linda Shamoon, who has directed the last 18 plays, was on sabbatical this year, so it was a first effort for Wendy Garf-Lipp. But it was fun, and when we heard people laughing at all the right times, we knew that we'd done something right."

"Schmaltz" will run again on March 7 at 2 p.m. in the Alperin Meeting House.

Beth Sholom and Ohawe Sholam To Take Part in "Shabbat Across America"

by Emily Torgan-Shalansky
Jewish Community Reporter

"Please join us for Shabbat." On March 12, along with 717 other Jewish institutions nationwide, Rabbi Mitchell Levine, of Congregation Beth Sholom in Providence, Rabbi Mordechai Torczyner, of Pawtucket's Congregation Ohawe Sholam and Rabbi Marc Jagolinzer, of Temple Shalom in Middletown, will issue this invitation to the entire community.

These rabbis and their congregations are taking part in "Shabbat Across America," a program organized by the New York-based National Jewish Outreach Program to re-introduce Jews to Shabbat observance, a critical yet often overlooked part of their faith and culture.

Rabbis Levine and Torczyner described the mirror offerings that will take place at their respective synagogues between 5:20 and 8:30 p.m.

Although Congregation Beth Sholom and Congregation Ohawe Sholam are both Orthodox, the programs are designed to provide everyone with a taste of Shabbat rituals and pleasures, explained Rabbi Torczyner.

"We'll begin by lighting the candles," he said. "Then we'll have an abbreviated version of

the traditional service that will be punctuated by explanations. We'll make a kiddush over the wine and bread, share a hot

have not been invited to do so up until now. Shabbat observance is a great strength of the Orthodox, and we want to con-



Rabbi Mitchell Levine and Rabbi Mordechai Torczyner

meal, sing Shabbat songs and recite the appropriate prayers."

The events have been created to attract congregants who may be observant at home but seldom present at synagogue as well as members of the greater community, said Rabbi Torczyner.

"This is an opportunity for everyone," he explained. "We're opening doors for people who may want to check it out but

tribute that strength to the greater Jewish community."

Through "Shabbat Across America," the rabbis hope to communicate some of the religious and cultural significance of the hallowed weekly day.

"The whole idea of one day off in seven is a Jewish contribution to Western civilization," Rabbi Levine explained.

Shabbat observance is the

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ATTENTION: HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS!

Applications for the
Louis Feinstein Memorial Scholarship
are now available for High School Juniors
who will graduate in 2000.

Candidates must demonstrate a dedication to public service, the qualities of brotherhood, compassion, integrity and leadership, and a determination to make a positive difference in the lives of others.

This scholarship was started by Alan Shawn Feinstein in memory of his father, Louis Feinstein, to honor those young people who best exemplify these values, regardless of race, creed or color.

All Feinstein Scholars receive an engraved gold watch and other advantages including a \$10,000 scholarship for those who attend a college or university in Rhode Island.

Applications — due June 30 — are by nomination only may be obtained at Rhode Island High Schools, Public Libraries and Community Agencies, or by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to:

The 2000 Feinstein Scholarship
Public Education Fund
15 Westminster Street, Suite 824
Providence, RI 02903
(401) 454-1057



Correction

In the Feb. 25 issue of the *Jewish Herald*, page 3, Shalom Memorial, an error was made in the amount of years Michael Smith was executive director of Max Sugarman. The correct number of years is 11. Smith also attended the New England Institute of Applied Arts and Sciences at Mount Ida College.

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OPINION

Clinton's VA Budget Falls \$3 Billion Short

The *Independent Budget* released on Feb. 12 reports that President Clinton's proposed budget for the Department of Veterans Affairs in fiscal year 2000 is almost \$3 billion less than is needed to adequately address the health-care needs of our nation's veterans.

The *Independent Budget*, developed annually for the past 13 years by four national veterans service organizations, provides the nation's decision-makers with a veterans' perspective on federal spending and national policy priorities. Its authors are AMVETS, Disabled American Veterans, Paralyzed Veterans of America and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

The budget shortfall is so significant that it "imperils the health and benefits of millions of American veterans," stated the report's authors. For example, currently, veterans with heart conditions may have to wait up to three months to see a specialist at a VA hospital because the VA health-care system has been operating for years under stagnant, inflation-racked budgets. Given the administration's proposal, this situation will continue — or worsen — stated the report's authors.

Another concern, stated the authors of *The Independent Budget*, is that the VA budget plan proposes new health-care initiatives but provides no new dollars to pay for them. Specifically, VA wants to expand health care and other benefits to veterans suffering from hepatitis C and related illnesses, veterans in need of emergency care, long-term care, and care for homeless veterans. Yet the budget proposal cuts thousands of VA health-care staff and hundreds of millions of existing budget dollars to pay for these initiatives.

In fact, the president's budget calls for eliminating nearly

8,000 full-time employees from VA health care, which further threatens veterans health-care services. This undoubtedly will place even greater strain on patient services and further endanger the quality of care for this nation's sick and disabled veterans.

The president has proposed a fiscal year 2000 appropriation of \$17.306 billion for veterans health care, exactly the same as provided this year. This budget relies on collections from the private insurance of veterans receiving VA care that are historically inaccurate and grossly unrealistic. Even with these third-party collections, the budget falls far short of the needed funds to counter soaring medical inflation and additional costs associated with an aging veteran population. This would be the fourth consecutive budget year that VA health care has been all but straight-lined. Including past year shortfalls, the proposed budget, if approved, would be nearly \$3 billion short of meeting actual veteran health-care needs as calculated by *The Independent Budget*.

The Veterans Benefits Administration, the arm of VA tasked with processing veterans claims for compensation for their service-connected disabilities and other earned benefits, is also suffering from years of inadequate budgets and neglect. Even considering that some improvements have been made, the claims backlogs still range in the hundreds of thousands. And although the president has included increased administrative funding, this proposal still falls \$31 million short of the amount recommended by *The Independent Budget*. Congress and the administration must provide adequate resources and make a solid commitment to address the claims backlog problem and ensure quality and ac-

curacy in the decision-making process.

Without additional resources, the VBA will continue to face substantial backlogs in processing and adjudicating compensation claims. VA's inability to significantly improve the quality and timeliness of benefits claims has been and continues to be one of the most serious and persistent problems. It is unconscionable that veterans die before the proper resolution of their claims, stated the authors of *The Independent Budget*.

The Independent Budget provides a framework for a meaningful dialog on such important issues as disability compensation, health care, and other benefits and services for veterans and their dependents. Its recommendations are well-considered policy and funding proposals based on the actual needs of the men and women these programs were created to serve.

A congressionally chartered veterans service organization whose membership dates from World War II, AMVETS has aimed for more than 50 years to promote world peace, preserve the American way of life, and help veterans help themselves.

The million-member Disabled American Veterans, a non-profit organization founded in 1920 and chartered by the U.S. Congress in 1932, is dedicated to one, single purpose: building better lives for our nation's dis-

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Preservation For The Millennium

by John P. DeVillars

All across America, communities are wrestling with "sprawl" — unplanned and unchecked development, a trend that is environmentally damaging, fiscally expensive and socially disruptive.

The pervasive effects of sprawl are quite evident in New England. Whether in Boston, Nashua or Cape Cod, it's adding dramatically to the time we spend in our cars — and don't spend with our families. It's damaging the environment with smog pollution, comprised water quality and loss of wetlands and wildlife habitat. And it's undermining New Englanders' sense of place — the scenic open fields, the bucolic village greens, the tightly woven urban neighborhoods.

Consider the following facts:

- Across New England, we are losing more than 1,200 acres of open space a week to development.

- From 1970 to 1995, Maine's public school population shrank by 27,000 students, yet the state spent \$727 million on new school construction, much of it on new buildings in fast-growing towns.

- Rhode Island's population has been stable the past 10 years, yet 26,000 acres of land were developed — an area the size of two Providences.

- Southeastern Massachusetts is one of the fastest growing areas in the country, yet more

than half of the region's 50 communities do not have full-time planners, only 20 have master plans and only five of those have been updated in the last five years.

- Taxpayers pay directly for sprawl as well. For every \$1 of revenue a low-density housing development brings a New England town, it costs the community as much as \$1.50 in increased expenses to pay for schools, roads and other services.

These and other similar, troubling facts are part of a growing body of evidence of the single biggest environmental challenge facing New England. It prompted the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's New England Office and a number of environmental and business groups earlier this month to assemble a powerful coalition of more than 1,000 developers, planners, conservationists and civic leaders to tackle sprawl. The conference, "Smart Growth Strategies for New England," helped kick-start a New England-wide collaborative effort by the public and private sectors alike.

Our success in reversing sprawl will require lots of creative thinking. On that score, we'd do well to look at the state of Vermont, which is at the forefront of the smart growth movement in New England. Ver-

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Train Ride

Train systems, for local commute or long-distance trips, offer two modes of travel: by express train, or via a local line. The express train takes its passengers swiftly and directly to their destination. The local train travels more slowly and makes many stops.

Before the train pulls out from the station, it sounds its whistle or the conductor makes an announcement to notify the passengers who are busy with their bundles (or who have perhaps forgotten that they have a journey to make) that it is time to embark. And then the train begins to slowly move, eventually picking up speed and leaving the station behind.

Regarding the ultimate Redemption and the era of universal peace and perfection it will usher in, Isaiah prophesies: "I, G-d, will hasten it in its time." Whereupon the Talmud asks: "If the Redemption shall come 'in its time,' then, by definition, it has not been hastened; and if it is hastened, it is not 'in its time'!"

The Talmud explains that the prophet is speaking of two possible routes by which the Redemption may come about. If mankind is in a state of "merit," it will be hastened; if, however, we are "not meritorious," the Redemption will come "in its time."

Chasidic teaching adds that, in a certain sense, a redemption that comes "in its time" is greater

than a "hastened" redemption. A hastened Redemption is one that is imposed on a still-imperfect world from Above; the nature of reality has not changed, but has been overwhelmed by an infusion of divine light. On the other hand, a Redemption coming "in its time" means that the world has been transformed from within, by its own internal processes. Thus it is deeper and truer than a "hastened" redemption.

Every person's reality consists of three basic components. At the core of our being is our "G-dly soul," the spark of divinity that drives our quest for self-transcendence and distinguishes us from all other creations.

Enfolding the G-dly soul is an "animal soul," whose drives and instincts man shares with all other living things, though in more "civilized" and sophisticated forms.

Extrinsic to both souls is our physical body and environment. This is the third, most material element of our reality, devoid even of the limited spirituality of the animal soul.

A hastened redemption embraces only the G-dly soul, which is by nature receptive to the divine. The other two components — the animal soul and the material world — are only

affected from without. They might be "swept along" when the divine spark of the G-dly soul erupts into flame, but they themselves have not truly been redeemed.

Life is thus comparable to a railway. There are express trains that take the direct route to the end of the line. But these carry only certain passengers. The local train can carry them all.

There are many stations on this journey and there are warnings for those lagging behind.

All this makes for a more laborious progress toward the ultimate destination. But while the express train achieves its objective more swiftly and smoothly, its achievements are narrower than those of the local train.

What is true of the railways also applies to our individual journeys. In our quest toward personal redemption, we also have a choice of those two routes. We can strive to stimulate what is most G-dly within us, and assume that everything else will be "swept along," or we can take the slower, more laborious route of refining also the "animal" and "inanimate" elements of our personality and world, toward a less speedy, yet more profound redemption.

Adapted from an article by Yanki Tauber, based on an address of the Rebbe. Reprinted from *The Week in Review*, published by V.H.H. For a subscription, call (718) 774-6448 or e-mail <wisdomreb@aol.com>.

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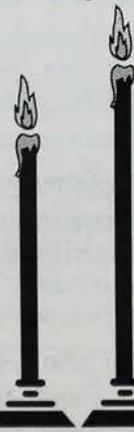
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Candlelighting

March 5, 1999
5:23 p.m.



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

FEATURE

Ports in the Storm

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

Wintersession courses came to a close. Spring classes start right up. Students in my studio called "Film Investigations" had to submit and screen a short pictorial, anecdotal portrait or video interview. A couple of these young directors showed up late on first day. Weather gave them one excuse: they phoned in from airports. Another cop-out was the common cold of the season.

"I" missed more than an entire week of sessions. His mother called our division dean. He rang me up at home to plead the case for this "shlump," as he termed the lanky, longhaired lad. I said okay, and his project hit the big silver square shade. "I filmed my grandfather. He was a navy cook in World War II for the Germans." I was taken aback. I thought my dark-eyed disciple with his scruffy black beard and mane was a Jewish mama's boy. His grandfather's tale made my own hair stand on end.

"Jewish passengers on board our merchant marine ship had paid their passage to China. In the late '30s they could still get out." I stared, ears and eyes alert, at the kitchen scene, with the grandmother moving in and out of the frame, nodding assent while moving like a shadow in and out of focus. The wily and sturdy elder, forceful, resourceful and smirking, slid from chapter to chapter of escapes and escapades. He got drunk on shore leave, missed his ship, which sank just off shore. He made his way out of POW camps and came out of the war unharmed and undamaged, turning up in Texas, big land of lone stars with no regrets.

These vignettes can last only 10 minutes—we have a lot to get through in the final week of

wintersession. But when the lights go on again, I have to come up with something to say, a crit and a question, a hope that the group will join in. But a quiet zone spread throughout the small auditorium. I made my own monologue.

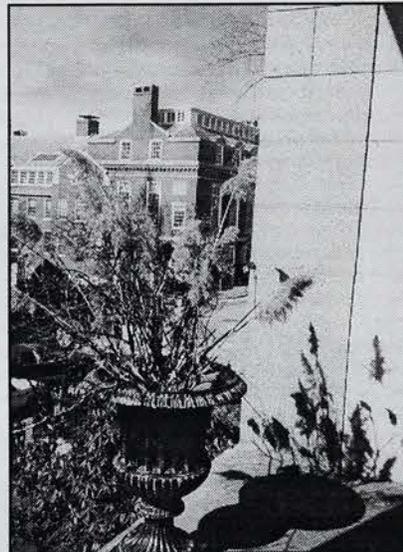
"What was your relationship to your grandfather? Did you pose any problems, investigate his past, stop him with an inquiry?" I said, "Once I let my hair grow long, he stopped speaking to me."

Oswego, places where they had to make do or die. To be honest, I found some pity for J. He must have known how I would respond to his forbear on film. You can't feel very proud of a relative who prepares a feast in the midst of the enemies of humanity.

But J was not my first, or my only, art student with a Nazi background in history. When I first took my present post, there was a Juergen, who wrote a paper about bombs falling upon the land of his birth. I gave him quite a hard time. "Who started it?" I let him have it, but he kept coming back for more. Not many years ago, he called me and asked me to meet him for coffee at a Wayland Square rendezvous. I've lost track of Juergen, but there was something between us, a magnet of meaning. There was a German girl who compared Holocaust horrors to the conditions in kosher slaughterhouses. When her peer group turned on her for the ugly analogy, she fled the room in tears. Next day she gave us all pendants she had struck in the sculpture pit, Jewish stars with the letter chai in the center.

Last year, there was a youth whose grandfather had bred the master race, a gynecologist-obstetrician for Hitler's mad design, now a powerful and wealthy landowner who pays tuition for his grandson, a tall, dark wanderer in a world ever in quest of something holy and not cursed.

Sometimes I think the maker of the universe remembers everything, word and deed alike, each cry and every laugh, not like a computer or a landfill, but in some other way as unique snowflakes cover the world with a blanket of pure snow in the last dusting on the brink of spring.



View of Rhode Island School of Design.
Herald photo by Mike Fink

I turned to the others, who come to our school from every corner of the earth. "Do you know why the Jews sailed to China? If they couldn't find a safe haven somewhere else, they'd have to pay for train tickets to Auschwitz, to death. This selected short subject fills the bill as the class requirement, but if I let it go at that, I would go home and regret leaving out the rest of the story." I took a little time to spell out the names of the places the German Jews fled to: Central America, England,

and the rest of the world.



Maestro Malick

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

The Battle of Guadalcanal rages on almost as long on the screen as it was in the jungle. While Steven Spielberg was hunting Private Ryan throughout the ruins of Europe, director Terrence Malick has been tracking and pursuing the flora, fauna and folk of the Pacific, no pun intended, theatre of World War II.

but more provocative, evocative. Do you hate the "Japs?" Do you sympathize with them? Neither. You see what Americans may sometimes have seen, warrior foes, but also fellow sufferers at the terrible hands of war's fate. I'm not talking about revisionism here, only the filmmaker's vision, which refuses to simplify. The restraint of grandstand performances, the rejection of rhetoric, and the raising of realism above the level of grossness all kept me rooted to the track. Gore and horror are not my thing any more than the stuff of chick flicks, but "Line" offers at least a hint of thoughtfulness.

When you watch a long movie, your mind can go off on its own into a motion picture of memory. My late uncle served as a medic during the war and sent me V mail letters and sometimes snapshots of the people of the region. He even mailed me a box of polished seashells. I can picture him rushing out to a wounded man and coping with the paraphernalia of mercy, the morphine and the plasma. The good guys and the fancy words in Malick's motion picture brought those clips to me in a new light.

Maybe not a flick for the faint of heart, the brief of attention span, or the popcorn crowd. Maybe not a documentary type masterpiece. But give it credit for an endeavor of artistry, poetic power, and the use of words and images of some ambition beyond shock value. In a world deeply invested in warlike things, a prayer for peace must include a regard for the beauty of the physical world and the cultures that have been shaped within it.

I believe that is what Terrence Malick had in mind.



"My Uncle Sam the Medic"

This viewer-reviewer was visually grateful for the jeweled images of bird and frog, leaf and pygmy baby, which gave the eye's mind something to dwell on. While generals are vying for medals by sacrificing men in a macho game, vines are tightening their grasp of the forest and the crows are circling the sky above the victims.

Some critics are panning the grand effort at landscape cinema as overblown, but I found it often majestic, even Homeric. I list a few of the virtues of "Thin Red Line."

Instead of centering on the fate of one individual, Malick goes for a wider scope, harder perhaps for audience response,

Doris and Betty

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

A Jewish actress playing Doris Duke? Lauren Bacall does a splendid job of it, giving the tobacco heiress a dignity, a pathos, a poetic ambiguity that elevate a rather ordinary script to a level of artistry.

The performance comes from within, not just from cosmetic surface trickery. Our nearby Newport neighbor of not long ago was born under a curse, a blessing. Like a folktale figure, she had the love of her dying king of a father but not of her unyielding yet beautiful mother, who preferred her firstborn, a ne'er-do-well son. The stuff of Freudian legend.

Doris grows up to take part in the champagne chambers of cafe society, lovely but lost. She seeks love and goodness, but finds only their abstract and final opposite forces.

"Betty" Bacall was always a unique artist, mixing wit and



Lauren Bacall

youthfulness, innocence and intelligence. She's perfect for the part. She even looks just right, with her firm mouth, her expressive eyes, her elegant bearing, her vulnerable but brave demeanor. She almost makes the hard-hearted Hannah into a moral portrait.

In the scenes in wartorn London, in which she comforts the

dying soldiers and pens down their last testaments, she adds a contradictory touch of human kindness to the tough but oh so gentle picture she shapes of the fabulous and dangerous D.D. — the Duchess Doris of the golden leaf.

Our lyrical Lauren gives to our memory of Doris a liberal and freewheeling tack, a sense of absolute and bereft aloneness, a tough independence of spirit, weakened by common human need, and even a touch of nostalgic yiddishkeit. Zachor: she remembers! I would love to cast Lauren Bacall in one of my scripts. Since the deaths of the great beauties of the studio years, its still sparkling survivor, L.B., stands proud as a kind of summation of their careers and charisma.

In between time, I had some fun watching Madame Bogart having, holding, and losing a hundred million depression dollars till the winter weather report.

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

What is a Jew?

An Outreach/Adult Enrichment Mini-Series

The Temple Beth-El outreach and adult enrichment committees invite our interfaith and traditional members to join us for four unique programs to warm up a dull winter.

All events take place in the temple boardroom on four successive Sunday evenings from 4 to 6 p.m., March 7, 14, 21 and 28.

March 7: So what is a "Good" Jew, anyway?

Is Judaism cultural, ethnic, religious, none or all? Are "High Holiday Jews" as "Jewish" as those who attend temple every Shabbat? What about converts? Is a non-Jewish parent who makes a Jewish home and raises a Jewish child a "good Jew"? Are Jews with Christmas trees not? These and other questions can be considered as we engage the question of "What is a Jew?" at an informal round-table discussion.

If you'd like, bring a treat with a family tradition — Jewish or not — to share among friends for a multi-ethnic nosh. Those who would like can also share in one of the most wonderful Jewish cultural traditions — a finale of a lively hora and

other folk dances each easy enough to learn on the spot!

March 14: You Don't Have to be Non-Jewish

...to want to attend this session and learn a little more about our religious traditions. It's our chance to ask the whys, whats and whereof of the Friday night and Saturday morning services, and the sacred space and objects that surround us. No question too small! A prize to anyone who can stump the rabbi!

We'll start with an intimate tour of the sanctuary and chapel and describe the important objects there. In a casual atmosphere following, Rabbi Cahana will walk us through the Friday night and Saturday morning services. Do you know why candles are lit only in Reform temples on Friday night? Why is the Sh'ma so important? Why is Kaddish recited in Aramaic? What is Kaddish anyway?

March 21: Who was Jesus? A Jewish Answer to a Christian Question

Why didn't Jews accept Jesus? Was Jesus really a rabbi? Do Christians (or Jews) still believe that Jews killed Christ? Can one

believe in Jesus and be a Jew? What about attending Mass? Why is Jesus so hard for the convert to give up?

These questions will be considered from a rabbinic perspective, with help from both Jews and gentiles who have struggled with them. This promises to be an important discussion.

March 28: How Are the Kids Doing?

Statistics indicate that children in interfaith families do not choose Judaism, in general; they also suggest that in families where two religions are practiced, children may experience a greater number of identity-related problems than those in one-religion families, whether Jewish or Christian.

Join a discussion headed by a child psychologist who will address the validity of these statistics, and the pros and cons of two-religion families.

Feel free to bring parents or extended family and friends with you. The programs are free and open to everyone!

Let us know that you're coming by phoning Rona at the temple office, 331-6070.

World ORT Names New Director and Deputy Director General

The executive committee of the World ORT Union has appointed Robert "Ron" Singer to lead the organization into the new century as director general. Dr. Gideon Meyer, who has been acting director general and director of education for the World ORT Union, has been named deputy director general and director of operations.

Singer joins the World ORT Union from the office of the prime minister of Israel where he was deputy head of the Liaison Bureau, responsible for establishing Israeli centers and educational services in the various republics of the former Soviet Union and Baltic States, and other activities. He was previously attached to the Consulate of Israel in New York where he served as liaison between the Israeli and American governments on issues concerning the Jewish community in the former Soviet Union, and as an intermediary between American and Canadian Jewish organizations and the Israeli government. Singer, who was born in Ukraine and moved to Israel as a teenager, also coordinated aliyah activities, aid, and produced informational materials for Jews from the former Soviet Union. He spent 11 years in the Israel Defense Forces as an education officer, attaining the rank of lieutenant colonel. He holds a B.A. in political science and history from Tel-Aviv University and an M.S. in management engi-

neering from the University of Bridgeport.

Since 1983, Meyer has been director of education for the World ORT Union and for the last four years he has been responsible for ORT's operations in eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. He was appointed acting director general of the World ORT Union on Sept. 1, 1998.



Robert Singer

American ORT and Women's American ORT raise funds to support technical and technological training for 262,000 students in ORT schools in 60 countries around the world. ORT is the Jewish world's leader in technology education and the world's largest non-governmental education and training organization.

J&W University and Feinstein Foundation Will Sponsor Benefit For Community Food Bank

The Alan Shawn Feinstein Community Service Center at Johnson & Wales University is sponsoring a fund-raiser for the benefit of the Rhode Island Community Food Bank on March 19, from 6 to 10:30 p.m.

The event, La Bella Notte, a beautiful evening of art, passion and a way of life — fine vino musica and la cucina Italiana, will be held in the An-

gelica Dining Room at the Harborside Campus of Johnson & Wales. The evening will begin with hors d'oeuvres and a silent auction of estate-bottled Italian wines. The wines will be paired with an elegant multi-course dinner demonstrating some of the historic and cultural traditions of classic Rome, the Renaissance and contemporary Italy.

The regional Italian specialties will be complemented with a performance of classical and modern Italian music, featuring bass baritone Rene de la Garza, tenor Brad Logan, soprano Marie Bender Lee and others.

Tickets for the dinner are available for \$70 each. Those with a fancy for a fuller taste of Italian life can take part in a

special raffle for a trip for two to Italy — 100 tickets will be sold for \$100 each. The raffle tickets may be purchased separately. For more information on either the evening or the raffle, call the Feinstein Community Service Center at Johnson & Wales University, 598-2989.

The Alan Shawn Feinstein Community Service Center at Johnson & Wales — America's Career University® — serves as the home of the Feinstein "Enriching America" Program. This program requires all first-year students to take an academic course in community service. It also serves as the conduit for all of the university's community service learning programs and activities, and as a resource for the community.

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Women's Seder Will Be Held at Temple Beth-El

The fourth annual Women's Celebration of Freedom will take place at Temple Beth-El in Providence during Passover. This gathering offers an opportunity for women of all ages to actively participate in a seder which emphasizes the many passages to freedom enjoyed by Jewish women throughout the world. The program will include a brief presentation by Sylvia Moubayed, who will share her personal journey from Egypt to America.

The traditional seder meal (dietary laws will be observed), the reading of the Temple Beth-El Women's Haggadah, and the voices of Cantor Ida Rae Cahana and Debbie Waldman will make the evening both memorable and inspirational.

Save the date: April 5 at 6 p.m., Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence.

Attendance is by reservation only, at a cost of \$25 per person. Reservation deadline is March 22.

To reserve your place or for additional information, contact Gloria Jarcho at Temple Beth-El, 331-6070.

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Jewish Life Cycle: A Sanctification of Life

"This is not a quickie learn-everything-you-need-to-know-to-be-Jewish course," said Jewish Theological Seminary Vice Chancellor Anne Lapidus Lerner, referring to the fifth annual Isidor and Rose Wagner Institute. Designed to enrich the Jewish knowledge and observance of Conservative lay leaders, participants from all over the country spend the week living Judaism: studying texts, interacting with students and faculty and davening in the JTS community.

This year, for the first time, JTS will make this popular program available twice: the week of March 9 to 14, and again this fall (dates to be announced). Nathan Wagner, who with his sister Ruth Braver, funds the Wagner Institute in memory of their parents, challenged JTS to demonstrate a need for a second annual institute. He promised to support this second annual weeklong convocation after a two-year trial.

The Wagner Institute encourages people to incorporate a Jewish presence into everyday life by basing its program on life cycle events: birth, bar/bat mitzvah, marriage, divorce, sickness and death. Other classes provide an introduction to Conservative Judaism, its history, resources and approach to *halakha*. All courses are taught by JTS faculty. Participants also have the opportunity to visit such culturally enriching sites as the JTS-affiliated Jewish Museum and have two free nights to explore New York City.

The cost to attend the Isidor and Rose Wagner Institute is \$500, which includes all course materials and meals. For complete information and to receive an application for upcoming institutes, call (212) 678-8069.

The Jewish Theological Seminary, located at 3080 Broadway at 122nd Street, is the spiritual and academic center of Conservative Judaism worldwide. Visit the JTS website at <www.jtsa.edu>.

UAHC Publishes Update of Pivotal Work on Social Action

Can black-Jewish relations be salvaged? Should a rabbi perform a wedding for a gay or lesbian couple? Should synagogues divest from tobacco companies? Can Israel be both a Jewish state and a democratic state?

These and scores of other divisive issues — including anti-Semitic rock lyrics, the death penalty, welfare reform, fetal tissue implants, environmentalism, and the Middle East peace process — are examined in *Jewish Dimensions of Social Justice: Tough Moral Choices of Our Time* by Albert Vorspan and David Saperstein, just published by the UAHC Press.

"This is not merely a splendid book; it is a remarkable book, noteworthy for its accessibility, its scope, and — above all — for its quiet authority," said Leonard Fein, director of the Reform movement's Commission on Social Action. "One can scarcely imagine a more timely or more effective tool for all those concerned with defending, protecting, enhancing, and extending the Jewish commitment to *tikkun olam*."

Vorspan and Saperstein offer concise summaries of the events behind scores of controversies, as well as case studies of how synagogues and other Jewish communal groups have

responded to the dilemmas, all in the context of Jewish law and tradition.

A superb resource for individual study as well as group discussions at synagogues, *Jewish Dimensions of Social Justice* is the completely rewritten and updated version of Vorspan and Saperstein's 1992 bestseller, *Tough Choices*. Until his retirement a few years ago, Vorspan was the senior vice president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, which is the synagogue branch of the Reform movement, and director of the Commission on Social Action. David Saperstein, a rabbi and attorney, is director and counsel of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism in Washington, D.C.

The UAHC Press is part of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the central body of Reform Judaism in North America, uniting 1.5 million Reform Jews in 880 synagogues. UAHC services include camps, music and book publishing, outreach to unaffiliated and intermarried Jews, and educational programs.

Items from the UAHC Press can be ordered toll free at (888) 489-UAHC or through the website at <http://www.uahcpress.com>.

Women's American ORT Hosts Annual Fair

The Women's American ORT, Elmgrove Chapter At Large is hosting its annual camp fair on March 7, noon to 4 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center in Providence. This camp fair is open and free to the public and features exhibits from camps from all over.

The directors from the camps will be in attendance with displays from residential (sleep over), and day camps. The camps featured include boys, girls and co-ed camps, as well as sectarian and non-sectarian camps. Complimentary camp guides will be distributed to all attending.

The Jewish Community Center is located at the corner of Sessions Street and Elmgrove Avenue. For more information, call 943-5252.

Jews Across the Continent Will Celebrate 'Shabbat Across America'

On March 12, tens of thousands of Jews, the majority of whom do not normally celebrate the Sabbath, will gather at synagogues throughout North America to participate in the most extensive one-night Jewish outreach campaign on the continent. Sponsored by the National Jewish Outreach Program, Shabbat Across America represents a unified effort by all the major Jewish denominations to rekindle interest in the fourth of the Ten Commandments — observing a weekly day of rest (*Shabbat* in Hebrew).

Over the last decade disturbing statistics have depicted a continent-wide breakdown in the integrity of the traditional Jewish family unit. This breakdown, which NJOP has termed "The J2K (Jewish 2000) Problem," is characterized by a disturbingly low percentage of Jews practicing fundamental Jewish precepts such as lighting the Shabbat candles and attending synagogue on a weekly basis. NJOP hopes that a memorable and rewarding experience at Shabbat Across America will infuse thousands of non-practicing Jews with a greater sense of Jewish tradition and familial unity, and thereby curb the ill effects of "The J2K Problem."

Across the United States and Canada, 700 to 800 synagogues are expected to open their doors to Jews in their communities to invite unaffiliated and marginally affiliated Jews to experience a traditional Friday night Shabbat service and festive meal with family and friends. Designed to appeal to all Jews, Shabbat Across America will introduce a generation of Jews with little or no religious training and background to the beauty and significance of the Jewish Sabbath in an effort to ignite their interest in the practice of Judaism.

The most recent 20th century figures demonstrate that about 70 percent of the 6 million Jews living in the United States either do not identify themselves Jewishly, or do not belong to a synagogue. One million or 54 percent of all American children

under the age of 18 are being raised as non-Jews, and over 52 percent of Jews who marry, do so outside the faith. Additionally, the average fertility rate of Jewish women in the United States is 1.4 children per household — well below the average necessary to simply replace older generations as they pass on (1990 *National Jewish Population Survey*, Council of Jewish Federations).

In an effort to underscore the significance of Shabbat to the long-term continuity of the Jewish religion, four of America's most prominent Jewish leaders signed a resolution proclaiming the importance of Shabbat for Jews of all denominations. The resolution, which is entitled "The Importance of Shabbat For All Jews," is signed and endorsed by Rabbi Jerome Epstein, executive vice president of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, Rabbi Mordechai Lieblich, executive director of the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation, Rabbi Eric Yoffie, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, and Rabbi

Haskel Lookstein, senior rabbi of one of the largest Orthodox synagogues in the country, Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun.

Shabbat Across America is based on NJOP's popular and enjoyable Turn Friday Night into Shabbat program, which has introduced since 1987 more than 165,000 North American Jews to the beauty of the weekly Shabbat practice. The special interactive Friday night Shabbat service will include a traditional festive meal, prayers, singing, and dancing.

The National Jewish Outreach Program was established in 1987 by Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald, and has become one of the world's largest and most successful Jewish outreach organizations. NJOP offers free programs at more than 2,400 locations across North America and in 27 countries worldwide. Through programs such as Read Hebrew America/Read Hebrew Canada and Shabbat Across America, NJOP has successfully reached more than 325,000 North American Jews and engaged them in Jewish life.

Join Temple Emanu-El In a Weekend of Sight, Sound, and Taste

Temple Emanu-El's Kulanu and Safrai Gallery of Jerusalem invite you to a weekend of sight, sound, and taste. Join Kulanu as they exhibit and sell "Young and Old Masters of Israeli Art."

March 11, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m., Kol Sasson, Temple Emanu-El's Religious School Klezmer Band, directed by Varda Lev. There will be refreshments and prize drawing.

March 12, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., exhibition and sale.

March 13, 7 to 11 p.m., Music by the Michael Miller Trio. Refreshments.

March 14, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. 10 a.m. lecture by Menachem Safrai, 1 to 4 p.m. Children's Art Expo, led by Sandy Deitch.

TEMPLE TORAT YISRAEL

Million dollar campaign begins ... \$100,000 gift

Temple Torat Yisrael gratefully acknowledges the generous \$100,000 gift to our synagogue by Mynde and Gary Siperstein as the initial gift in the Temple's campaign to raise \$1 million.

This gift is far more meaningful than its monetary value because of the commitment and dedication that the Siperstein family has shown our synagogue. Through deeds — officer and board positions, consistent input, and hard work — the Sipersteins have demonstrated how much they value the Temple community, and show by example the kind of commitment — financially, spiritually and through involvement — that they hope others will embrace.

The Temple is pleased that Mynde and Gary have agreed to co-chair our "million dollar campaign."

Frank Prosnitz, president, Temple Torat Yisrael

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Feminist Shabbat Service Sponsored by Association of Women in Psychology

Vision to Action: Feminist Social Change is the theme for the 24th annual conference of the Association for Women in Psychology, to be held March 4 through 7 at the Westin Hotel in Providence.

One tradition of this organization is to offer a Shabbat celebration, which will include music and readings particularly suited to the feminist and inclusive values of the organization. AWP warmly welcomes local Jewish women, their friends and family to join us in this Shabbat service, to be held on March 5, from 5 to 6 p.m., at the Westin Hotel. The local community is invited as well to the Havdalah service which will be held the following day at 5 p.m.

There will be a welcoming reception honoring close to a dozen Rhode Island women who have transformed their personal vision into action, and have accomplished remarkable changes for women. The R.I. Feminist Chorus will perform at this reception, which will take place on March 4 from 5 to 7 p.m. and is free.

After the Shabbat service on March 5, attendees can meet feminist authors and scholars of

local and national acclaim at a book signing social hour from 6 to 7 p.m. (free).

On March 6, the entertainment begins at 7 p.m. with a concert featuring Cyd Sutoroff. A music therapist by day, Cyd weaves together elements of folk, jazz, blues and a Latin beat to create her own acoustic style. The night continues with free swing dance lessons, and a DJ dance until midnight. Admission for the evening is \$18 in advance, \$22 at the door.

AWP is celebrating 30 years as an organization devoted to examining and influencing the role played by psychology and the field of mental health in women's lives. Founded by women in psychology, people are invited from all disciplines and students and community activists are welcome. All events will be accessible to persons with disabilities.

For more information about activities with a Jewish focus, contact Suzanne Borstein or Cheryl Goldman, 865-2818, or e-mail <Cgoldman@providence.edu>. For more information about the conference, or to register, contact: Kat Quina, 277-5164, or e-mail <kquina@uri.edu>.

Temple Shalom to Host Shabbat Across America

On Friday evening, March 12, members of Aquidneck Island's Jewish community will gather at Temple Shalom in an unparalleled display of Jewish revitalization and interdenominational unity. Conceived and organized by the National Jewish Outreach Program, "Shabbat Across America" represents a united effort by Judaism's four major movements to renew interest on observing the Sabbath.

Temple Shalom will be one of hundreds of synagogues throughout the continent that will simultaneously open its doors to all those who would like to join together to experience and rejoice in a traditional Sabbath service and festive meal. Led by Rabbi Marc S. Jagolinzer, attendees will experience an interactive Friday night service and a traditional Sabbath dinner with all the rituals explained. The event will commence at 6 p.m.

Located at 223 Valley Road in Middletown, Temple Shalom has been an innovator in Jewish programming and education. This is the third year participating in Shabbat Across America programming.

The cost of the dinner is \$10 per adult and \$6 for children 10 years of age and under. Reservations can be made by sending a check to the temple. For further information, call the temple, 846-9002.

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SHAS is a small private Orthodox school currently serving Nursery, Pre-kindergarten, Kindergarten, First and Second grades (with plans for growth).

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IF INTERESTED, PLEASE SEND A RÉSUMÉ TO:

SHAS, 60 ASHCROFT ROAD, SHARON, MASS. 02867
ATTENTION: JANET PERLIN, OR CALL (781) 784-8700



Rescuing Jewish Children From Chernobyl

Chabad's Children of Chernobyl's 39th rescue flight arrived in Israel on Feb. 4, thanks to proceeds raised at a gala dinner and fantasy auction held at Manhattan's Pier Sixty last November. This was the second of three flights made possible as a result of the successful star-studded evening, entitled Children at Heart, that brought together 650 people to mingle with celebrities such as Alan King, Armand Assante, Pierce Brosnan, Heidi Klum, and award-winning actor Jon Voight. The event heightened the awareness of the celebrities about the tragedy affecting thousands of Jewish children still remaining and living in the Chernobyl area.

Crypto Jews, a Real Story

Theme of Temple Torat Yisrael's Meeting

The Men's Club of Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston, has arranged for Professor David Gitlitz of the University of Rhode Island, department of languages, to be the guest speaker March 12 at 7:30 p.m. He will be accompanied by his wife, Professor Linda Davidson.

Gitlitz has spent many years traveling and researching Crypto Jews — Jews who were ordered by the government to convert to Christianity or leave the country.

His theme will be "Spain's Secret Jews, From The Inquisition to The 21st Century."

Service starts at 7:30 p.m. The congregation will be led by Rabbi Mark Bloom.

All members and guests of the temple are invited to a memorable evening of prayer and enlightenment.

One Shabbat follows and will be sponsored by the Men's Club.

Temple Emanu-El Leisure Club Will Attend Musical

On March 7, Temple Emanu-El Leisure Club is invited to attend a special showing of "Purim Spiel," a delightful musical which retells the Purim story.

The performance will be held at 2 p.m. in the Meeting Hall.

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R.I. Holocaust Memorial Museum Film Series is Back

March 5 — 9 a.m. "The Hiding Place" (147 mins.). True life account of heroic family's imprisonment in Ravensbruck concentration camp.

March 11 — 9 a.m. "Korczak" (118 mins.) True story of renowned physician and author, responsible for Jewish orphanage in Poland during 1930s who refused to abandon his children during the war.

March 17 — 10 a.m. "Weapons of the Spirit" (45 mins.) Story of Le Chamdon-sur-Lignon, small village in France and the response to Nazi terror.

March 25 — 10 a.m. "Liberators" (90 mins.) Unknown story of African-American battalions focusing on Patton's 3rd army and the liberation of the concentration camps.

April 13 — Holocaust Remembrance Day. 10 a.m. "The Visas That Saved Lives" (115 mins.) The story of Japan's consul general, Sugihara, in Lithuania, and his efforts to save thousands of lives.

21 — 10 a.m. "The Wave" (46 mins.) Recreates classroom experiment in which a high school teacher forms his own "reich" to show how Germans embraced Nazism.

29 — 10 a.m. "Sweet Light in a Dark Room" (140 mins.) Unconventional version of Anne Frank theme in Czech setting, 1959, black and white with English subtitles.

All films are free and open to the public.

For more information about the film series or the R.I. Holocaust Memorial Museum, visit the museum or call Tara V. Lisciandro, executive director, at 453-7860.

Local Boxing Champ Comes Home to Massachusetts

World Middleweight boxing champion Dana Rosenblatt will be the featured speaker at a combined breakfast meeting of B'nai B'rith Sports Lodge and Impact Unit. The event will be held March 14 at Congregation Sha'ry Shaolom, 1112 Main St. in Hingham. This is an opportunity for fathers and sons, mothers and daughters, fathers and daughters, and mothers and sons to attend together to hear one of the region's most popular figures.

Rosenblatt is a Malden native. The 26-year-old athlete has won 34 out of 35 fights, with 23 KOs. His popularity is earned both by his athletic success and his personable and charitable nature. He is an appropriate speaker for adults and children of all ages.

The meeting is open to members and non-members, and there will be a nominal charge for breakfast. For information, call the New England region office of B'nai B'rith at (617) 731-5290.

Congratulations! You've Made The Grade

ASDS Honor Roll Students Named

Congratulations to the following Middle School students of the Alperin Schechter Day School, for outstanding academic achievements in the second grading period:

Grade Six: Aaron Abrams, Shira Adler, Alexander Bondarenko, Molly Goodwin, Bruce Kaufman, Miriam Klein, Chloe Licht, Maia Masuda, Hannah Mellion, James Rotenberg, Anna Siradzi, and Jessica Spellun.

Grade Seven: Adam Cable, Rebecca Chaika, Kendra Kobrin, Spencer Kurn, David Levinson, David Miller, Alina Neganova, Benton Odessa, Benjamin Savitzky, Denille Wachtenheim, Leah Weissburg, and Michael Wolpert.

Grade Eight: Esther Friedman, Rachel Furman, Jonah Gabry, Rebecca Gold, Noah Jablow, Elana Kieffer, Rebecca Levine, Aaron Matusow, Benjamin Matusow, Limor Nevel, Noga Nevel, and Sandy Schneider.

JEWISH COMMUNITY

Continued Popularity of Jewish Camping Requires More Camps, More Money

by Mica Schneider
Summer's arrival rests only several flips of the calendar away, but some Jewish children already know what they'll be doing when school breaks in June—attending Jewish sleep-away camps. In the last summer of the 20th century, four percent of Jewish children will pack their trunks with snacks, towels and sun block for Jewish sleep-away camps. Although Jewish camps are more popular than ever, the Jewish community has reason to be seriously concerned about the availability and quality of Jewish camps across North America.

There are only 11 Reform movement camps in North America and seven Conservative movement camps. There are a couple of dozen Zionist camps sponsored by organizations such as Young Judeaea, HaBonim Dror and B'nai Akiba, and 23 camps sponsored by Jewish Community Centers around North America. Together with all other Jewish camp sponsors, they serve about 30,000 kids combined.

In recent years, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations built a new overnight camp in Toronto, Canada, slated to open this summer, and re-tooled previously non-Jewish camps in Massachusetts and California for their use. The Conservative movement's Ramah camps added a year-round facility in Clayton, Ga., last year and hope to open a major new facility in Denver by 2001, their national director says. And the Orthodox-based National Conference of Synagogue Youth says it is aiming to purchase their first permanent camp.

The UAHC's new Crane Lake Camp in West Stockbridge, Mass., accommodates more campers and sits only 20 minutes away from the older UAHC Joseph Eisner Camp in Great Barrington, Mass. Camp Eisner had had to turn many Jewish children away for years before its sister camp was built to handle the abundance of campers.

The shortage of overnight Jewish camps in North America

is problematic for Jewish children who want to attend sleep-away Jewish camps but cannot because there is simply not enough space. In addition to building more camps, improving the facilities and attracting qualified staff at existing camps are also urgently needed.

The drive to improve and expand the overall number of Jewish overnight camps in North America has gained momentum since recent findings confirmed that summer camp alumni maintain stronger Jewish identities through adulthood than kids who don't attend Jewish camps. Rabbi Ramie Arian, director of the new Foundation for Jewish Camping based in New York, said it is in the best interest of the Jewish community to have as many children attend quality Jewish summer camps as possible. As the Diaspora population remains threatened by increasing rates of intermarriage and apathy, Rabbi Arian and other Jewish leaders see summer camp as a solution.

A study on Jewish resident summer camping, soon to be published by The Institute for Jewish and Communal Research and the Foundation for Jewish Camping, strongly supports the notion that attending Jewish resident camps fosters a strong sense of attachment and commitment to Judaism later in life.

Supporters of Jewish camping say overnight Jewish camps offer adolescent youth a social and educational experience that is complementary to and equally important as other Jewish continuity drives, such as the recent initiatives to establish more Jewish day schools and to send Jewish teens on trips to Israel.

"The Jewish community is primarily concerned with continuity," said Rabbi Arian. "Trips to Israel and Jewish day schools—both seen as beneficial—have long received philanthropic support and there are tremendous community efforts to get children into these programs. Camps, until now, have not."

Long waiting lists have restricted opportunities for potential Jewish campers. In fact, one

Jewish leader said that in order to have a child enrolled in a camp for this summer, parents should have registered their children by the visiting day of last summer. In addition to the shortage of Jewish camps able to meet the high demand, new survey results from all North American Jewish camps found most have waiting lists, all need to improve facilities, and all want better training and perks for potential counselors.

Many camp directors said the need to attract qualified, enthusiastic, and intelligent Jewish staff is an important one since counselors are probably the most valued asset of any camp. They are worried about staff deficiencies from the "internship revolution" of the past six years, which attracted staff hopefuls to cities, businesses and career apprenticeships rather than to camps in the Berkshires or California, said Louis Bordman, acting camp director for Camp Eisner and director of Crane Lake Camp, both located in Massachusetts. "Internships have taken over. College-aged camp counselors are deterred because to get a good job, they think you need to have had a good internship," Bordman said.

The Foundation for Jewish Camping was founded to address the many needs and concerns of summer Jewish camps. A \$2 million "lead gift" from a couple in New Jersey, Robert Bildner and Elisa Spungen Bildner and from the Bildner Family Foundation, made the Foundation for Jewish Camping a reality in August 1998. In its first three months, the foundation attracted an additional \$200,000 in donations, Bildner said.

The first grants to be an-

nounced in March, will be awarded to sleep-away camps that applied for supplemental funding. Grants, offered by the foundation to existing camps, would allow for improvements this summer and the future building of more camps.

The foundation sent funding applications in January to the 105 camps in North America. The Conservative movement's Ramah Camp director, Rabbi Sheldon Dorph, said their application is already in the mail. "We're looking to start Ramah in the Rockies," Dorph said, "our target date is summer 2001."

The Bildners say their commitment of \$2 million is intended as a challenge and an invitation to other philanthropists, foundations and Jewish community agencies to join them in raising the huge funding this issue needs and merits.

While the long-range need to build more camps is critical, Rabbi Arian said improving facilities and attracting qualified staff is a more immediate goal, making \$20 million the foundation's short-term goal.

The Bildners, both graduates of Jewish camps, said they want the foundation to become "the address" to which Jews turn when they need information on camps or want to make contributions to Jewish camps. No one had even compiled a simple list of all the Jewish camps in North America before the foundation, Spungen Bildner said.

"Our children return from their summers at Jewish camps, not only reciting Sabbath prayers and leading the Birkat Hamazon after meals, but with a profound love for their Jewish heritage," she said. "We want other Jewish children to share that love."

Alongside a need for better

recruitment and new facilities is the growing cost of attending Jewish sleep-away camps. Spungen Bildner said she wouldn't have thought about going to a Jewish overnight camp as a child had her synagogue not called to tell her she'd been given a scholarship to go to Camp Ramah of Wisconsin. She said she hopes people will begin scholarship programs in their communities and sees the foundation as a resource in any community's drive for funds.

In fact, more organizations are willing to fund campers, Rabbi Arian says, and are only deterred when camps don't exist nearby or with sufficient space to serve their needs. This was the case in Seattle, where the Jewish community worked to establish a voucher program ensuring all Jewish children could attend a Jewish camp, Rabbi Arian said. The effort was suspended when the community realized too few camp spaces existed to accommodate many additional children.

As more organizations collect money to improve and expand Jewish camps across North America, children will have increased access to fun Jewish learning, parents can enjoy a break from carpooling and summer baseball games and the Jewish community can feel secure in knowing that Jewish kids will return from summer break with a fresh appreciation for Judaism. If there were a pile of funding to build from, the possibilities.

For more information about the Foundation for Jewish Camping, contact Rabbi Ramie Arian at (212) 829-0200.

Mica Schneider writes for Business Week and lives in Washington, D.C. She previously wrote for JTA.

Breakfast and Program at Congregation Agudath Achim

A breakfast will be served in the vestry of Congregation Agudath Achim, 36 Winthrop St., Taunton, Mass., on March 7 at 9:30 a.m. A delicious breakfast will be followed by a taste of several fascinating stories in the Jewish books now being published.

Hundreds of books on Jewish topics are published in English every year. Some of these books become best-sellers, such as Thomas Cahill's *The Gifts of the Jews*, or win recognition by the general public such as Allegra Goodman's *Kaaterskill Falls*, which was a finalist in the National Book Award selections.

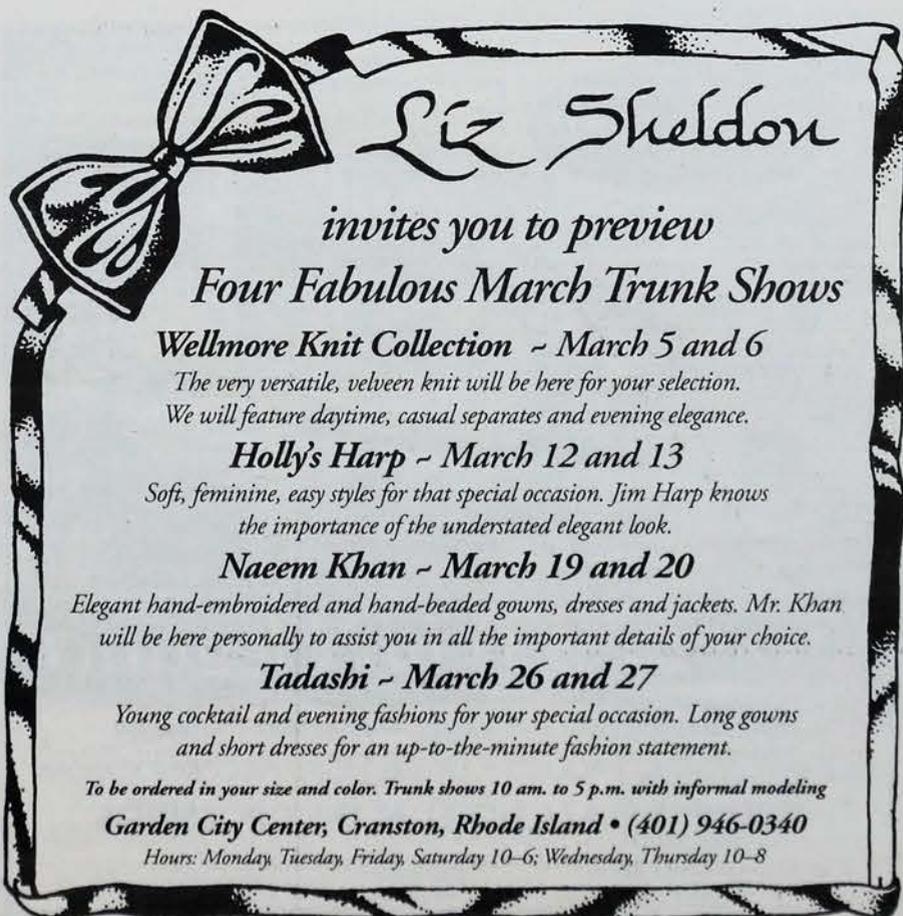
Three members of the congregation will review books, two novels and one biography. Leslie Gibbons will tell the story of *Snow in August* by Pete Hamill (Little, Brown & Co., 1997). Ethel Schein Buscemi will review the best

seller, *Kaaterskill Falls* by Allegra Goodman. Janet Wolk will share the fascinating events in *The Memoirs of Gluckel of Hameln*, a biography of a Jewish woman who lived between 1647 and 1724. The book was edited by Marvin Lowenthal and published by Schocken Books in 1977.

Members of the committee are Ross Chartoff, Dennis Ackerman, Laura Rego and Ronald Swartz. Co-presidents of the congregation are David Beberman and Shoshanah Garshick. Rabbi Weisenberg and Arthur Arkanase will not be teaching their classes on the morning of March 7.

The community is invited to the breakfast and the program. There will be a charge of \$3 per person for breakfast.

For more information, contact Rabbi Maurice Weisenberg at (508) 822-3230.



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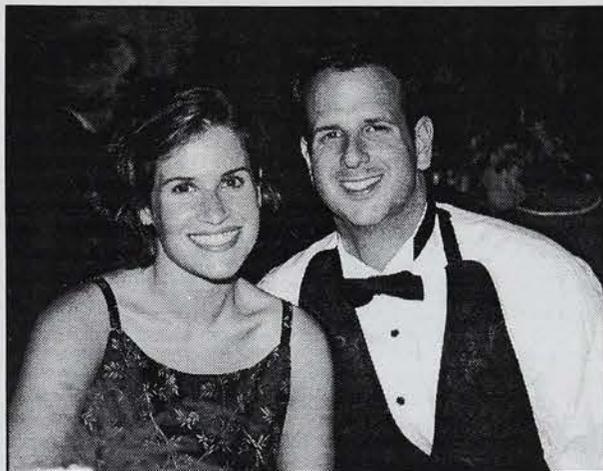
Katherine Prior to Wed Brian Wilson

Richard and Anne Prior of Lowell, Mass., announce the engagement of their daughter, Katherine Anne Prior of Boston, Mass., to Brian Andrew Wilson of Newton, Mass., son of Margaret and Paul Wilson of Cranston, R.I.

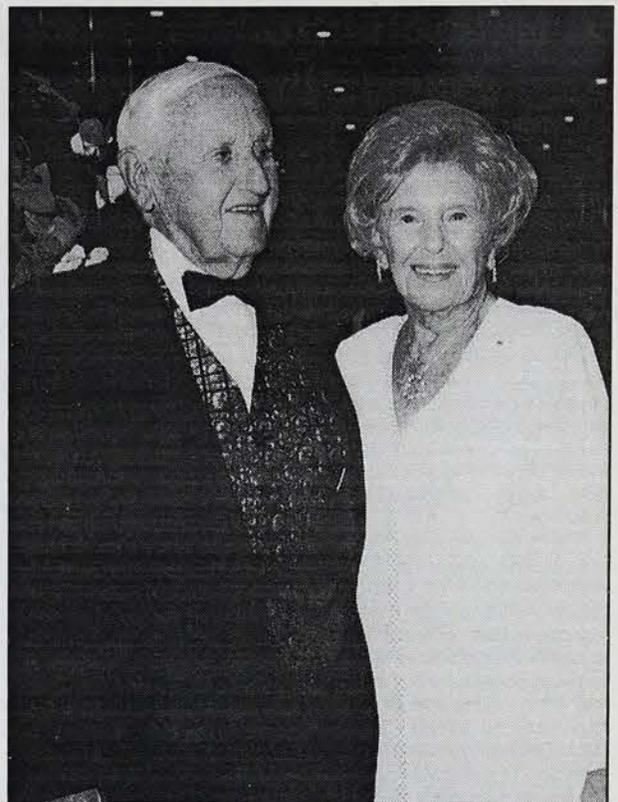
The bride-to-be is a graduate of Academy of Notre Dame and Boston College. She is employed as an editorial production assistant at Houghton Mifflin Publishing, Boston. Her fiancé is a graduate of Moses Brown School and Emory University, and has a J.D. degree from Boston University School of Law. He is an assistant district attorney, Norfolk County, Mass.

He is the grandson of Joseph and Sophia Potemkin of Cranston.

The date of the wedding is Aug. 26, 2000.



Katherine Prior and Brian Wilson



Chases Celebrate 60 Years of Marriage

Babe and Gus Chase of Rhode Island and Boca Raton, Fla., celebrated their 60 years of marriage on a cruise to the western Caribbean.

Gus and Babe grew up in the same neighborhood in Providence. They were married Jan. 2, 1939.

Babe Chase founded his own advertising company in Rhode Island, Chase Advertising. Gus Chase was the controller of the company. They retired in 1990 and now are permanent residents in Florida.

The Chases have two children, Marvin and Robin, and two grandchildren, Aimee Chase and Jeremy Israel.

Dr. Nancy M. LaPibus to Wed Keith Livingstone

Mr. and Mrs. Howard P. LaPibus of Tustin, Calif., and Susan R. LaPibus of Los Angeles, Calif., announce the engagement of their daughter, Dr. Nancy M. LaPibus, to Keith A. Livingstone, son of Robert and the late Phyllis Livingstone, of Los Angeles, Calif. Dr. LaPibus is also the granddaughter of the late William P. and Anna F. Herman of Providence and the late Benjamin and Harriet LaPibus of Providence.

Dr. LaPibus graduated from The Wheeler School, Santa Monica College and the Pasadena College of Chiropractic. Her practice is in West Los Angeles. Her fiancé will graduate from Pierce College in May 1999.

The couple plan a January 2000 wedding.

Make Your Wedding Day Sparkle

The day you get married is the most important day of your life. Everything needs to be perfect — your dress, hair and makeup. But have you thought about your teeth?

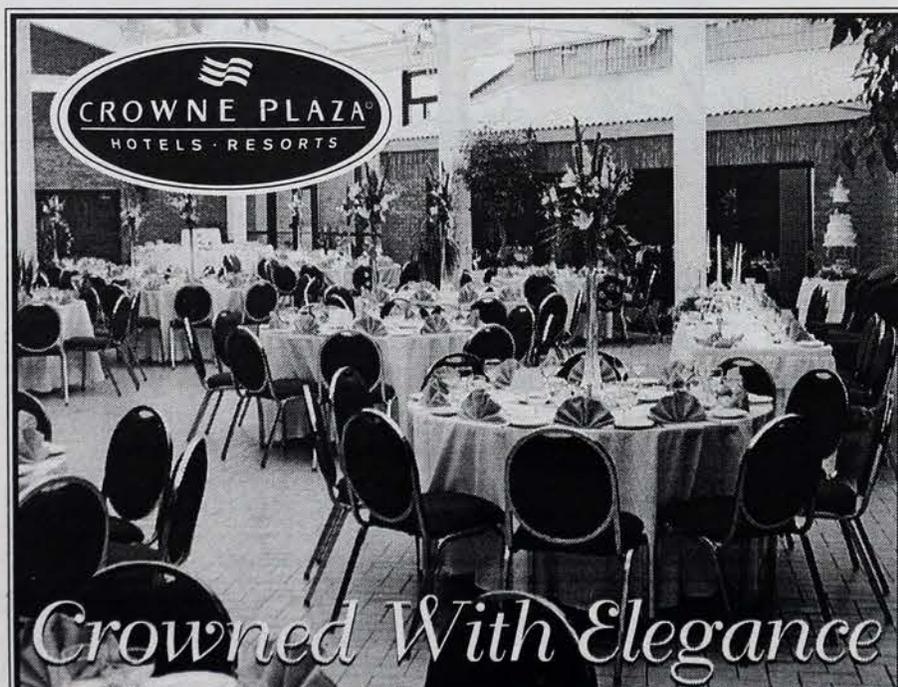
"Spring and early summer are the times when I get the most visits from brides and bridegrooms-to-be wanting whiter teeth," said Debbie Davis, a dentist in Boca Raton, Fla. "I encourage these women and men to maintain a valuable tooth bleaching procedure with an over-the-counter tooth whitening product that can be brushed in like a toothpaste gel."

In addition to keeping your teeth white, the following tips are helpful to make your wedding day shine:

- **Make up not to break up.**

Visit a cosmetics counter and let the professionals show you the way. Don't forget the waterproof mascara.

- **Mask your imperfections.** A regular facial mask can banish blemishes for the big day.
- **Get ready to mingle.** Ensure fresh breath with regular use of an alcohol-free mouthrinse and keep a breath freshener close at hand.
- **Breathe.** Calm your nerves with daily meditation. Sit and breathe in some soothing aromatherapy oils.
- **Make sure your pearly whites match your dress.** See your dentist about a professional tooth bleaching procedure or brighten up with a safe, over-the-counter brush-in tooth bleaching toothpaste.



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Joshua Spencer Brandes

Carolyn Tick and Jed Brandes of Cranston, R.I., announce the birth of their son, Joshua Spencer Brandes, on Feb. 12. He weighed 7 lbs. 14 oz. and was 20 1/4" long.

Maternal grandparents are the late Janet and Daniel Jay Tick of New York, N.Y. Paternal grandparents are Zita and Irwin Brandes of New York, N.Y.

Joshua was welcomed home by his older brother, Daniel Solomon Brandes

Are You or Someone You Know Getting Married? Be a Part of our Society Page. Send your Engagement and Wedding Announcements to:

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HBO Depicts Meyer Lansky Through Jewish Filter

by Tom Tugend

LOS ANGELES (JTA) — "Meyer Lansky saw life entirely through a Jewish filter," says Richard Dreyfuss, who plays the legendary mobster in an upcoming HBO television special. "Lansky," scripted by David Mamet, picks up where the rash of early 1990s' Hollywood films on Jewish gangsters left off but with a difference.

Whereas the earlier movies on the lives and crimes of "Bugsy" Siegel, "Dutch" Schultz, Mickey Cohen, Arnold Rothstein and Lansky himself took note of the protagonists' Jewishness in passing, the HBO picture makes it a central motif.

The two opening scenes set the tone. The first shows the 70-year-old Lansky amid the cluttered tombstones of Jerusalem's Mount of Olives, trying to buy a space for himself next to his grandparents' graves.

In an instant flashback the 7-year-old Meyer Suchowljansky watches in frozen horror as a pious, old Jew is butchered by Polish peasants during a pogrom in his native Grodno.

For the rest of the two-hour telefilm, the career of Lansky unfolds, showing him as a kid on New York's Lower East Side who loses the challah money in a crap game, while his muscular pal Bugsy defends him from Irish bullies.

During Prohibition, Lansky gets his start in bootlegging, and demonstrates early on his modus operandi by striking a bargain with a rival mob to avoid a bloody shootout over a shipment of booze.

Watching the operation, a buddy notes that by linking Lansky's "Yiddish koppel" to the "Sicilian balls" of such allies as "Lucky" Luciano, the boys will go far. It was a formula that served Lansky well.

He reached the height of prosperity and influence during the 1940s and 1950s, when he transformed illegal gambling from a neighborhood racket into an interstate enterprise and controlled the lucrative, high-class casinos of Havana, until Fidel Castro put him out of business.

In his own eyes, Lansky was an American and Jewish patriot, and he was bitterly disappointed when both the U.S. and Israeli governments failed to appreciate his contributions.

During World War II, according to Mamet's script, Lansky was the intermediary between Luciano and the U.S. military to

enlist the Italian Mafia's help in the American invasion of Sicily.

Better documented is Lansky's role in 1947 and 1948, when he pressured Jewish and Italian mobsters to raise money for Israel. Lansky also used his contacts on the New York waterfront to expedite forbidden arms shipments to Israel, and, according to one version, to sabotage ships carrying weapons to Arab nations.

In 1970, with the FBI after him for income-tax evasion, Lansky moved to Tel Aviv, spent a happy year there and applied for Israeli citizenship under the Law of Return, which grants citizenship to all Jews.

Under pressure from the U.S. Justice Department, Golda Meir's government turned him down, as did the Israeli Supreme Court. He was arrested by the FBI while seeking asylum in Panama.

In the legends and studies of Jewish gangsterdom, there are two Meyer Lansky's.

The older version, accepted by U.S. law enforcers, has him as the criminal mastermind, the brain behind the mob. He pulled the strings of a national crime syndicate that, according to some, made more money than General Motors and posed a greater threat to America than the Soviets.

To comedian Jackie Mason, Lansky was the Mafia's Henry Kissinger, for "how could all those Italians create something like the mob, unless they had a Jew to show them?"

A more recent, revisionist view grants Lansky his wizardry with numbers, but sees him as a calculating but limited businessman, whose power and wealth have been vastly exaggerated.

The HBO film generally sides with the latter Lansky persona, as an entrepreneur catering to necessary, if illicit, human needs.

Summing up his life and vision shortly before his peaceful death in Miami at age 80, Lansky says, "I'm a gambler, an odds-maker, and people will always gamble. By the turn of the century, the government will run gambling, drugs and prostitution. That's where the money is."

Yet, at all times, the protagonist of this movie version sees himself as the embattled Jew,

with the Cossacks hard on his heels. Whether battling investigating U.S. senators or FBI Chief J. Edgar Hoover's men, Lansky voices his conviction that he's facing a bunch of anti-Semites.

Richard Dreyfuss has no trouble identifying with the character of Lansky.

"I know people like Lansky from my own family, my immigrant grandfather on the Lower East Side, who spoke like him and looked at the world through the same eyes," the actor said in a recent telephone interview from England, where he is performing in Neil Simon's "The Prisoner of Second Avenue."

"I have no idea whether all the incidents in the film are true, but I do know that Mamet has created a familiar and somewhat sad figure — the old Jewish immigrant who worked hard, couldn't express his emotions and made certain choices," Dreyfuss said.

The actor, who aroused some Jewish sensitivities in the title role of the film "The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz" some 25 years ago, has no concern that his portrayal of a mobster with an in-your-face Jewish attitude will elicit Jewish protests.

"The Jewish community in the United States is as intelligently assimilated as can be," he said. "I don't think that the bulk of the community will see the Lansky portrayal as a threat."

Dreyfuss wouldn't mind, though, if some Jewish defense agencies launched a protest, figuring that a bit of controversy could only help ratings.

Broadcasts of "Lansky" are scheduled on HBO for March 7, 10, 16, 22, and 25.

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Fain Financial Philosophies

by Robert Fain, CLU, ChFC

Maalox Call?

Is it time for a Maalox Call? Better still, what is a Maalox Call? Why would anyone care? A Maalox Call is something that applies to every individual who is an investor. It is for those who think investing is a sprint and also those who think investing is a marathon, but to a much lesser degree. I am not going to define the Maalox Call except to say that it is completely different for the marathon investor vs. the sprint investor. It may be appropriate that the marathon "runner" is generally more attuned to a plan and attaining a goal. Since my children are marathon runners, their goal is to finish the race. For those that are running a "financial marathon," the analogy applies.

So here are a few items that will help you with any indigestion:

1. Ignore Brokaw, Jennings, Rather

All of the news that you read about or listen to is for today only. Tomorrow there will be a different story to keep you coming back. Your retirement program, or other programs, is just that, so stay the course. The target reduces that un-easy feeling.

2. Focus on the Donut not on the Hole

If you focus on the hole (which represents the market soaring up, crashing down, and soaring up again) it will mean that you'll need to be on a permanent Maalox Call. That is no fun. The whole donut is your future retirement and it is what you are after.

3. This is a marathon, not a sprint

Think about a marathon, especially Boston. In the Boston Marathon, there is a portion of the race that is called Heartbreak Hill. It is a bear, but those that stay the course and continue to the finish line, win not just by completing the race, but all of the goodies that go with it. Your

financial security in retirement should come without the Maalox Call.

4. Statistics in Perspective:

During the last 71 years, the stock market has experienced 20 calendar year losses. During these Maalox Calls, you will have suffered big time if you panicked. If you sat on your hands, and kept your eye on your target and worked with your advisor, the rewards were substantial. Since 1925 stocks have doubled — average — every seven years.

So what does all of this mean? Keep all of your Maalox Calls to a minimum.

Send questions to Fain Financial Philosophies, c/o The R.I. Jewish Herald, Classbox FFF, P.O. Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 02940.

Robert Fain owns Fain Financial Services, 56 Pine St., Providence, R.I., and is a Registered Representative with Commonwealth Financial Network, member NASD and SIPC. In addition, he is a Registered Investment Advisor.

The light will return. Spring will arrive.

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FEATURE

Film Critic Siskel Eulogized as 'Mensch' and Active Jew

by Brigitte Dayan
JUF News

CHICAGO (JTA)—Since the news of Gene Siskel's death, Chicagoans and people the world over have eulogized him as a master movie critic, a dedicated family man and a modest person whose fame didn't detract from his friendliness.

Yet there is a lesser-known but equally important side to Siskel, one reflected in his Jewish upbringing and his continued observance of and dedication to Judaism and his community.

A long-time contributor to the Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago, Siskel, who died Feb. 20 at the age of 53, was an active supporter of Israel and of Jewish educational initiatives.

A Chicagoan by birth and by passion, Siskel spent his early childhood in West Rogers Park on Chicago's North Side, a historically Jewish neighborhood.

His parents, Nathan and Ida, passed away when Siskel was very young, and he and his siblings were raised by their mother's sister and her family in Glencoe, a northern suburb of Chicago. His aunt and uncle were founding members of North Suburban Synagogue Beth El, a Conservative synagogue, and it was there that he celebrated his bar mitzvah.

The breastplate on one of the Torahs in use at the synagogue was donated in honor of his bar mitzvah. Siskel, whose wife also grew up at Beth El, remained a member, and their daughter celebrated her bat mitzvah at the synagogue recently, the last time he was out in public.

Last April, just days before he was diagnosed with a brain tumor, Siskel was master of ceremonies for Chicago's community-wide celebration of Israel's 50th anniversary. Although he was already suffering from migraine headaches at the time, he stoically emceed the event, organized by the Jewish federation.

"Gene was a revolutionary at

his craft, known the world over, yet he never forgot where he came from," said JUF/Jewish federation president Steven Nasatir.

"In an era when public figures often have little to do with their community, Siskel was a mensch, whose Judaism was paramount in his life and who was a very willing and active member of his community."

Siskel's dedication to Israel was strongly influenced by a family trip there two years ago when his oldest daughter, Kate, was in eighth grade.

Siskel and his wife, Marlene, sent their children to Moadon Kol Chadash, a small family-run Hebrew school whose first graduating class was taken to Israel. According to those who knew him, Siskel was deeply touched by the way the trip affected his daughter's Jewish identity.

Upon talking to his friend Howard Swibel, the president of the Community Foundation for Jewish Education of Metropolitan Chicago, the two agreed that such a trip should be brought to a greater number of local Hebrew school students.

Siskel pledged his help, and true to his word, took the project, now called Taam Yisrael, under his wing.

The first group of eighth graders went to Israel last February, the second group — with six times as many students — went recently. The trip is a six-day whirlwind tour of Israel.

A critic of bigotry and racist portrayals in movies, Siskel took a stand several years ago when Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan appeared on the Arsenio Hall show.

Upset that Farrakhan appeared and feeling that the interview failed to press him on his anti-Semitic record, Siskel and Ebert decided not to appear on the show. Siskel wrote a column explaining their reasons in the *Chicago Tribune*.

Siskel also put together a video chronicling Jewish stereotypes and anti-Semitism in Hollywood, which he used as an educational tool.

Friends of Siskel say that he expressed Judaism in much the same way he expressed everything else in his life — with modesty and little fanfare.

"Gene never wore anything on his sleeve, not his fame, not his accomplishments and not his Judaism," said longtime friend and retired Illinois state Sen. Howard Carroll, who grew up with Siskel and his siblings.

"He was very low-key and never took himself too seriously, but he was fervent about his Jewish beliefs. He was a believer."

His rabbi, Vernon Kurtz of Beth El, recalled in his eulogy recently that just weeks ago, prior to their second daughter's bat mitzvah, Siskel and his wife told her that the two most important values in life were family and Judaism.

"Judaism has taught me right from wrong," he told his daughter.

Siskel's modesty is something Jewish community leaders here have known. When the Community Foundation for Jewish Education asked to honor him at its annual dinner last year, he turned them down, saying he didn't like to be honored.

Instead, he offered to chair the event, at which he showed a videotape that he narrated about the first Taam Yisrael trip.

He told the audience that he made the video in order to raise awareness about the benefits of an Israel experience such as Taam Yisrael.

Then, he told them that he gave the movie "two thumbs up."

Register For Lifeguard Training

Lifeguard Certification will be offered this spring at the YMCA of Cranston, beginning March 6 through April 24. Class will meet for eight Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Upon completion of the course participants will receive National YMCA Lifeguard certification, and will also be certified in National Safety Council CPR and first aid. Students must be at least 16 years old at the beginning of the course and be able to pass a swim evaluation. Attendance to all classes is mandatory.

Interested individuals should register now. Anyone certified at the YMCA of Cranston, who is then hired by the YMCA as a lifeguard immediately following the class, and remains in the job for three months will be reimbursed monies paid for the course. Space is limited, so please register early.

For more information, contact Scott or Tim at the Cranston YMCA at 943-0444 or stop by at 1225 Park Ave.

ProvGas Announces Available Funds and Payment Plans For Needy Customers

Company Announces Partnership With Consumer Credit Counseling Service

Officials of Providence Gas Company met with more than 70 state and community service providers and consumer advocates to present a list of available funds and payment programs for ProvGas customers who are seriously behind in paying their natural gas bills. Joining ProvGas were representatives of the Rhode Island Energy Office and Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Rhode Island.

"We're doing everything we can to let people know that there are funds available for needy customers who are having a difficult time making ends meet," James H. Dodge, chairman, president and CEO of ProvGas. "We're asking for the help of the service providers to counsel their clients to contact us to see if they're eligible for funds and to establish payment programs."

In his opening remarks to the Helping Hands symposium at the Providence Marriott Hotel, Dodge emphasized his company's long-standing sponsorship of the Rhode Island Good Neighbor Energy Fund and the establishment of a \$1.2 million payment program as part of the company's Energize RI plan. ProvGas also manages payment plans for customers who have fallen behind in their payments.

"We understand that we have a number of good customers

who are facing tough financial times," said Dodge. "To help them, we're working with Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Rhode Island. Their financial counselors can assist clients who want to get out of debt and learn how they can better manage their money to stay out of debt."

CCCS is a non-profit, community service agency that offers low cost, confidential and professional financial counseling services that include budget and debt consolidation planning as an alternative to bankruptcy.

In addition to advising customers who are past due that there are payment options available to them through the company, ProvGas will include a notice of CCCS services and its phone number on invoices going to past-due customers. ProvGas customer service representatives will also offer information concerning CCCS in their telephone contacts with customers who are seriously in arrears.

Dodge said the company would continue its policy of ending service to customers who refuse to pay their bills. The current moratorium on shutting off service to utility customers who are past due officially ends on March 31. ProvGas is hoping that the social service agencies will use the time before the end of the moratorium to encourage their clients to contact ProvGas and establish a payment program. For information, call 272-5040.

R. I. Home*A*Syst Training Program Scheduled

Is Your Home at Risk From Environmental Pollutants?

Your home is often your most valuable investment. Activities in and around the home can cause pollution that can affect the quality of the environment and human health. The Rhode Island Home*A*Syst Program can help you identify environmental risks in and around your home and offer suggestions and techniques for preventative, cost-effective actions before problems occur.

The 1999 training program is scheduled for March 18 through May 1 on Thursday evening from 7 to 9 p.m. on URI's Kingston campus. There are also a couple of Saturday programs for topics that lend themselves to outdoor, daytime training. Topics included during the 1999 training program are:

- Drinking Water Well Protection
- Septic System Operation and Maintenance
- Indoor Air Quality
- Sustainable Landscaping
- Waste Reduction
- Household Hazardous Waste Management

• Soils and Stormwater Runoff Protection
Rhode Island Home*A*Syst is sponsored and coordinated by the University of Rhode Island Cooperative Extension in cooperation with state and local agencies and organizations. The training program is designed so participants learn the subject matter and interact with professionals and other participants in a relaxed and informal setting. Program graduates can continue working with us as a Home*A*Syst volunteer. Volunteer opportunities are posted in our program newsletter or we will work with you to develop a project tailored to your specific interests and talents.

The fee for the multi-session training program is \$40 and includes written materials, instruction, and refreshments. The program fee is returned to individuals who have volunteered 20 hours and request a return. There are four scholarships. Applications for these are available upon request.

For more information and to register for the program, contact Alyson McCann at 874-5398 or e-mail at <alyson@uri.edu>.

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Safety on The Ski Slopes

by Mark S. Mandell

For some, snowfall means hours of back-breaking shoveling. For others, it heralds only one thing — ski season.

One of our favorite activities this time of year is loading up the kids and heading out to snow-covered mountains for the family ski trip. As with any recreational activity, there are a number of precautions that need to be taken to ensure that everyone has a great time and makes it down the hill safely.

Safety on the slopes is a serious concern. A January 1999 U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission study on skiing helmets estimated the number of emergency room-treated injuries associated with skiing for 1997 at 84,200, with 12,700 reported as head injuries. In addition, there were 37,600 snowboarding injuries, 5,200 of which were head injuries.

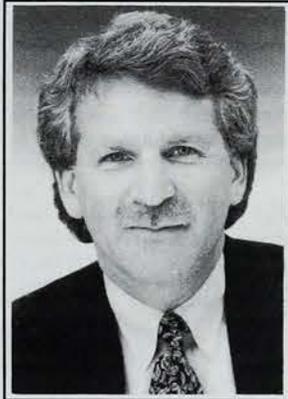
Though the overall rate of skiing injuries has declined by about 50 percent over the past 25 years — according to a 1990 report by Dr. Jasper Shealy of the Rochester (N.Y.) Institute of Technology — skiing safety education remains a top priority at every ski resort.

That's because our nation's slopes have grown more and more crowded each year. According to the National Sporting Goods Association, nearly 10 million Americans go downhill skiing more than once each year. And, with the increasing popularity of snowboarding, add to that figure 2.5 million snowboarders.

The most important thing that we as parents can do to protect our children and ourselves is to sit down and review a few skiing safety tips before venturing out onto the slopes. The National Ski Areas Association

has highlighted seven basic rules that comprise the skier's code of conduct, entitled, "Your Responsibility Code."

- Always stay in control, and be able to stop or avoid other people or objects.
- People ahead of you have the right of way. It is your responsibility to avoid them.
- You must not stop where you obstruct a trail, or are not visible from above.



Mark S. Mandell

- Whenever starting downhill or merging into a trail, look uphill and yield to others.
- Always use devices to help prevent runaway equipment.
- Observe all posted signs and warnings. Keep off closed trails and out of closed areas.
- Prior to using any lift, you must have the knowledge and ability to load, ride and unload safely.

In addition to these safety guidelines, a new recommendation recently issued by the CPSC suggests the use of helmets to prevent head injuries for skiers and snowboarders involved in falls or collisions.

This recommendation can be found at <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtm199/99046.html>

According to the January 1999 CPSC study, helmet use in snow sports could reduce or prevent serious damage in 44 percent of head injuries to adults and 53 percent to children.

Just as helmet use for other activities such as cycling and motorcycling have provided proven protection against head and brain injuries, helmet use on the slopes — especially by children — would be equally effective in reducing the severity of skiing-related accidents. This study can be found at <http://www.cpsc.gov/library/skihelm.pdf>.

As always, when selecting protective equipment, be sure that all items, such as bindings and boots, are adjusted to fit the individual properly. Ski helmets can run anywhere from \$50 to \$100, and are more than worth any expense if they protect your family members should they be involved in an accident.

Remember, protective gear is only an effective deterrent if used in conjunction with common sense: knowing your limits, following the rules, and being constantly aware of those around you. All of which help to contribute to a safe and memorable family ski trip.

For more health and safety information and tips, visit ATLA's "Keep Our Families Safe" Web site at <http://familysafety.atla.org>.

Mark S. Mandell, president of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America, is a partner in the Providence, R.I. law firm of Mandell, Schwartz & Boisclair.

AGs Crack Down on 'Cramming'

Attorney General Sheldon Whitehouse and attorneys general of 14 other states announced an agreement with RRV Enterprises, Inc., a Texas company doing business as Consumer Access, which billed consumers for "calling cards" for long distance calls even though many consumers were unaware they were even subscribers to the service. The practice of placing unauthorized charges for services other than telephone calls, on telephone bills, is commonly referred to as "cramming." Cramming and slamming are among the most frequently received consumer complaints by the R.I. Attorney General's Consumer Protection Unit.

Consumers from around the country, including more than a dozen from Rhode Island, complained about the company's calling card solicitation. The attorneys general alleged that the company's tactic of placing its solicitation on a contest entry form along with information about a charitable donation was deceptive and dishonest, thus in violation of consumer protection laws. The calling cards were promoted through sweepstakes and prize giveaways. Many consumers believed that they were

merely entering a drawing to win a motor vehicle or cash prize, when in fact Consumer Access used the contest entry forms as authorization to charge consumers a service fee to enroll them in the program and a monthly fee, thereafter. The fee would appear on a consumer's telephone bill without further explanation and could likely go undetected. This practice of placing unsolicited charges on telephone bills is commonly referred to as "cramming."

Under the agreement, any consumer who was billed within the past year by Consumer Access is entitled to a full refund or credit, not including charges for long distance calls, if the consumer verifies that the signature on the contest form is not theirs. If the consumer does acknowledge the signature is theirs, then they are entitled to a refund or credit of any initial fees plus one month's access fee. Refund requests may be sent to: Consumer Access, P.O. Box 27848, Houston, Texas, 77227 or by calling (800) 555-4159. Consumers may be asked to verify whether or not they, or a member of their household, signed an authorization on the contest entry form before a refund or

credit will be issued.

The Rhode Island Attorney General's Consumer Protection Unit has already collected \$400 in refunds for local consumers who fell victim to the scam. Other consumers who believe they are owed refunds should contact Consumer Access. In addition to refunds, Consumer Access has been ordered to pay \$525,000 to be divided among the 15 states, including Rhode Island, for penalties, attorneys' fees, and investigative costs. Rhode Island will collect \$35,000.

Attorney General Sheldon Whitehouse reminds consumers to be especially cautious when entering contests or seeking to collect "prizes" from giveaway programs. "There are almost always strings attached. These folks are in business to make money, usually at the expense of the unsuspecting consumer." The AG reminds consumers, "Unless you are 100 percent certain of the rules and your obligations, don't agree to become a contestant."

The attorney general urges consumers to report any suspected case of consumer fraud by calling the Consumer Protection Unit at (800) 852-7776.

Palestinian Asks U.S. Jews to Press Netanyahu on Peace

by Avi Machlis

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Saeb Erekat, the Palestinians' chief negotiator, urged visiting American Jewish leaders on Feb. 21 to help revive the stalled peace talks by passing a message on to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

"Send him this message on my behalf," Erekat said in an impassioned speech to the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. "Palestinian people are not your enemies, and they should not be portrayed as the enemy."

Erekat also urged Netanyahu not to use Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat in his election campaign: "Stop insinuating to the Israelis that if you don't vote Netanyahu, you are voting Arafat." A moderate in the Palestinian leadership, Erekat said accusing the Palestinian people of not being committed to peace strengthens extremist elements in Palestinian society, such as Hamas and Islamic Jihad.

"Please, Mr. Netanyahu, don't shoot yourself in the foot and shoot us in the head," he said. "You can say whatever you want to say about Arafat, about me as a chief negotiator. You can accuse us of anything you want. But don't touch the Palestinian people."

"If you continue to portray the Palestinian people as the enemies," he said, "this is [used as] the main ammunition of Hamas and Islamic Jihad."

Erekat was warmly received by most members of the Conference of Presidents, which was in Israel on its annual leadership mission.

Malcolm Hoenlein, the conference's executive vice chairman, said after the speech that the plea to American Jews was "a little bit of drama."

"We are not intermediaries to the prime minister," he said, adding that Erekat "presented the traditional position of the Palestinian Authority. He was very articulate."

However, Hoenlein said Erekat failed to give specific answers to some concerns about Palestinian compliance with Wye accords signed last October but frozen by the Israeli government.

Erekat insisted the Palestinians had carried out their commitments as agreed, and he accused Netanyahu of taking upon himself the role of judging whether the Palestinians had implemented the accords, which was supposed to be done by the United States.

Erekat tried to alleviate concerns of conference members about Palestinian compliance with the Wye accords signed last October but frozen by the Israeli government.

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Erekat tried to alleviate concerns of conference members about Palestinian incitement against Israelis, saying the Palestinian Authority is trying hard to explain to Palestinians the boundaries of free speech. For example, he said, the authority is telling its people that Palestinians who talk of killing Jews are practicing "racism, bigotry and incitement."

But Erekat was ambiguous when asked whether Arafat plans to carry out his threat of unilaterally declaring statehood on May 4.

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Business Owners: New Supreme Court Ruling States Employers Liable for Sexual Harassment Acts They Don't Know About

The seven-member majority sent down the new ruling that presumes companies are to blame when supervisors create a sexually hostile workplace environment.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Stalin's Terror to be Documented by First-Hand Accounts on PBS

During Soviet leader Josef Stalin's reign, an estimated 20 million people perished in a series of purges, arrests, executions, artificial famines and deportations to desolate regions and forced labor camps.

This coming March, a major new PBS special, "Stolen Years," looks at Stalin's terror from the inside out, through the eyes of 11 purge victims. The one-hour special, a co-production of the Blackwell Corporation and the Evans-McCan Group in association with South Carolina Educational Television, features first-hand accounts from survivors of Stalin's gulag camps. Introduced by renowned historian Robert Conquest, the story is illustrated through the use of archival footage and still photographs from government archives, museums and private collections, many never before seen in the West. The film also features the remarkable artworks of Nikolai Getman, him-

self a survivor of Stalin's gulag. The program airs March 4, at 10 p.m. ET on PBS. Check local listings for air time and dates in your area.

From his rise to power in 1929 to his death in 1953, Josef Stalin ordered several waves of terror against his people. He spawned a cult of personality that was unrestrained by the Communist Party or any other institution. Publicly launched in 1936 with the Moscow show trials, during which old Bolsheviks and military officers were convicted of implausible crimes, within a year the secret-police reign of terror annihilated a large portion of every profession and reached down into the general population.

One of the film's most dramatic moments occurs during the testimony of Semyon Samuilovich Vilevsky. He was arrested in 1948 just after his 20th birthday and incarcerated in the Sukhanov prison.

Vilevsky recounts hearing a distant church bell from his prison cell and recites the poem it inspired. He states, "This was the first period in my life when I, a person raised entirely in an atheist way, first thought about G-d. This was difficult for a young man who had been brought up in Soviet schools, who had studied in a Soviet university. You know, I spoke with Him. I spoke with Him. I asked Him how He could accept all of this."

Stalin once stated, "A single death is a tragedy, a million deaths is a statistic." It is difficult to comprehend this horrific era of 20th-century history without bringing the story down to the scale of the individual. The five men and six women featured in "Stolen Years" provide a graphic, sometimes uncomfortable, glimpse into life in the forced labor camps. Despite their ethnic diversity and the vast geographical expanse of the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, all of their experiences are eerily similar. They tell the stories of their arrests, often on false charges, their imprisonment, the grueling transport to the labor camps, and most chilling of all, the many years spent in forced labor.

The documentary was filmed at some of the most historically important locations throughout the former Soviet Union including Moscow's notorious Lubyanka prison, mass grave sites in St. Petersburg and Oryol, and Butugynsk forced labor camp in the heart of the infamous Kolyma Region of the Russian Far East. The program contains a wealth of haunting still photographs including per-



'STOLEN YEARS' looks at Stalin's terror from the inside out. Program airs March 4 at 10 p.m. ET on PBS. Photo courtesy of PBS.

sonal photos provided by the survivors themselves. The filmmakers worked with the purge survivor groups, Memorial and Vozvrashchenie, to gain access to private photograph collections. In an effort to portray the complete labor camp experience, the film features the musical compositions of Russian émigré composer Alexey Kovalev, including renditions of traditional folk music that evolved in the gulag system.

The interviews for "Stolen Years" were conducted by American journalist and native Russian language speaker Vladimir Kimenko. Kimenko, whose own paternal grandfather was executed during Stalin's purge, is credited as screenwriter for the production. His vast knowledge on the subject of Russia's people and historical events, as well as his insightful interview style, enabled the survivors to share their stories in depth.

Cadence Dance Project to Present an Evening of Ballet

The now 1-year-old non-profit Cadence Dance Project presents the critically acclaimed choreography of Colleen Cavanaugh. This company of professional, classically trained dancers includes former principals and soloists with Boston Ballet, National Ballet Canada, Metropolitan Ballet of Caracas, and Dutch National Ballet. Cavanaugh has recently been awarded both the coveted Rhode Island State Council of Arts Choreographer's Fellowship and its Project Grant. These are awarded to artists RISCA recognizes for their particular talent and ability to enhance the Rhode Island arts community.

This year Cadence Dance Project received critical acclaim for its statewide "Summer Season" in which the company continued to dazzle audiences with its diverse ballets performed to classical and contemporary music, danced by talented, versatile artists. The final summer concert at Waterplace Park was enthusiastically received with a record crowd of more than 4,000, providing many with their first opportunity to see contemporary, professional ballet.

Cadence Dance Project's March 6 Bryant College performance — part of the Performing Arts Series sponsored by the Bryant College Student Activities office — will include three recently premiered works of Colleen Cavanaugh, "I Was Who When" is a driven, rock-

less solo performed to Ani Difranco's "Little Plastic Castle." A new lyrical, yet mercurial duet entitled "Dawn of Departure" will be performed by Julie Bacon and Donald Acevedo to Tchaikovsky's "Andante Cantabile" from his "String Quartet, Op. 11. Another new work, "Askew," is a surrealistic ballet portraying four characters imprisoned in a setting of repression, sexuality, and societal restraint to Marin Marais' "Sonnerie de Ste. Genevieve du Mont-de-Paris."

This concert will also feature the premiere of Act 2 of Cavanaugh's upcoming original full-length contemporary children's ballet "The Snow Queen," based on the Hans Christian Andersen fairytale and danced to the music of Felix Mendelssohn. The complete production of "The Snow Queen" will be performed on March 27 and 28 at Rhode Island College's Roberts Auditorium and is certain to capture the hearts of audiences of all ages.

Cadence Dance Project will perform March 6 at 8 p.m. at the Janikies Auditorium, Bryant College, Smithfield, R.I. Ticket prices which include the show and a post-performance reception, are \$20 general adult, \$12 senior citizens 65+ / students, and \$8 for children under 12. For ticket reservations, call 738-5404. Seats are not reserved.

Celebrate All That is Italian

The Providence Athenaeum begins its celebration of the city of Florence and the flavors of Tuscany with five intriguing March programs. The Providence Athenaeum, 251 Benefit St. (corner of College and Benefit streets) continues its tradition of celebrating the cultural, contemporary, historical and art histories of great Italian cities, with this year's focus on Florence and surrounding Tuscany. Leading up to the annual fund-raising of the year "Festa Fiorentina" on April 24, the following programs will take place on consecutive Sundays in March:

March 7 — 3 p.m., Margaret Mather D'Evelyn gives a slide tour on "The Art and Architecture of Florence"

March 14 — 3 p.m., Sheila Holfrott presents "Caterina de' Medici; Daughter of Florence, Queen of France"

March 21 — 3 p.m., Lino Pertile, Dante scholar, presents "The Smile of Beatrice." 5 p.m., "A Night in Tuscany," at Raphael Bar Risto, Providence — a seven-course special dinner (\$75 each). The restaurant will only be open to ticket holders on this night.

March 28 — 3 p.m. Karen Newman holds the key to "The Spectacular Specula — Club 25's Anatomical Museum."

10-Day International Gourmet Extravaganza!

Something for the "Bon Vivant" in all of us! March 5 through 14, Vanderbilt Hall is hosting an International Gourmet Extravaganza to celebrate the best in international culinary expertise, featuring a team of award-winning chefs from Europe and the U.S.A. (including renowned TV chefs Craig Hartman and Vincent Vanhecke, James Beard favorites such as Scott Hoyland, and Michelin Star trained chefs from London and the rest of Europe).

Guests will be able to savor, taste and learn by choosing from our exciting range of activities and events:

- Showcase dinners prepared by renowned chefs.
- Unique samplings and tastings from "grapes to grains."
- Day and residential hands-on cooking schools for all levels of ability.
- Not-to-be missed expert demonstrations with guidance and tips from our guest chefs.

The event will also benefit the wider Newport community through sponsorship of Meals on Wheels for a special Charity International Evening, and throughout the event. Call 846-6200 for information.

America's Oldest Flour Company Teaches Free Bread-Baking Class

A King Arthur Flour Bread-Baking class will be held 10 a.m. to noon and 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on March 11 at the Valley Country Club, 251 New London Ave., Warwick, R.I. The cost is free. Call (800) 827-6836 for more information.

King Arthur Flour, the oldest flour company in America, will present two free community-wide bread baking classes to consumers in Rhode Island. The classes will take place from 10 a.m. to noon and from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on March 11 at the Valley Country Club, 251 New London Ave., in Warwick.

Registration is not required, but participants should come early for the best seats. The

morning class will cover a master sweet dough, basic bread science, shaping techniques, and bread machine use. The evening class will cover rustic breads made both with and without dough and with regular yeast. Michael Jubinsky, King Arthur Flour's senior baking instructor, will lead the lecture-form demonstration.

For more information, call King Arthur Flour at (800) 827-6836.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



NewGate Theatre Presents 'Picasso at the Lapin Agile'

NewGate Theatre, in downtown Providence, will present Steve Martin's hilarious comedy "Picasso at the Lapin Agile," winner of the 1996 New York Outer Critics' Circle Awards for Best Play and Best Writer.

"Picasso at the Lapin Agile" is set in the Montmartre section of Paris in 1904.

It centers around a fictional meeting between Albert Einstein and Pablo Picasso as each man struggled to make a name for himself with no assurance of success other than a vague feeling that they would have some impact on the new century. Steve Martin manages, with characteristic insight and wit, to explore the age-old themes of art vs. science, of fame vs. artistic integrity, and of talent vs. genius (or, perhaps, dumb luck).

The setting of the play, "The Lapin Agile" was, in fact, a popular meeting place for artists and poets at the turn of the century. So, naturally, a vast array of characters with widely

varying degrees of wit, talent and merit flow in and out over the course of the play, ranging from obtuse inventors, to lustful art fans, to a very special time-traveling guest. Martin manages to keep the pace lively, constantly poking fun at the various perceptions of fame, success and genius. He also manages to turn several theatrical conventions on their respective ears to create a wonderful evening of comedy and philosophy which only Steve Martin could bring together.

So join NewGate Theatre as they take a hilarious and energetic look at two of the most famous men of Y 19K! (sorry, we had to slip a millennium joke in there somewhere!). Don't miss "Picasso at the Lapin Agile!"

The play is directed by Brian Lang and performance dates are now through March 28 and times are Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m. Ticket prices are \$12 regular admission, \$10 for students and seniors.



Perishable Theatre Celebrates 15th Anniversary

Perishable Theatre announces A Perishable Brunch, a celebration of 15 years of theatrical innovation. This event promises to be anything but ordinary, serving up an eclectic mix of entertainment ranging from excerpts from a new opera, a new swing musical, and performances by an acclaimed jazz quintet. Honorary chairs for the event include Gov. Lincoln Almond, Mayor Vincent A. Cianci, Jr., Dean Holt, president and CEO of Fleet Bank, Sen. Jack Reed and Pulitzer Prize-Winning playwright Paula Vogel.

A Perishable Brunch will take place on March 7 at 11:30 a.m. in the lobby of the Fleet Bank Main Branch, 111 Westminster St., Providence. The celebratory entertainment includes excerpts from "Anybody Seen Marie Laveau?" a new opera written by Aishah Rahman and Joel LaRue Smith, with additional music provided by the Joel LaRue Smith Quintet. Adding to the festivities will be Perishable's Shows For Young Audiences' Troupe offering up some swing numbers from their newest musical, "Invasion of the Homogenoids," straight from their latest engagement of the Providence Performing Arts Center.

For information and ticket reservations, call Perishable Theatre at 331-2695.

A New 'Three Sisters' at Brown

Anton Chekhov's classic play "Three Sisters," will be presented by Brown University Theatre, March 11 to 14 and March 18 to 20 in Stuart Theatre at 8 p.m. The March 21 production is a 3 p.m. matinee only.

"Three Sisters" is a timeless classic about time and memory, family and loss, hope and delusion, knowing and not knowing your place and, of course, re-routed travel plans. Wisely comic, sadly true, "Three Sisters," has a universal appeal. Originally set in Russia at the turn of the century, this production will be an updated version of the Prozorov family's plight to return to their home. Written in 1901 by Anton Chekhov, an author and physician, his other well-known works include "The Seagull," "Uncle Vanya," and "The Cherry Orchard." The translation of this production was done by Paul Schmidt, who has translated writings of numerous Russian authors into English.

Tickets are available at the Leeds Theatre box office, 77 Waterman St., Providence. Ticket prices are \$13 general admission, \$9 for senior citizens (65 and over), and Brown faculty/staff, and \$5 for students. Phone reservations are accepted with Visa/MasterCard. Box office hours are Monday through Friday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and one hour before curtain at Stuart Theatre on the evenings of performance. For more information or to make reservations, call 863-2838.

Providence New Play Festival Showcases Trinity Rep and Perishable Theatre

The New Play Festival raises Providence's profile as a national center for the arts. Several plays premiered during the festival's first two seasons have earned honors and productions across the country: "The Mineola Twins" is in production in New York, "A Girl's Life" has been seen at several regional theaters, and "Ambition Facing West" received the Elliot Norton Award for Outstanding Script. This year, two exciting premieres and a series of play readings represent the best of new American theater, in this collaborative endeavor between Trinity Rep, Rhode Island's 35-year-old Tony Award-winning regional theater and Perishable Theatre, the state's 15-year-old premier theater arts center.

Trinity Repertory Company presents the world premiere of "A Preface to the Alien Garden," Robert Alexander's powerful and poetic play about gang life, from March 4 to April 3. Perishable Theatre presents the New England premiere of Rhode Island-born playwright John Belluso's "Gretty Good

Time," the story of a woman living with post-polio paralysis in the 1950s, now through March 28. Trinity Rep also continues the tradition of a series of Monday night new play readings as part of the Providence New Play Festival:

March 8—7 p.m., "The Rules of Charity," by John Belluso, directed by Oskar Eustis.

March 15—7 p.m., "Slaughterhouse Five" from the novel by Kurt Vonnegut, adapted and directed by Eric Simonson.

March 22—7 p.m., "Look What A Wonder," a concert performance of the gospel musical, written and directed by Walter Robinson.

March 29—7 p.m., A new work written, directed and performed by Leslie Ayyvazian, author of *Nine Armenians*.

Tickets are available at Trinity Rep's box office at 351-4242, and at Perishable Theatre at 331-2695. Festival passes, available through Trinity Rep, will provide excellent discounts on admission to both plays and the new play readings series.

RIC Spring Concert Dance Series Honors Former Alumni

Dancer-Choreographer Clay Taliaferro, now an instructor at Duke University and former honorary degree recipient from Rhode Island College, is setting a new dance piece for the RIC Dance Company's 40th annual Spring Concert Series March 4 to 7 in Roberts Hall Auditorium. The series will honor former dance alumni and faculty, especially early company legends Billie Burrill and Fannie Melcer. Performances are at 8 p.m. and there will be a 2 p.m. matinee on March 7. Tickets are \$10. Call Dante DelGiudice, dance director, at 456-9791 for more information.

Photo courtesy of RIC



Author Rabbi Tirzah Firestone Will be at Books on the Square to Sign Books

Rabbi Tirzah Firestone will be at Books on the Square on March 6 at 2:30 p.m. for a book signing event of her spiritual autobiography.

With Roots in Heaven (Dutton, \$24.95) is Rabbi Firestone's personal account of her lifelong journey through varying religious belief systems and eventual return to her roots in Orthodox Judaism. Her course was set of by her own interfaith marriage. Her quest to know and feel G-d took her through Christian mysticism, Hinduism, and New Age philosophy. Having once renounced Judaism as a rebellious youth, Firestone later rediscovers her heritage by receiving a calling to become a rabbi, and she becomes committed to revitalizing Judaism through this mission.

In this work, Rabbi Firestone touches on teachings from spiritual leaders from throughout the world. She encourages hope, wisdom and enlightenment to anyone who seeks a deeper spiritual understanding of today's world.

Rabbi Tirzah Firestone, M.A., is a psychotherapist and rabbi of the Jewish Renewal community of Boulder, Colo. She teaches and lectures widely on Jewish meditation. She is a member of ALEPH: Alliance for Jewish Renewal.

Books on the Square is located at 471 Angell St., Providence.

Newport Children's Theatre Presents 'Stuart Little'

The Newport Children's Theatre will present its March family musical, "Stuart Little," at Hill House at St. Michael's School on Rhode Island Avenue in Newport. Performances are scheduled for March 12 to 21, Fridays at 7 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays at 2 p.m. General admission tickets are \$5 and will be available at the door; reservations are suggested.

The play, a musical version of E.B. White's classic "Stuart Little," will be directed by NCT co-artistic director Linda Franklin. The cast consists of young actors, from Newport, Middletown, Portsmouth and points north, south, east and west. Most are NCT stage veterans, but some will be making their first appearance with the NCT.

Tickets will be available at the door; reservations are suggested. For further information on "Stuart Little," group reservations, or other NCT performances and workshop programs, contact the NCT at 848-0266.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Broadway on Weybosset

by Mike Fink

Herald Contributing Reporter

"Fame" really brought out the splendor and the splash of our Performing Arts Center, once The Loew's picture palace. Youthful voices were richly modulated. Dancing figures jumped high, vaulted and stretched with guts, gusto, zest and verve, shining beyond the footlights like scenes from the Moulin Rouge in Paris. But this was Providence, and the audience greeted every scene with happy enthusiasm. "Fame" doesn't feature just one single storyline or central character. The story deals with the last graduating class of New York's High School of Performing Arts set firmly in the '80s. It mixes subplots. Any one episode might strike you as minor key, even commonplace. But put them together and follow their fate and they gather force, truth and fatefulness.

You have the cultured, quiet Jewish girl called Serena who loves a gay boy. You meet a crimson-garbed Hispanic dancer, named Carmen who dies of drug overdose. A black dynamo who can flip a somersault just to express a passing emotion but can't read or write and stays back. Then there's a plump dancer who loves food above all things.

A duet of teachers argues operatically about the nature of artists. Are they special cases, or human beings replete with responsibilities and requirements? A drama coach makes each student do a painful monologue to tap the inner resources of pain, the well of loneliness that inspires the performing arts. If you try to tell these anecdotes and connect them, you will unfold a moral and a code of values. Even, perhaps, a middle-class list of old-time virtues. Patience and prudence, benevolence and hope, like the names of the streets in Puritan Providence, where the show took off and sailed freely and joyously.

It's done with a light touch, but the lyrics counsel you to steel yourself to disappointment, to getting something other than what you bargain for. And the kids on stage don't look like what you might expect either. The costumes are so '80s! The

jeans are straight, the skirts long, the piercings and tattoos absent. Yes, it's a period piece and hoorah! But my tale is a backstage, post theatre event, the little supper around the ice sculpture on the upstairs lobby landing, where I met the cast, the orchestra, and the crew, seated sprawled on the stairways and sipping white and red wine and trays of nourishment.

"I liked the set, with the stairways to the upper level, so you could watch everybody move and leap like the old Nicholas Brothers." I spoke to one of the actors, in a tight dreadlock coiffure. She answered me with a smile. "They did a good job here, we had to adjust to a flatter design in other towns," said Regina Le Vert, or Miss Sherman, the teacher. "But your audience was especially warm also, and made us feel good."

"How could you let your son say such things?" I said to tease the mother of Jose Restrepo, who plays a boy of the same name who does a lot of swearing among his songs and skits. "He never talks that way at home," she answered with a grin.

I was glad to have a word with Schlomo, or Carl Tramon, who brings the stories to a climax with a simple violin solo among the seniors robed in white commencement gowns. The innocence of the fiddling suits the melancholy melody and meaning of "Fame."

"We have an arts college right here. Maybe that's why the house felt so close to all the issues and all the dazzling tricks you all pulled off with such aplomb," I offered. There was a local light of familiarity on that narrow but gilded Loew's landing. Legends come alive indeed among these Broadway series. "Fame" takes its rightful place in their center spot.

No, Serena doesn't convert her gay friend. Schlomo's band comes to a close. Tyrone will take some time to catch up and find his place in the world. High school is a separate world of bright dreams and dark nightmares. But youth carries its own magic, a sense of miracle that absolutely fits in with the Broadway lights of Weybosset Street.

FAME
THE MUSICAL



'Mirror of the Medieval World'

The exhibition at the Metropolitan Museum of Art will be held March 9 through July 4. The museum is located at 1000 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10028-0198. Above: Theodosius arrives at Ephesus (scene from the legend of the Seven Sleepers of Ephesus), French (Rouen), about 1200-1205. Pot-metal glass and vitreous paint. Provenance: Nave, Cathedral of Notre-Dame, Rouen. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Cloisters Collection, 1980 (1980.263.4)

Philharmonic Classical Concert Features Guitarist Sharon Isbin

The Rhode Island Philharmonic will present a Classical Series concert on March 13 at 8 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Auditorium in Providence. Music director Larry Rachleff leads the orchestra in a program featuring the internationally renowned guitarist Sharon Isbin in a performance of Rodrigo's "Concierto de Aranjuez" for Guitar and Orchestra.

Acclaimed for her extraordinary lyricism, technique and versatility, Isbin is considered to be one of the finest guitarists in the world. She was first prize winner of the Toronto Competition, the first guitarist ever to win the Munich Competition

and in 1996 she received *Guitar Player's* "Best Classical Guitarist" award. Last season she performed more than 60 concerts in the United States alone.

Her numerous recordings display remarkable versatility from Baroque, Spanish/Latin and 20th century to crossover and jazz-fusion.

In conjunction with her appearance as guest soloist, Isbin will conduct a Master Class on March 12 from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at Grant Recital Hall on the Brown University campus. The Master Class, sponsored by the Philharmonic and the music department at Brown, is free of charge and open to the public on a first-

come, first-serve basis—the hall seats 150 people.

Tickets for the concert are available at the Philharmonic box office, 222 Richmond St., Providence, and may be purchased by phone at 831-3123. Box office hours, Monday through Friday, are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Ticket prices are \$22, \$35 and \$40 for adults.



Bali Dancers Will Appear at RIC

Dancers/Musicians of Bali will perform in the Rhode Island College Performing Arts Series on March 9 at 8 p.m. in Roberts Hall Auditorium. Tickets are \$18 with discounts for students and senior citizens. Call 456-8194.

Photo courtesy of RIC

Giant Puppets Invade PPAC to Present 'The Crown of Destiny'

See the spectacular use of giant marionettes as they are used to tell the story about Tom Macbaird, a professional composer from Scotland and his daughter, Katie. Be transported through time and space to a land of magic and sorcery during one performance of "The Crown of Destiny" on March 14 at 1 p.m. Tickets are \$9.50, \$12.50, \$15 and are available by calling 421-ARTS; tickets are also available at all Ticketmaster locations. For groups of 20 or more, call 421-2997, ext. 3121.

The story begins in Quebec, in the music studio of Tom Macbaird. His daughter, Katie, arriving unexpectedly, interrupts him in the middle of his search for inspiration. She convinces him to tell her a story that is full of magic, sorcery, fairies and many other things that will make her shudder with fear. As a good father, Tom invents a fantastic epic that take place in Scotland. It is inspired by historic moments of its ancient ancestors and make-believe adventures taken from Scottish tales and legends. After all, isn't Scotland a land of enchantment and elves?

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Legendary Saxophonist to Share Stage With Brown Jazz Band

Grammy-nominated jazz saxophonist Dave Liebman will join the Brown University Jazz Band for the 12th annual Eric Adam Brudner Memorial Concert at 8 p.m. on March 6, in the Salomon Center for Teaching. The evening will feature savvy and hip jazz originals and standards.

Liebman, who last year was nominated for a Grammy Award for his recording of "My Favorite Things," has been a part of the jazz scene since the late '60s. He has played and recorded with legendary jazz figures Miles David and drummer Elvin Jones; has toured with Chick Corea, John Scofield and Kenny Kirkland; and in the mid '70s, was the front man for several jazz fusion groups. The Dave Liebman Group — with Phil Markowitz, keyboards; Vic Juris, guitar; Jamey Haddad, drums; Tony Marino, bass; and others — is currently on tour with its eclectic style of contemporary jazz.

The show at Brown will feature standard arrangements by pianist Thelonious Monk and original compositions by Liebman and Brown University

students. Music written by jazz pioneer Duke Ellington will also be performed in recognition of his 100th anniversary. The second half of the show will showcase the talents of local jazz standouts Dan Moretti and Fred DeChristofaro and others as they join with Liebman for a small-combo jam session.

The memorial concert is in honor of Eric Adam Brudner '84, who distinguished himself as an excellent student and musician. A pianist and composer, Brudner established several undergraduate jazz ensembles, performed professionally in local jazz clubs, and taught piano to his fellow students. He was awarded the Buxtehude and Arlan Collidge prizes in his junior and senior years respectively.

The concert is open to the public without charge, but seating is limited and tickets will be required. Free tickets will be available from the music department beginning March 1. Contact the department at 863-3234 for additional information. The Salomon Center for Teaching is located on the College Green.



Heart of Rhode Island Sings

The Heart of Rhode Island Sweet Adelines International Chorus performed recently at the Rhode Island Chapter of Hadassah's annual February Brunch, a fund-raiser in support of the Hadassah vocational schools. The all-women, a cappella chorus sang to the women attending the brunch in traditional, barbershop style. The event was a melodious success.

On March 20 the general community will have an opportunity to hear the chorus when they perform as part of "A Night of Music," sponsored by the Brotherhood of Temple Sinai in Cranston. The event is a fundraiser for the synagogue's endowment fund. Also performing will be the all-male, a cappella quartet, "Uproar." Curtain time at 30 Hagan Ave. in Cranston is at 7:30 p.m. Ticket reservations are \$15 per person and available in advance by calling 942-8350 or 885-7110. A luscious, catered dessert reception will follow the concert.

Any Rhode Island woman (over 18) with a melodious voice is invited to join the Heart of Rhode Island Chorus. Rehearsals take place in Warwick every Wednesday evening from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. For information about membership, contact 884-4604 or 783-9038. For information regarding performances, call 467-4916 or 941-6059. Heart of Rhode Island's web page is updated monthly with news,



HEART OF RHODE ISLAND Sweet Adelines International Chorus. Photo courtesy of Sweet Adelines International

photos and information. The address is <<http://www.sai-region1.org/HRI.htm>>.

Sweet Adelines International is the largest non-profit, women's educational music organization in the world. Community service is part of what

the organization is about as well. Heart of Rhode Island Chorus is presently selling raffle tickets from which a percentage of the proceeds will be donated toward breast cancer research. For raffle information, contact 467-6848.

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It's Spring in Boston

1999 New England Spring Flower Show

A time-honored tradition in Boston and throughout the New England region, the 128th New England Spring Flower Show has become a true harbinger of spring.

Some of New England's most talented gardeners, designers, and horticulturists gather for nine days of activities, entertainment, exhibits, competitions, and information. At the center of the 5 1/2 acre event, more than 40 fully landscaped gardens will be on display, each conveying this year's theme "Artistry in the Garden." The Flower Show is the largest indoor event in New England, the second largest flower show in the United States, and the third largest in the world.

Lectures, demonstrations, competitions, and special events are planned throughout the Flower Show — favorites including Home Gardeners Night and Children's Festival. Ikebana International, Garden Clubs throughout New England, and the popular Design, Junior and Amateur Horticulture competitions inspire many gardeners and floral designers to exhibit and compete.

The most extensive Garden Marketplace in New England offers more than 250 retail vendors and displays with a wide selection of plants, crafts, and gardening tools for everyone, from the weekend gardener to today's most adventurous horticulturist.

Dates: March 13 through March 21

Location: Bayside Exposition Center, Boston, Mass.

1999 Theme: "Artistry in the Garden." In 1999, the Flower Show will highlight the natural relationship of art and gardening. Interpretations of the theme by professionals and amateurs will take many forms: the artistry of landscape design itself; re-creations of famous paintings; gardens that lend themselves to the performing arts; the integration of sculpture and other art forms in a garden setting; and more. In keeping with more than a century's old tradition, the imaginations of Flower Show exhibitors will offer boundless inspiration to show visitors.

General Information

Show Hours

March 13, 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.
March 14, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
March 15 through March 20, 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.
March 21, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Tickets

Weekday Advance, \$13
Weekday at the door, \$14
Weekday Seniors, \$12 (Seniors over 60)
Weekend, \$16
Children, \$5 (Children under 12)

Advance tickets are available from Stop & Shop Supermarkets, other local retailers, clubs, and employers, or by calling (617) 536-9280.

Transportation

Bayside Exposition Center, direction off I-95, Southeast Expressway. Continuous shuttle from MBTA Red Line, JFK/UMass Station.

John F. Kennedy Library Presents Daniel Horowitz

On March 9, in celebration of Women's History Month, the John F. Kennedy Library presents Daniel Horowitz, author of *Betty Friedan and the Making of the Feminine Mystique: The American Left, The Cold War and Modern Feminism*. Ever since the 1963 publication of her landmark book, *The Feminine Mystique*, Betty Friedan has insisted that her commitment to women's rights grew out of her experiences as an alienated suburban housewife. Daniel Horowitz, director of the American Studies Program at Smith College, demonstrates in this illuminating biography how the roots of Friedan's feminism run much deeper, back to her wartime years at Smith College and Berkeley and her decade-long career as a writer for two radical labor journals. Horowitz is the Sylvia Dlugasch Bauman Professor of American Studies at Smith College. He is the author of *Vance Packard and American Social Criticism*.

It is co-sponsored by the Kennedy Library and the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, McCormack Institute, University of Massachusetts Boston. The time is 5:30 to 7:15 p.m. at the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston. Free to the public. For more information, call (617) 929-4571.

OBITUARIES

IRVING J. BILGOR

FALMOUTH — Senator Irving J. Bilgor, 89, of Mararivista Avenue, Falmouth, Mass., a lawyer and former member of the General Assembly, died Feb. 23 at Olympus Health Care Center, Falmouth. He was the husband of H. Myrtle (Blum) Bilgor.

He lived in Providence for many years, before moving to Falmouth. He also lived in Deerfield Beach, Fla. He was an important part of the Rhode Island political scene for two decades, serving at the State House as both a representative and a senator.

As chairman of the commission to revise motor vehicle laws, he was instrumental in introducing the first seat-belt law in Rhode Island. He also introduced legislation to create a tax exemption for religious-education-owned real estate.

He also served as a board member for the Rhode Island Council for Unemployment Compensation.

During World War II, he served in Europe, as a first lieutenant, after completing Officers-Quarter Masters School.

He received a bachelor of art in business administration from Boston University, and a Juris Doctorate from Boston University Law School. In 1996, he was one of the first inductees to the Hillard Society at Boston University.

He was a lawyer in private practice in Providence for 50 years, and was a member of the Rhode Island and Massachusetts Bar Associations.

He was a member and past president of the Rhode Island Jewish Fraternal Organization,

and a member of the Rhode Island Masonic Overseas Lodge 40.

Besides his wife, he leaves a daughter, Susan Bilgor Peliks of San Francisco; a son, David Bilgor of Milford, Mass.; and three grandchildren.

The funeral was held Feb. 26 at the Chapman, Cole & Gleason Funeral Home, 475 Main St., Falmouth. Burial was in Falmouth Jewish Cemetery, Falmouth.

THEA DORIS KATZ

MEDIA, Pa. — Thea Doris Katz, 91, of Martins Run, Media, Pa., died Feb. 21 at home. She was the wife of the late Ludwig Katz.

Born in Germany, a daughter of the late Leopold and Rosa (Hess) Birk, she had lived in Providence more than 30 years before moving to Pennsylvania.

She and her husband operated Dorette Inc., of Providence.

She was a former member of Temple Emanu-EL.

She leaves one son, Fred Kent of Jericho, Vt.; five grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

A graveside funeral service was held Feb. 24 at Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

MURRAY KAY

PROVIDENCE — Murray Kay, 96, of Highland Avenue, owner of the former Wet-Made Mfg. Co. before retiring, died Feb. 28 at home. He was the husband of the late Mirrell (Resh) Kay.

Born in New York, a son of

the late Moishe and Malka Kay, he lived in Providence most of his life.

He was a former member of Temple Emanu-EL.

He leaves a son, Irwin Kay of Cranston, two grandchildren and a great-grandson. He was the father of the late Sheila Kay.

A graveside service was held March 2 at Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. Arrangements were by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

RUTH LASH

FALL RIVER — Ruth Lash, 75, of 855 Madison St., an administrative assistant for the Fall River Housing Authority, until retiring 20 years ago, died Feb. 24 at the Fall River Jewish Home.

A lifelong resident of Fall River, she was a daughter of the late Charles and Lillian (Berman) Lash.

She was a member of the Congregation Adas Israel and its Sisterhood. She was a member of the Friendship Club, the Hadassah and the Jewish War Veterans Auxiliary.

She leaves a brother, Donald Lash of Hallandale, Fla.; a sister, Doris Labeki of Fall River; a nephew and several nieces. She was the sister of the late Evelyn Lash.

The funeral was held Feb. 25 in Congregation Adas Israel, Robeson Street. Burial was in Hebrew Cemetery. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

SENDELL 'CHARLIE' MILLER

WARWICK — Sendell "Charlie" Miller, 86, of Warwick,

R.I., died on Feb. 22 at the Rhode Island Hospital. He was born in Malden on June 10, 1912.

He met and married Beatrice (Ulof) of Providence. The Millers spent their 58 years of marriage as residents of Rhode Island.

After serving his country in World War II, he was self-employed as well as being employed by the Rhode Island Office of Accounting Control. He was a member of the American Legion, Paralyzed Veterans, South Providence Hebrew Free Loan Association, Hebrew Free Loan Association of Providence, as well as the Home for the Aged.

Besides his wife, he is survived by his children Susan and Alvin Wolfe of Lexington, Mass.; grandchildren Jason and Debra Wolfe of Canton, Mass., Steven Wolfe of Newton, Mass., and his fiancé Jennifer Joseph; and his great-granddaughter Hannah Rose Wolfe.

Services were held Feb. 24 at the Levine-Briess Funeral Home in Randolph.

ELSIE E. SACK

EAST GREENWICH — Elsie E. Sack, of Commonwealth Avenue, died Feb. 26 at HarborSide Greenwood Nursing Center, Warwick. She was the wife of the late Dr. Joseph Sack.

Born in Budapest, Hungary, a daughter of the late Emanuel and Frieda (Krausz) Fried, she had lived in Pawtucket most of her life, moving to Deerfield Beach, Fla., and then returning to Rhode Island and moving to East Greenwich in 1995.

She was a member of the Pawtucket Chapter of Hadassah and a life member of the Jewish Home for the Aged. She was a board member of Temple Emanu-EL, chairwoman of the memorial fund and a member of its Sisterhood. She was known for her many charitable works.

She leaves a son, Dr. Steven Sack of East Greenwich; a daughter, Ina Sack Labowitz of Glendora, Calif.; a sister, Lillian Deutsch of Chicago, and five grandchildren.

The funeral service was held Feb. 28 at Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

EVA SCHAFFER

FALL RIVER — Eva Schaffer, 88, of Robeson Street, formerly of Seekonk, a retired supervisor of the mail-order department of the former Outlet Co. and Kay's Newport, Providence, died Feb. 27 at home. She was the wife of the late Philip Schaffer.

Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Louis and Esther Cohen, she had lived in Seekonk for many years, moving to Fall River in 1997.

She leaves a daughter, Dora Truong of Seekonk; a brother Arthur Cohen of San Diego, Calif.; and a grandson.

A graveside service was held March 1 in Swan Point Cemetery, 585 Blackstone Boulevard, Providence. Arrangements were by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

ANN STEINBERG

FALMOUTH — Ann Steinberg of Heritage at Falmouth, formerly of Cranston, died Feb. 21. She was the wife of Harry Steinberg.

Besides her husband, she is survived by a daughter, Betty Shapiro of Mashpee, Mass.; and a son, Hy Steinberg of Bedford, Mass.; grandchildren, Debra, Steven, Danna and Matthew, and great-grandchildren, Samuel and Sophia.

The funeral service was private. Arrangements were by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

Clarification

Mr. Isidore Kirshenbaum is also survived by stepchildren, Howard Sadwin of Sarasota, Fla., Susan Morin of Warren, R.I., and grandchildren, Peter Morin and Robert Morin of Sarasota, Fla.

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Spirituality

(Continued from Page 1)

sense of spirituality. Their dual messages echoed the sentiment... "Look for spirituality in the ordinary." The cry of a newborn baby, the joy of a marriage, the sight of a crocus breaking through the frost-covered earth toward the warmth of the March sunlight in the first sign of Spring, and even in times of despair, death or illness can a person discover a calming sense of spirituality. Unfortunately, what is more often right under our noses is most often overlooked or even ignored causing us to lose sight of what is really important.

Beth Sholom

(Continued from Page 3)

second of the Ten Commandments, and it immediately follows the injunction to worship a single G-d.

As Joan Comay wrote in *The Diaspora Story*, the practice of setting a day apart is related to the story of Creation in the book of Genesis, which states that after G-d created the world in six days he hallowed and rested upon the seventh day.

Questions about exactly what constitutes the work that is forbidden on the Sabbath have obsessed Jewish scholars for decades, and in today's technological society a complex set of rulings that prohibits telephone usage or the pressing of any switch separates Shabbat from the rest of the week.

According to Rabbi Levine and Rabbi Torczyner, these rulings now help Jews to focus on the important characteristics that Shabbat acquired during the Diaspora, when it became a time for families to forget the

Pilot

(Continued from Page 1)

north and south, are on the Harbor Freeway, near Torrance.

Hardie has spent two summers in Israel, one studying at a yeshiva, another at the Hebrew University. He served as a special assistant to California Gov. Peter Wilson during the latter's just completed administration.

As part of the Arad campaign, Hardie hopes to mobilize the entertainment industry to bring Arad's plight to public attention through a documentary film, "Liberation Concerts" and celebrity spokesmen.

Hardie's Arad campaign can be reached by e-mail at <ronarad@hotmail.com>.

Preservation

(Continued from Page 4)

ment's philosophy, in the words of Gov. Howard Dean, is "focusing not on the disincentives to developing farmland and open fields, but instead promoting incentives for maintaining the vibrancy of our small downtowns." For example, the Vermont legislature passed a "Downtown Bill," an ambitious package offering various loan, grant and tax incentives to encourage downtown development.

Particularly given New England's long history of local rule, EPA's role in addressing sprawl must be well defined and carefully implemented. One way the federal agencies can help is to stop funding and building projects that contribute to the sprawl problem — whether it's a new post office in a cow pasture or a new highway in an undeveloped area of a town that isn't equipped to handle the development.

For its part, EPA-New England has initiated a Livable Communities Action Plan. Modeled closely after President Clinton and Vice-President Gore's recently announced "Livable Communities" sprawl initiative, the action plan includes the following:

- A new competitive grant program, beginning this spring, to aid communities in applying new tools and approaches for preventing sprawl and encouraging redevelopment in downtown areas.

- A "Fundamentals of Smart Growth" training program, starting this summer, to help local officials from communities across New England strengthen their land use management skills. The training program, designed for zoning commissions, planning boards and other key local land use decision makers, will be offered to dozens of communities over the next two years.

- Nearly \$2 million in grants for the six New England state environmental agencies to support smart growth efforts.

- A significant expansion of our very successful Brownfields Program to provide additional financial and technical assistance to the mayors of New England's cities as they seek to reinvigorate their economies by cleaning up and developing abandoned, contaminated industrial properties.

With these actions — and with the help of a broad spectrum New England's environmental, community and business leaders — we can ensure that as our economy grows, it does so in a way that preserves the character and livability of our communities rather than destroying them.

In this work, we will be guided by the words of the great urban planner Lewis Mumford: "The final test of an economic system is not the tons of iron, the tanks of oil, or the miles of textiles it produces: The final test lies in its ultimate products: the sort of men and women it nurtures and the order and beauty and sanity of their communities."

John P. DeVillars is EPA New England administrator.

Registration For CPR And First-Aid Training

Training in First Aid and CPR are being offered at the YMCA of Cranston. Participants in these courses will learn how to effectively handle a wide variety of both life-threatening and minor emergencies.

Advanced CPR will be offered March 6 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. This course meets the requirements for lifeguards and childcare providers. The curriculum includes adult, child and infant CPR, airway obstruction, two rescuer CPR and use of a pocket mask. Participants are encouraged to bring a bag lunch.

First Aid class will be offered March 13 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The curriculum includes the treatment of bleeding, diabetic, asthma and poisoning emergencies, burns, broken bones and accident prevention. Certification in CPR is needed prior to enrollment in this course.

Enrollment is limited. For further information, contact Scott or Tim at the Cranston YMCA at 943-0444 or stop by at 1225 Park Avenue.

Clinton

(Continued from Page 4)

abled veterans and their families.

The Paralyzed Veterans of America, a veterans service organization chartered by Congress, has for more than 50 years served the needs of its members, all of whom have catastrophic paralysis caused by spinal cord injury or disease.

The VFW is a 1.9 million member veterans service organization, now in its 100th year, with a nationwide network of some 9,900 posts and service officers working to assist all veterans and their dependents with problems involving VA entitlements and pensions.

A joint project by AMVETS, Disabled American Veterans, Paralyzed Veterans of America and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

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COSTUME JEWELRY — pre-1970s; also autographed letter of well-knowns. Please call in Fall River (508) 679-1545. 4/16/99

JEWELRY WANTED — Older jewelry, fair prices paid. Please call Providence, 831-0558. 3/11/99

Send Classbox Correspondence to: Class Box No. The R.I. Jewish Herald P.O. Box 6063 Providence, R.I. 02940

R.I. Jewish Herald classified ads cost \$3 for 15 words or less. Additional words cost 12 cents each. Payment must be received by Monday at 4 p.m. prior to the Thursday when the ad is scheduled to appear. This newspaper will not, knowingly, accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the R.I. Fair Housing Act and Section 804 (c) of title VIII of the 1968 Civil Rights Act. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwelling/housing accommodations advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

DEA to Process Identification Cards

The R.I. Department of Elderly Affairs processes identification cards for persons 60 and older and disabled persons age 18 to 59, weekdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 160 Pine St. in Providence. Persons 60 and older must present proof of age such as birth certificate, driver's license or Medicare supplement insurance card. Disabled persons must present verification in the form of a Social Security disability award letter or Veterans Administration disability card. The DEA identification card contains the owner's photograph, date of birth, Social Security number, address, and signature. DEA identification cards cannot be used for transportation on RIPTA buses. A \$2 donation per identification card is requested.

State law requires financial institutions to honor the DEA card as sufficient identification for the cashing of checks and other banking transactions involving federal, state, or municipal funds in amounts of \$750 or less.

In addition, the DEA mobile identification card unit will be at the following locations during March:

March 9 — William Donovan Manor, 19 Chapel St., Newport (12:30 to 2:30 p.m.).

March 23 — Meadowbrooke Terrace, 2220 Warwick Ave., Warwick (12:30 to 2:30 p.m.).

Passover is Approaching...

Passover begins March 31, 1999

The Rhode Island Jewish Herald will be publishing its annual Passover Greetings Issue on March 25, 1999

To place an ad, or to submit editorial copy please call 724-0200.

Deadline for submissions is Friday, March 19

RHODE ISLAND JEWISH HERALD

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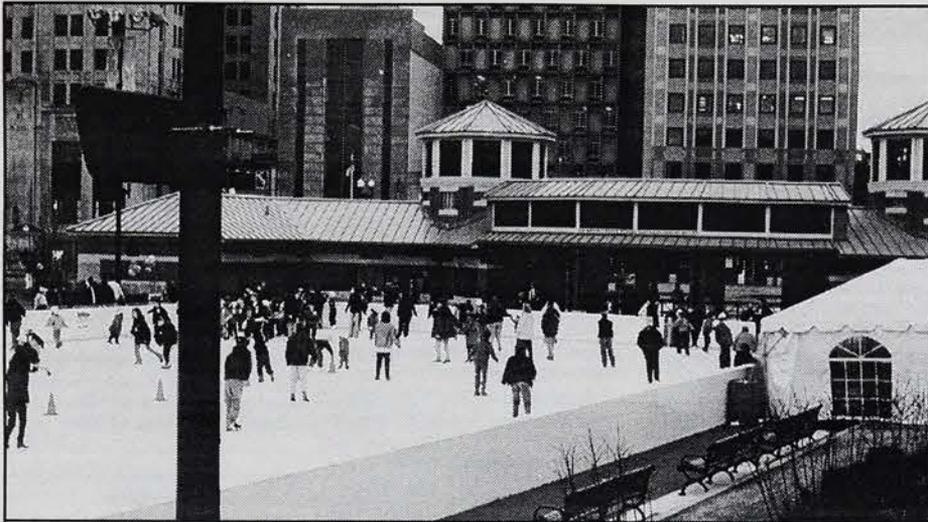
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Braving the Cold

How did you spend your February vacation? These youngsters took advantage of the nice weather and took to the ice of the Fleet Skating Center, downtown, for an afternoon of fun, music, and of course hot chocolate. For more information, call 331-5544.

Herald photo by Kim Orlandi

U.S. Scholar-Athlete Games Get Ready to Kick Off

Six more companies have agreed to make in-kind donations to the inaugural United States Scholar-Athlete Games, which will be held at the University of Rhode Island June 26 through July 1.

D.P. Dough, Ranaldi Brothers and Subway have each agreed to provide at least one meal for the Games' staff and participants, Cigna has donated 2,000 plastic bags, Mitre has donated soccer balls and Varsity Swim Shop has provided all of the swim caps for the swimming component of the Games.

Nearly 2,000 students, from grades nine to 12, representing all 50 states are expected to take part in the Games. Through athletic, cultural and educational activities, the Games are designed to promote understanding, acceptance and friendship among young people and provide a fo-

rum in which participants may develop these virtues. U.S. Games' scholar-athletes will participate in one of 20 activities — art, baseball, basketball, bridge, chess, choir, dance, field hockey, golf, lacrosse, soccer, softball, squash, swimming, symphony, tennis, theater, track and field, volleyball or writing/poetry.

Qualified participants must excel academically (honor roll or National Honor Society) as well as in one of the Games' activities. The Institute for International Sport is currently accepting applications for participants, volunteers, athletic trainers, coaches, officials and instructors. For more information, write to U.S. Scholar-Athlete Games, University of Rhode Island, P.O. Box 104, Kingston, R.I. 02881, call (800) 843-9724 or visit the institute's website at <www.internationalsport.com>.

R.I. Mother of Twins Club Will Meet

The Rhode Island Mother of Twins Club, Midland Chapter, will hold their next monthly meeting on March 10 at 7:30 p.m.

They meet at the VFW Hall Post #449, 197 Providence St., West Warwick, R.I. All new and prospective members are welcome to attend. For more information, call Debbie at 822-4833 or Karen at 397-7281.

Permit Sought For Local Marinas

Eastland Realty Company is seeking permission from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to retain all existing structures, expand the marina perimeter limit and add four additional slips in Greenwich Bay at East Greenwich, R.I. The changes would increase the marina's capacity to 30 boats.

The application for the federal permit was filed with the engineers in compliance with Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 which provides for federal regulation of any work in, under or over navigable waters of the United States.

To assist in evaluating the marina expansion, the engineers are soliciting public comments. Written statements should be forwarded to their office no later than March 25. Additional information may be obtained by contacting Michael J. Elliott at the New England District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 696 Virginia Road, Concord, Mass., 01742-2751.

Harbor Marine Corporation is seeking permission from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to construct a new marina in the Warren River at Warren, R.I. The new 27-slip marina would include a 6' x 98' main float with a 4' x 66' "T" and four 4' x 30' finger floats; a 6' x 64' main float with a 4' x 66' "T" and two 4' x 30' finger floats; and a 6' x 94' main float with four 4' x 22' finger floats.

The application for the federal permit was filed with the engineers in compliance with Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 which provides for federal regulation of any work in, under or over navigable waters of the United States.

To assist in evaluating the marina, the engineers are soliciting public comments. Written statements should be forwarded to their office no later than March 18. Additional information may be obtained by contacting Michael Elliott at the New England District, Corps of Engineers, 696 Virginia Road, Concord, Mass., 01742-2751.

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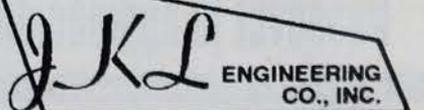
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