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Rhode Island HERALD

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

Holiday Notice

Due to upcoming holiday, next week's Rhode Island Jewish Herald will be delivered on Friday.

VOLUME LXV, NUMBER 5

TEVET 19, 5755 / THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1994

Costa Rica Denounces Anti-Semitic Article

by Brian Harris

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (JTA) — The Costa Rican government recently took the unusual step of denouncing a cover story appearing in this Central American country's leading weekly news magazine as one that "could produce anti-Semitic feelings."

The latest issue of *Rumbo* magazine, published by the largest newspaper company in the country, features a cover story titled "Jewish Power."

The magazine cover features a large blue Star of David and includes the sub-headline: "They are few, they do not exceed 2,500 people, but they penetrated Costa Rica's most important circles of power."

On the same day the magazine hit newsstands, the cabinet voted to condemn the magazine story as "absolutely contrary to the Costa Rican way of life."

"We express to the directorship of *Rumbo* our deeply felt disapproval of this publication that could produce anti-Semitic feelings," President Elias Soley said.

Magazine director Aixa Saborio said the magazine "had no bad intentions" in running the article. She added that she did not understand the government's criticism.

The influence of the Jews "is a reality that cannot be hidden," she said. "Being so few, they are very entrenched in the political and economic life of the country."

Costa Rica's second vice president, Rebecca Grynspan, one of several prominent Jews mentioned in the article, described the report as dangerous. "The article's content does not ponder how, in a country as ample as Costa Rica, a group

can effectively come here and prosper, which is a positive aspect. Instead they present it as if in Costa Rica, there is a group that has more than it deserves," she said. "And that I see as being dangerous and prejudicial."

Her husband, Legislative Deputy Saul Weisleder, the most prominent spokesman for Costa Rica's Jewish community and a leader in the governing National Liberation Party, said he

(Continued on Page 15)

Hillel Dispatches Students to Revitalize Campuses

by Rifka Rosenwein

NEW YORK (JTA) — Hillel is sending last year's college graduates back to school. In what is being billed as the start of a "Jewish American Peace Corps," Hillel, the Foundation for Jewish Campus Life, has dispatched 22 recent graduates to campuses around the country to revitalize local Hillels and reach out to unaffiliated students as only peers can. The Jewish Campus Service Corps, as it is called, "represents a new approach toward reaching Jewish students," said Michael Steinhardt, a New York business executive who established a \$500,000 fund to launch the program.

The fund comes in the form of a challenge grant, and Hillel hopes other benefactors will sign up and allow the program to expand to more campuses.

The initial group of 22 students are known as Steinhardt Fellows.

Corps members, who were brought together for an initial training session at a recent Hillel leaders assembly, are mandated to design programs to attract students who had never before found a reason to step into a campus Hillel.

"We want to listen to these students; their needs may be different than the ones who are

(Continued on Page 15)



What's Wrong With This Picture?

It's a picture of the Jewish Home for the Aged, which appeared on the front page of the *Herald* in February 1994, when the sale of the home to Antonio Giordano was being hotly debated throughout the Jewish community. The home is still empty, and the sale to Giordano is still being debated — with fresh intensity — following the latest revelations about Giordano. The debate continues, on pages 4 and 5 of this issue. *Herald photo by Alison Smith.*

Jewish Talents to Highlight First Night

Jewish artists will be among the brightest lights in the lineup of Rhode Island performers appearing at First Night Providence this year.

Bresler's Klezmer Hotshots will celebrate the rich traditions of Eastern European Jews with music that is, in turn, exuberant, baleful, and full of fancy. Per-

formances will be at 10 p.m. and 11 p.m. at the Statehouse.

Meanwhile, Laura Berkson will present her heartfelt lyrics and harmonies at the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church at 10 p.m. She will invite the audience to join in composing a song during her act. Interactive music!

Sony recording artist Judith Lynn Stillman will join Trinity Repertory composer Richard Cumming for a tuneful night of storytelling. Stillman's virtuosity on the piano accompanies Cumming's humorous narration of selections from "Paddington Bear" and Cumming's own "Knight's Page." Catch them at Grace Church at 7 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.

First Night Providence 1995, a 10-hour, alcohol-free, family-oriented New Year's Eve festival, will present nearly 1,000 artists, performing at more than 30 downtown sites.

Just walking through downtown Providence on First Night (Continued on Page 15)

Still Searching After All These Years

To the Editor:

I'm writing to you with an urgent request to help me find my biological father, Moryc Reich. I know that he is alive and resides in the United States, but all of my attempts to find him have failed.

In 1989, he was in Kalisz, Poland, looking for me. But the family of my adoptive parents refused to give him any information concerning my whereabouts.

I was born in 1943, and soon after, my Jewish mother Sara and I were hidden by Leon Walendowski. In 1945, I was adopted by Wiktor and Eugenia Walendowski. This couple kept all the facts of my Jewish origins from me. It was only after both of them died that I learned the truth. I

know now that my maternal grandmother's name was Haya Sura (Helena) Winter, née Rein and that my mother allegedly died in Brazil.

I would very much like to find my father, lovingly embrace him and tell him the story of my life.

I'll await your response with great anticipation.

Respectfully,
Anna Zyzyk

P.S. Please respond by registered mail — my neighbors are opening my mail — It's a nightmare!

(Original translated from Polish.)

The above letter was received at the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and forwarded to Beth Cohen at the Rhode Island Holocaust Museum. If you have any information on Moryc Reich, please call Beth Cohen at 861-8800.



THIS LITTLE GUY, with his big hat and little sparkler, is getting to be a familiar figure in Rhode Island as we approach First Night. The 10th annual celebration of the New Year will feature a number of Jewish performers.

INSIDE THE OCEAN STATE

Around the World

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing
Reporter

Down at the corner of Orms and Charles I go to my club like David Niven in "Around the World in Eighty Days." Maybe I sit in the sauna or the hot tub and then swim a lap or two. From spring to fall I slip between the doors from the indoor to the patio pool like some sleek seal. I help the lifeguards with their school papers, and they sometimes let me bring my puppy along, tucked into a sleeve or under my scarf. I give my kids their birthday parties in this mini gym.

The Marriott, far from intruding on the landscape as a link in a chain from nowhere, earns its place in the central city valley.

You see it below you on North Main Street like a welcome, plain and pleasant mirage. Its lobby looks like a living room, a common room, with its baby grand piano, its life-size hound figurine on the rug. Parlor maids greet me by name, with hellos and smiles. Bellboys let me wheel my young son Reuben round the corridors on the luggage wagon. Serving staff, many of them Johnson and Wales grads, get to know us regulars. They even invite some of us to their weddings.

I stop by the Providence Marriott en route from my teacher's desk to my reporter's desk. I shift gears from talking about other people's stories to digging out my own. I listen to Doug with his perfectly groomed silver coiffure and sterling manners, who sells pacemakers and shares the salad bar with me. They set out everything from walnuts to onions, and a tureen of soup.

If I bring in a special guest, somebody I'm interviewing for a feature story, the bartender and busperson make a great fuss. I spotted Perry Como at a nearby table a season ago, and joined him for a glass of chianti. The hotel suits his calm and gentle voice and face. They call this chamber The Quiet Bar. I also bumped into Dr. Ruth in the Jacuzzi. Corky from "Life Goes On" steps down into the hot tub. He's here to address a convention. This is a jumpin' joint. It isn't the famous folk who impress me at the Marriott. It's going round the world in 80 minutes, right in my own backyard among familiar folks. The Marriott means, you can do

anything you set your mind to.

I have to admit, I didn't really want to see this structure go up at Moshassuck Square. A Providence native, I always hated new buildings and dwellings even as a kid with empty lots like junior jungles all around the block, and tiny orchards and ranchland behind everybody's garage. I prefer to see old homesteads nicely kept up. It's my conservative trait, a gene I picked up somewhere back in time. But the Marriott during its score of years along the riverbanks seems to have absorbed the spirit, the ghost of what had stood there before. Gypsies lived in storefronts. Guests come and go among the hotel windows overlooking the gardens, and then they move along bag and baggage.

Hotelier Arthur Robbins, like some European innkeeper forebear of long ago and faraway, saves a room for an Orthodox rabbi who can thus walk right round the corner on Sabbath to the last synagogue remaining on the block at Douglas Avenue. The tenement world has evaporated, but its soul hovers.

My first high school job was washing dishes and silverware in the galley at the downtown Narragansett Hotel. One evening after work I went home and changed. I went back to climb the grand stairway beneath its glittering chandelier to attend a wedding. Now it's the Marriott that houses my family memoirs. I let my mind wander as I listen to the birds sing from the branches of the trees and shrubs that make small oases among the parking spaces. I stroll to my jeep and take off for the highway. There's an ecology that has settled round this establishment. It just belongs.

Rhode Island Center Offers Down Syndrome Reading Program

The Rhode Island Hospital Child Development Center is offering an outreach reading program for individuals with Down Syndrome.

The program is part of a research project aimed at increased education about Down Syndrome and furthering the reading abilities of people with the disease. The impact of reading ability on the child's social integration, particularly in community-based education, is stressed, due to the influence that such an ability can have on a child's acceptance by peers.

The project is funded by the Providence Journal Charitable Foundation and Down Syndrome Society of Rhode Island.

Marita Hopmann, Ph.D., developmental psycholinguist and clinical assistant professor of pediatrics at Brown University, heads the program.

Many local families have participated in other reading workshops held in the past years as part of the outreach program directed by Hopmann.

More information on the program may be had by calling Hopmann at 444-8470.

RIC To Host Pan-Am Chess Tourney

Rhode Island College again will host the Pan-American Intercollegiate Chess Championship Dec. 27 to 30 at the Omni Biltmore Hotel in Providence.

More than 30 college teams from the United States, Canada and the Dominican Republic are expected to compete for cash prizes and trophies in the annual tournament. First prize to the top team is \$1,000; \$700 to second place, and \$500 to third.

Events at this year's tourney, reports RIC Chess Club President James Della Selva, will include master-level players competing against 20 opponents simultaneously, blindfolded matches, and man-versus-machine games.

The event is free and open to spectators. Entry fees are

charged for participants, including a high school section competing at the same time.

RIC, often a contender for top honors, offers scholarships to top chess players from around the world.

In 1985, the RIC chess team won the tourney and hosted it the next year, also at the Omni Biltmore. RIC came in third that year.

The college also came in third in the 1993 tourney in Deland, Fla.

RIC, often a contender for top honors, offers scholarships to top chess players from around the world.

BCC Announces Registration

Bristol Community College has announced that registration for the spring semester will be held on Jan. 14, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Fall River campus

in the Hudnall Administration Building. Classes begin on Jan. 23.

For more information, call 678-2811, ext. 2155.

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Wanted: Share Your Memories

We will be publishing our bridal issue soon and many of the pictures will be in full, glowing color. If you have a nice, clear black-and-white or color photo of your Jewish wedding, please lend us your picture. If chosen, it will appear in the bridal issue, and will be returned to you safe and sound, after the paper goes to press.

Your name and address should be printed lightly but legibly on the back of the picture so it can be returned to you. Please identify the people in your photo.

We must have our pictures ready by January 27, 1995, so get out the photo albums and start picking your favorites.

Mail your photo, with a cardboard backing if possible, to the R.I. Jewish Herald, P.O. Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 02940-6063.

INSIDE THE OCEAN STATE

World Expert Joins Lifespan Team

One of the world's top experts in gamma knife technology has joined Rhode Island Hospital to head a regional center for treatment of tumors and leaking blood vessels deep inside the brain, without surgery and without damaging adjacent delicate brain tissue.

Georg Noren, M.D., has been named director of the New England Gamma Knife Center at Rhode Island Hospital/Brown University School of Medicine.

Located at Rhode Island Hospital, the gamma knife is one of 20 in the United States.

... patients go home quickly with a very high promise of a successful outcome, where there would have been little or no hope without the device.

Noren, 51, will also be professor in the Brown University department of clinical neurosciences. He comes to Rhode Island from Karolinska Hospital in Stockholm, Sweden, one of

the world's premier training centers for neurosurgery, and site of the development of gamma knife technology.

Noren is widely regarded as the world's foremost expert in gamma knife treatment of brain tumors which begin growing from within the hearing mechanism.

A gamma knife uses gamma rays, a high-energy form of radiation. Each gamma ray is harmless by itself, but when the rays meet at a set point inside the brain, they obliterate diseased tissue.

Guided by three-dimensional imaging techniques, doctors can aim as many as 201 beams precisely at the site of an abnormality deep within the brain. Only at that point — where all the beams intersect — is the dose of radiation intense enough to have an effect. Not a single incision is made, and patients go home quickly with a very high promise of a successful outcome, where there would have been little or no hope without the device.

Since becoming operational in the spring of 1992, the Rhode Island gamma knife has treated about 400 patients from many parts of the country.

Volunteering From the Heart

The American Heart Association, R.I. Affiliate, is recruiting 70 volunteers to work in singles or pairs, delivering vases and bouquets for the Hearts in Bloom program on Valentine's Day.

Volunteers are needed from all over Rhode Island. Vase orders will be delivered Jan. 30 to Feb. 10, between 9:30 a.m. and 3 p.m.; flowers will be delivered on Feb. 14, with pickups beginning at 7:30 a.m., and all deliveries made before noon.

Two or three additional volunteers are also needed as "troubleshooters" on Feb. 14, from 10 a.m. to noon, to respond to request for additional

bouquets or vases. Volunteers must be reliable, able to carry light but awkwardly shaped boxes, read a map, and drive a van or roomy vehicle.

Several volunteers are also being sought to staff two table displays on Feb. 14, selling bouquets and vases to the general public from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at sites to be arranged.

Anyone interested in volunteering a few hours on one or more of the days indicated to help with any of these assignments, should contact Lezlee Shaffer, volunteer coordinator at the Heart Association, 728-5300.

A New Weather Sentry Goes On Line

As of this month, a Next Generation Doppler Weather Radar will be monitoring the weather all over Rhode Island, Massachusetts (except for the far northwest section), northern Connecticut, and southern New Hampshire.

Named BOX, the new facility is in place at Myles Standish Industrial Park in Taunton. It joins a national network of 117

similar installations.

BOX will keep a sharp "eye" out for all kinds of turbulent, dangerous weather, and give early warning of trouble.

The local system is under the direction of Bob Thompson, meteorologist in charge, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, (famously known as NOAA).

More Rhode Islanders Are Seen 'Buckling-Up'

According to a recent study conducted by the University of Rhode Island, more Rhode Islanders than ever before have been seen wearing seatbelts out on the roads.

Seatbelt '94, a survey of car seatbelt use in Rhode Island showed that 58 percent of travelers on Rhode Island's roads were wearing seatbelts.

The state has made impressive gains since the last studies in 1992 in which only 46 percent of drivers were wearing seatbelts.

However, Rhode Island is still well below the 66 percent national average of seatbelt use in 1993.

(Ed. Note: Having just recently been in an accident in which wearing a seat belt saved me from much more serious injury, I have just four words to add, "Buckle Up, Rhode Island.")

What They're Saying About Rhode Island...

Newport Cliffwalk named "One of the World's Best Walks."

— *Travel & Leisure*, October, 1994

MADD and Insurance Agents Donate Video Cameras

The police departments of North Providence and North Kingstown each have a cruiser fully equipped with a new video camera, courtesy of MADD R.I. Chapter, and the Independent Insurance Agents Association of Rhode Island.

It's part of an on-going plan by the two organizations to make Rhode Island roads safer.

Cyndy Moniz, MADD president, said, "Not only are we giving police the equipment to

record evidence and assure convictions after stopping impaired drivers, but just maybe we can also deter others from drinking and driving in the first place. After all, it's no way for anyone to make a television debut."

Both departments were awarded a camera after submitting answers to a questionnaire regarding the effectiveness of their drunk driving policies and procedures.

CMD Seminars Announced

The Bryant College Center for Management Development offers the following seminars on Jan. 5 to 13, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

— Jan. 5 and 11, "Microsoft Excel 5.0" — A program for people new to the world of spreadsheets. Learn the basic functions and techniques of entering values and text, working with functions and blocks, formatting text and values, printing, and graphics.

— Jan. 6, "Introduction to Lotus 1-2-3" — Covering the basic rules for constructing worksheets with the most popular spreadsheet on the market. A hands-on seminar.

— Jan. 9, "Introduction to Windows" — A one-day seminar designed to demystify Windows and introduce the basics of managing menus, mouse operation, notepads, and icons.

— Jan. 10, "Making Windows Work for You" — On tips, techniques, and shortcuts that will make Windows fly. Increase the effectiveness of a personal computer by maximizing the performance of Windows.

— Jan. 11, "Intermediate Lotus 1-2-3" — Learning about intermediate Lotus capabilities such as Macro, personalized Menus, and Database commands.

— Jan. 12 to 13, "Lotus Smartsuite" — A chance to learn five applications in one remarkable package. Lotus Smartsuite includes the latest releases of Lotus 1-2-3, Approach relational database, Freelance Graphics presentation graphics, Ami Pro word processor, and Lotus Organizer personal information manager.

NSFRE-RI Honors R.I. Philanthropists

The National Society of Fund Raising Executives R.I. Chapter presented their 1994 Philanthropy Awards Nov. 30 at the R.I. Convention Center.

Wheeler School received the Youth in Philanthropy Recognition, Hasbro was recognized as Outstanding Philanthropic

Corporation and the Champlin Foundations as Outstanding Philanthropic Organization. The Alperin-Hirsch family received the Helm Award for Outstanding Philanthropic Stewardship.

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EDITORIAL

Waldman Responds

The JEWISH HOME New Spirit...New Hope...New Life

99 HILLSIDE AVENUE • PROVIDENCE, R.I. 02906

December 20, 1994

Ms. Alison Smith
R.I. Jewish Herald
99 Webster Street
Pawtucket, RI 02861

Dear Alison:

You have inquired as to the Jewish Home's position regarding the facts and commentary contained in an article which appeared in the Providence Journal on Sunday, December 18, 1994, concerning Antonio L. Giordano, and have requested a written response.

The financial well-being of Mr. Giordano and his companies is only of concern to the Jewish Home for the Aged to the extent that his financial condition affects his ability to comply with contractual obligations to purchase the Jewish Home's Hillside Avenue nursing facility. At this time, we have reason to believe that Mr. Giordano will fulfill the terms of his agreement with the Jewish Home. The Jewish Home intends to honor its own contractual obligations in this regard and anticipates that Mr. Giordano will do the same.

The matters set forth in the above-referenced article are primarily factual and descriptive generally of the proposed transaction between Mr. Giordano and the Jewish Home. The facts speak for themselves.

Alison, with regard to your conversation this morning, I would like to state once again that the Jewish Home has received no other offers. Several months ago we had the opportunity to pursue all of those individuals who expressed an interest in the facility. After providing tours and information, none of those individuals made an offer. I hope this clears up any misunderstanding that might exist in the community.

Thanks for giving me an opportunity to respond to your questions.

Very truly yours,
Ellis S. Waldman
Chairman

"That's Not My Job"

by Alison Smith
Herald Editor

In reading and rereading Neil Nachbar's article on Lincoln Park Cemetery and Ellis Waldman's letter on the sale of the Jewish Home for the Aged to Antonio Giordano, I kept remembering a popular saying from an old sit-com.

Does anyone else remember "Chico and the Man" starring Freddie Prinze as Chico and Redd Foxx as The Man?

Whenever things went out of control at their garage, "The Man" would hunt down Chico and demand that he help fix it.

Chico would shake his head sadly, shrug and say, "That's not my job."

But whose job is it — to restore order to the chaotic situation at the cemetery? Isn't it up to the governing body to set up procedures and guidelines for the future and, with legal assistance, but arbitrarily if necessary, resolve questions of long-absent ownership once and for all? The situation will not fix itself. If not the board's job — then whose?

And whose job was it to find a solvent, reliable buyer for the home, if not the home's board of trustees?

You or I could not buy even a small house with a loan from our local bank without undergoing close financial scrutiny. Isn't it logical to expect the same scrutiny of the buyer when a very valuable piece of property is to be sold?

If there were no better offers than Giordano's on the table at the time, others should have been sought or awaited.

My bank will not sell me a house just because I'm the only one applying for the loan to buy it at the time.

Shades of Chico!

Now there is just one more job — yours. If you have an opinion on either of these situations, say it directly to a person in a position of authority. Only community pressure will fix these situations now.

If Not — Why Not?

by Alison Smith
Herald Editor

On Sunday, December 18, *The Providence Sunday Journal* carried an article on its front page entitled, "Debt-ridden developer plans \$100,000 wedding party."

A sub-head added, "The celebration for Antonio L. Giordano's daughter comes as he asks the state to forgive \$3 million in unpaid loans."

Antonio Giordano ... does that name ring a bell?

It should, if you've been interested in what was happening to the Jewish Home for the Aged. He is the sole partner of Hillside Health Center Associates, which is supposed to be buying the home.

This is an issue which refuses to stay settled. This past fall, in *The Voice* and in the *Jewish Herald* there have been letters charging that there never were any other bids for the home, and letters counter-charging that there certainly were.

In this reporter's personal experience, at a meeting held on February 6, 1994 at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, a bid to buy the home at \$6 million by Barry Appel, for Lenox Health Care, Inc., was outlined.

The bid was made sight unseen, on the basis of an appraisal of the facility by an impartial professional, since inspection of the premises had been denied. This new bid was \$1 million more than the Giordano bid.

It has been said that no other bids were bona fide.

Giordano's bid seems questionable, at best, to me ... he proposed putting down only 1 percent of the purchase price as closure on the deal.

The state wanted him to put down 20 percent. When the state compromised and said it would settle for 10 percent, Giordano took the issue to court.

Appel was prepared to hand over a check for \$100,000 back

in February, to seal the deal, before he had even set foot on the premises.

The fact is that even if there had never been any controversy about whether or not the home should be closed, or whether or not there had ever been any other bona fide bids, Giordano does not have a good enough track record financially to be entrusted with the home. Surely there must be other interested parties. If not, they should be sought out — people whose solvency and judgement stand up well to close inspection, and who are not currently trying to get the state of Rhode Island to "forgive" \$3 million dollars in debt while they throw the wedding of the century for their daughter at the Westin.

When the state "forgives" debt, nothing is really forgiven. The debt merely becomes your debt, and mine. "Forgiven" is a very poor choice of words for what happens. Someone who incurred it says that they do not want to have to pay it off, and the state, after thinking it over, says, "O.K. You pay us half — or a quarter — or a tenth — and we'll make the taxpayers pay the rest."

If the board of the home knew that Giordano was deeply involved with the DEPCO disaster, why did they close a deal with him?

If it did not know about his problems with paying off money he had borrowed, with handling money in a way that was above reproach, why didn't it know? When something as important to the traditions of the community as the home is at stake, and the stakes are as high as they are with the home, one would like to think that no sale would take place until the board was sure the buyer would live up to his obligations in an honorable and timely manner.

All those elders who were moved out of the home so swiftly, and all those who care about them, must wonder what they can believe any more.

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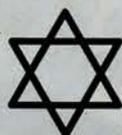
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The Herald is a member of the New England Press Association and a subscriber to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

Correction

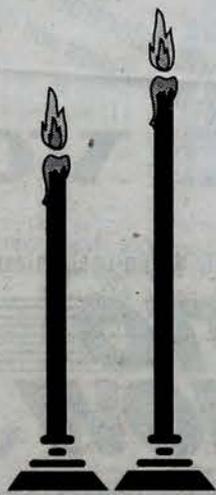
The panel discussion on domestic violence described in the Dec. 8 issue was co-organized by B'nai B'rith Women, not B'nai B'rith.



Candlelighting

December 23

4:01 p.m.



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



In this week's Torah portion, Shmot, we read of Pharaoh's decree to throw every male child into the Nile River. This decree was caused by Pharaoh's realization that the Jews were multiplying rapidly despite his attempts to decrease their numbers.

Pharaoh and his advisers were concerned that the Jewish people would form an alliance in the future with enemies of Egypt. By throwing the male babies into the river, he hoped to avert a probable rebellion.

Amram, father of Aaron and Miriam, was the leader of the Jewish people during this time. Amram declared that under the circumstances it was useless to continue bearing children, and

therefore separated from his wife, Yocheved. All the Jews followed his example.

Then Miriam spoke up. Only 5 years old at the time, and well aware that her father was a righteous man and the leader of the nation, she courageously voiced her conviction: "Your decree is worse than Pharaoh's! Pharaoh only decreed that the boys should die, but you decreed against the boys and the girls. Pharaoh is attempting to kill their physical body, but their souls will live on in the world to come. Your decree prohibits souls from even being brought into this world! Pharaoh is an evil man, so his decree may or may not be effective. But you are a Tzadik and your decree will stand."

Amram recognized the truth of his daughter's words. He immediately reunited with Yocheved, and all Israel, inspired by his example, followed suit.

What was the result of Miriam's actions? Moses was

born and as soon as his mother placed him in the river, Pharaoh's astrologers declared, "Their deliverer has already been thrown into the water."

The decree to drown all male children was thus revoked. The undaunted courage of a five-year-old girl to remain firm in her beliefs and stand up for those beliefs, even to the leader of the generation, effected the annulment of the evil decree. Her honesty and sincerity eventually brought deliverance, through Moses, for herself, her parents and all Israel.

Miriam's conduct is a shining example. It teaches us that our Jewish youth can accomplish more than we might ordinarily imagine.

It behooves us to educate our youngsters in such a way that they are imbued with tangible, authentic beliefs so they can speak and live with conviction about those beliefs.

From "A Thought for the Week," Detroit. Submitted by Rabbi Yehoshua Laufer.

EDITORIAL

What Is Happening ...?

To the Editors:

I was deeply saddened to hear about the closing this coming June of the boys division of the high school of the New England Academy of Torah. I felt a sense of déjà vu ... first the Jewish Home, now the high school ... What is happening in our community? Shall we all stand back and just allow these tragedies to happen without taking stock and taking some action?

I agree with Rabbi Marder that the existence of a Jewish high school has a major impact on the attractiveness of a community to Orthodox families (*The Jewish Voice of R.I.*, Dec.

1994). Furthermore, I feel that the presence of an Orthodox high school has a great influence on the "Yiddishkeit" (Jewishness) of a community.

Where do we go from here? I personally sincerely pray that the community binds together to once again establish an Orthodox high school. I believe it is important that it organize a high school that will serve the needs of the local Orthodox community. It will then surely shine as a bright beacon to counter the forces of intermarriage and assimilation of our youth.

Dorothy Frank Fox
Providence, R.I.

Jackson Remarks Spark Controversy

by Debra Nussbaum Cohen

NEW YORK (JTA) — Days after hosting Rev. Jesse Jackson at a news conference devoted to promoting the fact that there are ties binding black and Jewish political interests, the American Jewish Congress has criticized the black leader for remarks he made linking the Christian Coalition to anti-Semites of earlier eras.

"There is an ideological and historical connection" linking the Christian Coalition today to the anti-Semites and white supremacists of earlier eras — including those in Nazi Germany, Jackson said in a recent interview with the editorial board of the Chicago *Sun-Times* and during a speech at the Park Avenue Synagogue in Manhattan earlier this month.

Much of the Christian Coalition's "language and threats and spirit and behavior is mean," Jackson said at the synagogue.

"If this were Germany, we would call it fascism. If this were South Africa, we would call it racism. Here, we call it conservatism," he said.

Phil Baum, AJCongress executive director, took issue with Jackson's statements.

In a Dec. 9 letter to Jackson, Baum wrote, "Nothing in their program remotely approaches the genocidal anti-Semitism of the Nazis or the total rejection of democracy which is the political teaching of fascism."

The Anti-Defamation League also ran to the defense of the Christian Coalition. In a statement, ADL described Jackson's comparison of the politically conservative group to the Nazi as "inappropriate, inaccurate and highly divisive."

Not all Jewish groups, however, were quick to defend the religious right against Jackson.

Rabbi David Saperstein, director of the Reform movement's Religious Action Center, took issue with some of the language Jackson used, but agreed with his thesis.

"He compared Christians who manipulate Christianity to justify intolerance and group hatred with those who have done so in other historic situations," said Saperstein.

We Need To Know

To the Editor:

Once again, I must write to clarify an article which appeared in the December 1994 *The Jewish Voice of RI*, entitled "Jewish Home Update."

I have a copy of the restated purchase and sales agreement entered into between the Jewish Home and Hillside Health Center Associates on Nov. 22, 1994, which is on file at the Rhode Island Department of Health.

It is true, as stated by Mr. Waldman, the chairman of the Jewish Home for the Aged of R.I., that Antonio L. Giordano, the principal of Hillside Health Center Associates, came up with an additional \$150,000 with the new agreement.

However, this is somewhat misleading. This new agreement also gives to Giordano reimbursement of any operating losses incurred in the first two years of operation up to \$400,000.

This is the home's money, not Giordano's and the home really belongs to the Jewish community of Rhode Island.

Waldman states, "This means that the buyers have received approvals from all state agencies involved in transferring the nursing home license from us to Hillside Health Center Associates."

This is absolutely not true. I have in my possession, a copy of a letter dated Nov. 23, 1994 from Patricia K. Rocha, Esq., one of Giordano's attorneys, requesting an amendment to the variance granted on Nov. 8, 1993 by the Department of Health with respect to the license currently held by the Jewish Home.

That variance keeps the license alive until the facility is sold. That request has not, to my knowledge, been acted upon by the Department of Health.

Furthermore, the agreement itself provides that it is not effective until approval is granted by the department for a certificate of need for renovations and for relicensing of the facility for 254 beds, which has not been granted.

Incidentally, the expense of restoring the home license to

254 beds and 50 percent of the cost of other regulatory approvals is paid for, not by Giordano or Hillside Health Center Associates, but by the home from its monies.

Furthermore, Waldman states that "According to the terms of the agreement, as of Jan. 1, Hillside Health Center Associates will begin to share the cost of maintaining the building at 99 Hillside Avenue..."

This is extremely misleading. The agreement states in Section 16(a) that the deposit shall be placed in an interest-bearing escrow account to be held and distributed in accordance with a certain formula. That formula provides that 50 percent of the reasonable expenses of maintaining the facility may be paid for out of the deposit money.

However, the deposit money is not Giordano's money, but the home's money. Giordano gets credited with it at the closing. It is part of the purchase price.

It is not until Oct. 1, 1995, that 50 percent of the cost of operating the facility will come from Giordano.

Further, under Section 18 of the agreement, it is clear that Giordano can get his money back, except for \$25,000 if he decides that he cannot get the Department of Housing and Urban Development approval of his financing.

If this happens, the home will have to start at square one again.

I also have in my hand a letter dated Nov. 7, 1994 from Patricia Rocha, Esq., to the Rhode Island Department of Health indicating that the time table for this transaction, which I believe is most optimistic, is that the facility would not open until sometime in 1996.

On Nov. 2, 1994, I brought an experienced nursing home operator from New Jersey into the Jewish Home facility who was qualified to purchase the

home and to run it as a Jewish home. He called the original deal with Hillside Health Center Associates a sweetheart deal which he would like to have the opportunity of bettering.

He was told that he was merely looked upon as a back-up in the event that the agreement with Giordano could not be put together.

It is obvious that the agreement has been put together in a way that what originally was a sweetheart deal is now a heavy love affair. It is an absolute giveaway by the Jewish Home for the Aged to make certain that there will not be another Jewish home in Providence.

There are people experienced in the nursing home business who would like to come into Providence and pay more money than Giordano or Hillside Health Center Associates to purchase the home. The problem is that the powers that be will do anything to prevent a Jewish home from being opened in this area because it would show that their true purpose in closing the home was something other than the financial ability of the community to support a Jewish Home.

Z. Hershel Smith

Staying Jewish

To the Editor:

Our names are Moshe Fried and Noach Cusano we are seven years old. We are in the second grade at Providence Hebrew Day School but you may have seen us around the neighborhood going door to door selling items to collect money for the high school. We know that we are very young but we learned about how important it is to give tzedakah (charity). We also know that learning torah is a mitzvah and important to staying Jewish so we want a Jewish school. The money we are collecting will be going to fix up the girl's dormitory and to start a boy's high school for us. Our goal is to collect \$25,000 but we are having problems raising this money since we are not allowed to cross streets. We have already collected \$4,000 all we need is \$24,996.00 more, so if you are interested in buying candy or toy figures, please call us!

Moshe and Noach

(As a parent of one of these boys, I am so proud that they have learned the importance of the mitzvah of tzedakah and applied their skills of entrepreneurship to work towards that goal. This was their idea, from start to finish. The earnestness and zeal with which they worked was something from which we all can learn.

Sherry Cusano

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WORLD AND NATIONAL NEWS

Waldheim Tries To Join The Party

by Larry Yudelson

UNITED NATIONS (JTA) — As the United Nations gears up for its jubilee celebrations next year, Kurt Waldheim is desperately trying to join the party.

But Jewish groups see little chance that the former U.N. secretary-general, barred from the United States since 1987 for wartime Nazi activities, will be invited.

"I don't think anybody at the top leadership of the U.N. really needs or wants Kurt Waldheim," said Rabbi Abraham Cooper, associate dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles. "But this guy has no shortage of chutzpah."

If Waldheim, a former president of Austria, does win an in-

vitiation, "We'll fight his entry into the United States," said John Russell, a Justice Department spokesman.

Waldheim's efforts will probably result in the scuttling of any plan to invite the only other living former secretary-general, Javier Perez de Cuellar of Peru.

Participation by Waldheim, who served as a lieutenant in the German army, in celebrations of the world body founded in 1945 by the anti-Nazi allies, would be fraught with ironies, not the least of them, the charges that he assisted in the deportation of Jews and Serbs from German-occupied Bosnia during World War II.

War Crimes Prosecutor At ORT Conference

Justice Richard Goldstone, a veteran leader of ORT and chief prosecutor of the United Nations Tribunal on War Crimes in the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda, will be the keynote speaker at the American ORT National Conference on Jan. 26 to 29.

Goldstone, who is vice chairman of the World ORT union executive committee and is justice of the newly established South African 11-man Constitutional Court, will address some 400 American ORT delegates from throughout the United States.

ORT's high tech training systems will be showcased with

hands-on, interactive displays. ORT has developed high tech and computer training systems which are successfully used throughout the world and at Jewish day schools in Atlanta and North Miami Beach as well as at ORT technical institutes in New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles.

American ORT represents men and women throughout the United States who support ORT schools and programs providing vocational/technical training to young people and adults in Israel and 50 other countries throughout the world.

Emigration Up From Former Soviet Union

by Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK (JTA) — The emigration of Jews from the former Soviet Union was up last month over the preceding month, according to figures provided by the National Conference on Soviet Jewry.

According to the group's research bureau, 7,367 Jews from the former Soviet Union arrived in Israel in November, compared to 6,855 the month before.

An additional 2,494 Jews from the former Soviet Union arrived in the United States in November, compared to 2,214

in October.

The figures bring the total number of immigrants from the former Soviet Union through November to 59,552 to Israel, and some 30,000 to the United States, said Mark Levin, executive director of the National Conference.

A steady increase in monthly emigration since September reflects "a continuing trend from the Slavic republics, particularly Ukraine," driven by economic and political instability, said Levin. Ukraine "remains very unpredictable," he said.

E.U. Bestows Special Status on Israel

by Joseph Kopel

ESSEN, Germany (JTA) — The European Union has declared that Israel should be granted a "privileged status" in its relations with the organization's member states.

The leaders of the E.U.'s 12 member states said Israel should be given the new status "because of its high level of economic development."

In recent years, Israel has tried to elevate its trading status to gain better access to the European market. Israel is cur-

rently suffering a \$5 billion trade deficit with the E.U., which is its main trading partner.

In their joint statement this week, the 12 E.U. heads of state pledged a "substantial economic contribution" to support the Middle East peace process. They also endorsed a new southern policy that envisages the creation of a free-trade zone among countries throughout the Mediterranean basin, including Israel.

Zhirinovsky Sued for Libel

by Lisa Glazer

MOSCOW (JTA) — Despite his long history of anti-Semitic statements, Russian ultranationalist Vladimir Zhirinovsky proclaims a neutral position toward the Jewish people.

But any ambiguity in his position disappeared recently when Zhirinovsky blamed Jews for pushing Russians out of former Soviet republics.

"The orchestras playing the same song, 'Russians get out!' are being directed by the same conductors, the same provocateurs" he said. "The same provocateurs in Russia itself have persistently moved into the most prestigious and well-

paid professions — scholars with grants, writers, composers, film directors, journalists and so on — the Jews."

He also said that Jews dominate Russia's "ministries, banks, companies and so on."

His statement received limited notice in the Russian media, but Zhirinovsky is starting to feel some heat for his outcries.

During parliament hearings last month, he called the head of Russia's Federal Counterintelligence Service, Sergei Stepashin, an agent of the Mossad, Israel's secret service. He also accused the Russian in-

telligence service of being "a branch of the CIA and Mossad."

Now Stepashin is suing for libel.

A spokesman for the Federal Counterintelligence Service, Vladimir Tomarovsky, told the *Itar-Tass* news agency that Zhirinovsky's charges were "an offensive and completely groundless attack."

Zhirinovsky's anti-Semitic utterances are now often accompanied in the Russian media — as they are in the West — by references to an investigation earlier this year that found that Zhirinovsky may well be part Jewish himself, the son of a man named Volf Eidelshstein.

Rabin Makes Historic Visit To Far East

by Naomi Segal

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin became the first Israeli head of state to visit Japan and South Korea, in mid-December.

Accompanied by Israeli business leaders, Rabin arrived in Japan on Dec. 12 for two days of meetings that included the signing of new cooperative agreements in cultural affairs and science.

He also met with the Japanese imperial family and with government officials and business leaders.

Talking with Japanese Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama, Rabin said Israel and Japan

were opening a new page in their relations.

Japan, heavily dependent on oil from Arab countries and therefore sensitive to the Arab boycott, has traditionally maintained a cool attitude toward Israel, but that posture has changed as the peace process advanced.

Rabin emphasized the need for Japanese investment in Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian Authority.

While he was in Japan, the Tokyo government announced it would allow Japanese companies to invest in the Tel Aviv stock exchange.

Syria and Israel Agree to Resume Negotiations

by Naomi Segal

JERUSALEM (JTA) — After a 10-month hiatus, Israel and Syria will resume direct negotiations in Washington, according to U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

The decision to renew the Washington talks, which were broken off by Syria in February following the Hebron massacre, came after Christopher returned from his sixth round of shuttle diplomacy to the Middle East this year.

Christopher gave no date for the resumption of negotiations, but he described the two sides as being "extremely serious"

about returning to the bargaining table.

Israel said military officials from both countries would join the talks "very soon" to discuss security arrangements on the Golan Heights under an Israeli-Syrian peace agreement, *Ha'aretz* reported.

Israeli-Syrian negotiations have been deadlocked for months over a Syrian demand that Israel commit to a full withdrawal from The Golan. Israel, in turn, has called on Syria to spell out the nature of the peace it is seeking before Israel makes any commitment regarding the Golan.

Israeli Flag Flies in Amman

by Naomi Segal

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Israel and Jordan officially inaugurated their respective embassies in Amman and Tel Aviv last week.

At a ceremony Dec. 11 in the Jordanian capital of Amman, officials raised the Israeli flag and installed a mezuzah at the entrance to their temporary embassy.

Israeli officials selected the Forte Grand Hotel in downtown Amman to serve as their embassy until a permanent site is chosen by the Israeli team currently examining locations.

A few hours after the ceremony in Amman, a parallel opening was held in Tel Aviv

for the Jordanian Embassy, which will be located temporarily at the Dan Hotel there.

Israel has yet to name its ambassador to Jordan, but the appointment is expected by the end of the month. Until then, Ya'acov Rosen, head of the Jordanian desk at the Foreign Ministry, will oversee the embassy's operations.

On the Jordanian side, Omar Rifai, who took part in the Israeli-Jordanian peace talks and who is an adviser to Jordan's Crown Prince Hassan, will head the embassy until the already appointed ambassador, Marwan Muashar, arrives in Tel Aviv.

Kuwait Broaches Ties With Israel

by Naomi Segal

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The Persian Gulf state of Kuwait has expressed interest in establishing low-level ties with Israel.

According to the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz*, Kuwaiti officials conveyed their desire to exchange interest sections in a message sent via Egypt.

The Foreign Ministry here said the message represented the first time Kuwait has indicated any interest in establishing ties with Israel.

No Israelis have officially visited the Gulf state, the newspaper said.

The subject of ties between Israel and Kuwait was expected to come up soon in Tunis during the next round of multilateral talks on arms control and regional security.

Gay Rights Re-affirmed in Israel

The Society for the Protection of Personal Rights, a New Israel Fund grantee working to protect the rights of gays and lesbians in Israel, has scored a precedent-setting victory in the Israeli Supreme Court.

The court, affirming two lower-court decisions, ruled that El Al airlines will now have to treat the partners of homosexual employees the same as heterosexual live-in partners and married spouses.

In this landmark case, the Israeli Supreme Court is requiring El Al airlines to provide the same benefits that are granted to the partners of heterosexual employees, regardless of marital status, to the same-sex partner of flight attendant Jonathan Danilowitz.

"We are overjoyed with this decision," says Amit Kama, the executive director of the Society for the Protection of Personal Rights. "The Supreme Court affirmed that discrimination against gays and lesbians will not be tolerated in Israeli society and that all people, regardless of their sexual orientation, are entitled to equal rights and equal benefits."

INSIDE THE OCEAN STATE



A Town in Trouble

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

Have you ever wondered what to do with your old wood storm windows and storm doors gathering cobwebs down cellar? Photographer Peter Goldberg uses them as frames for his portraits of "Endangered Providence" in the show at Gallery One at the Music School on John Street.

The exhibition is subtitled "Historic Architecture/Contemporary Photographs" and has been partially funded by the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts. The images compel and charm while the issue of preservation haunts. A ghost town of mills and factories brings you back even beyond our decades into another century, another age. Those absurd Corinthian columns of the Masonic Temple on Smith Hill at the site of the Veterans' Memorial Auditorium loom in surreal

splendor. A camera makes you pause and think, what can we do with these spaces to celebrate design, not just tear down one tradition to put up something which will, in turn, be trashed?

This unusual and handsome display of the sights and insights of our local photographic poets was originally scheduled around the time of rededication, Chanukah, and was to close by Dec. 18. However, its dates have been extended till the New Year. "While I was at RISD I looked around at the incredible beauty and diversity of buildings in Providence. I rediscover Rhode Island every time I go out with my camera," said Ira Garber.

Among the artists included in the show are Erik Gould, Helios, Paul Raphaelson, Suzanne Dunkl, Paul Clancy, and Raymond Canavan.



Ira Garber

Channel 36 Focuses On Women's Health

WSBE/Channel 36, Rhode Island's public television station, has scheduled its most comprehensive programming focus ever on the subject of women's health during January. Twelve programs, covering health issues from breast cancer to infertility, will air during prime time beginning Jan. 2.

Four new programs making their Channel 36 premieres include "America's Women — In Pursuit of Health," hosted by NBC News Correspondent Betty Rollin, "A Woman's Heart," narrated by Joanne Woodward, "A Woman's Health," hosted by Rita Moreno and "The Breast Care Test," presented by Jane Pauley.

Other programming features areas of controversy and medical breakthroughs, probing

such topics as abortion, hysterectomy, infertility, menopause and breast cancer.

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Kreykes and Baron Named to Lifespan Positions

William Kreykes has been named president and chief executive officer of Lifespan™, the developing health care system serving the people of Rhode Island and southern New England. Steven D. Baron was appointed executive vice president and chief operating officer of the Lifespan system. In that capacity, he will serve as the president of the two founding partners of the system, The Miriam Hospital and Rhode Island Hospital, both in Providence.

The appointments were announced by the Hon. Bruce M. Selya, chairman of the Lifespan board of directors. Before the announcement, Kreykes had



Steven D. Baron
Photo by Constance Brown

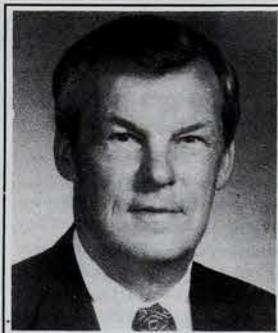
been president and chief executive officer of Rhode Island Hospital, and Baron had been president and chief executive of The Miriam.

Selya called the appointments "an outstanding conclusion to a national search for leadership that underscores the extremely high quality of leadership we already have in place."

The announcements come less than a year after the board and presidents of the two hospitals announced their intention to create a new health system, and about four months into a national search for a chief executive for the system.

In September, a search committee comprised of Lifespan directors was created. The committee retained the Chicago-based firm Spencer Stuart, a national executive search firm with considerable experience in health systems and hospital recruitment, to conduct the search.

As part of the search process, the search firm and the committee made an extensive review of the backgrounds and experiences of Kreykes and Baron. The committee concluded that Kreykes was an ideal candidate to serve as president and Baron possessed superb credentials to serve as the chief operating officer of the system and as the president of the system's two founding hospitals.



William Kreykes

"Both Bill Kreykes and Steve Baron meet and exceed criteria for success in their respective positions," Selya noted. "Both have exemplary records of experience here and in previous service, and both of them possess the special insight into and familiarity with the Rhode Island community, health care environment and regional health market that is so vital to the success of the Lifespan mission."

Red Cross to Offer First Aid Course

The Rhode Island Chapter of the American Red Cross will conduct a Red Cross Community First Aid and Safety course on Jan. 3 and 10 from 5:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. at chapter headquarters, 150 Waterman St., Providence.

Students learn how to recognize and care for children or adults who suffer from life-threatening emergencies such as respiratory and cardiac failure, sudden illness or injuries.

The course also teaches students what to do in an emergency as well as first aid techniques that help heart attack victims.

I Beg Your Pardon?

The New England Chowda' Hour — an hour of live radio theatre with Mark Loel Levitt and the International Cheese Pipe Orchestra will happen at AS220, 115 Empire St., Providence on Jan. 8. Call 831-9327 for more information.

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THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Lincoln Park Cemetery Responds to Questions

by Neil Nachbar
Herald Associate Editor

Sensing that the public perception is that Lincoln Park Cemetery is being run in a haphazard way, Murray Gereboff, president and Ralph Rottenberg, past president of the Chesed Schel Amess Association, which is the governing body of the cemetery, recently responded to questions.

In the recent vandalism incident, in which 47 gravestones were toppled, the cemetery was only able to contact three or four of the families affected by the crime. Forty of the stones were dated before 1940 and a handful were marked 1918 or earlier.

"We realize we have an obligation to notify families," said Gereboff. "The problem is we don't have enough information to go on."

Gereboff explained that the older a grave is, the more difficult it is to trace family members.

"Some of these people are

two or three generations removed," said Gereboff. "We would appreciate it if families could come forward with copies of deeds so we're able to locate responsible parties."

Although the cemetery closes early on Fridays, Rottenberg admitted that someone should have been on hand to assist families following the vandalism that occurred.

"We should have been more sensitive to the needs of the community," said Rottenberg.

Incomplete records has led to many of the controversies that have arisen over land ownership.

"The graves are sold by organizations," said Gereboff. "We are simply caretakers of the cemetery."

Fifty-four organizations own varied amounts of land at Lincoln Park. However, only 11 of these organizations are still in existence. Of these 11, the cemetery claims to have every burial, grave, reservation and perpetual care agreement recorded on computer. It's the remainder of the cemetery where the information is sketchy.

"Many of the organizations that are now defunct didn't leave us copies of deeds," said Gereboff. "The more time that goes by, the more important record keeping becomes."

In a recent case, which is now tied up in the courts, two family members owned two plots each. One of the family members passed his plots on to a third party. The other member granted ownership of all four plots to another party. That left two people claiming ownership to the same two



BOARD OF DIRECTORS of the Chesed Schel Amess Association for 1994-95 include: (top row, from left) Rennie Brown, treasurer; Murray Gereboff, president; Sheldon Blustein, past president; Sam Mendelowitz, first vice president; Rodney Locke, financial secretary; (middle row) Aaron Davis, Herman Wallock, Jacob Temkin, Ralph Rottenberg, Irving Levin, Hilton Rosen, Gershon Barros, Aaron Falcofsky, Srueel Oelbaum; (bottom row) Herbert Wagner, Irving Zaidman, Philip Rosenfield. Absent from the photo is Simon Chorney, second vice president.

plots. In this instance, the cemetery refused to get involved.

"That's a problem when two people claim ownership," said Rottenberg. "But we're removed from the issue because we didn't sell the graves."

As much as the cemetery wishes to avoid having to make such a decision, if one of the parties whose grave is in dispute were to pass away, the cemetery would be forced to do something.

"That presents a good open-ended question," said Gereboff. "What do you do?"

One possible solution is to offer one of the parties a spot in another section of the cemetery. However, that person may not be satisfied with the location or the families who own land next to the new spot may not want the person there. Also, the more the cemetery fills up, the more difficult it becomes to find a new location.

When someone requests that a body be disinterred, as was the case in another recently publicized controversy, the cemetery again detaches itself from having to make a decision.

"In our bylaws we are de-

scribed as a traditional Jewish cemetery," said Gereboff. "That's why we accept ritual decisions from rabbis. To remove a body we must receive a letter from the Rhode Island Board of Rabbis."

There are many complicated issues the cemetery is faced with, many of which are attributed to incomplete records. While the cemetery is continually gaining more information, it also loses track of records as land gets passed on from generation to generation.

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Seniors to Tour Touro Synagogue

The Senior Adult Center at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, 401 Elm Grove Avenue in Providence, invites senior adults in the community to come and bring a friend on a free day trip to Touro Synagogue on Jan. 4.

Dedicated in 1763, Touro is

the oldest synagogue in the continental United States and is located on Historic Hill in scenic Newport.

Plans are to leave the center at 12:30 p.m., enjoy a tour, browse in the gift shop and arrive back at the center at 4 p.m.

Participants are invited to en-

joy a kosher catered lunch at the JCCRI at 11:30 a.m. before the trip. A suggested \$1.25 donation would be appreciated for lunch.

Reservations are required by Dec. 28.

Call Lori Bloomfield, at 861-8800, for reservations or more information.

50 and Up Club Presents 'Mrs. Doubtfire'

The 50 and Up Club at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island will present a showing of the comedy film "Mrs. Doubtfire," starring Robin Williams and Sally Field, on Dec. 29, at 7 p.m., in the social hall.

This event is free and open to the adult community.

At 6 p.m., a kosher chicken dinner will be served. The price is \$4.50 for those 50 and up. A donation of \$1.25 is asked of those 60 and up (with Project HOPE subsidy).

Call Sandy Bass Comen, at 861-8800, ASAP to make reservations.

Knesset Passes Health Insurance

by Naomi Segal

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The National Health Insurance Law passed its final obstacle recently when the Knesset passed an amendment calling for its implementation on Jan. 1.

The amendment effectively severed the last tie between the Histadrut labor federation and the health tax citizens pay for health fund membership.

Under the current system, the Histadrut has collected the health tax for the Kupat Holim Clalit health fund, which it owns, and has taken off a portion for its own needs.

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TERMS: Deposit of \$10,000 for each property in cash, certified or bank cashier's check. Other terms to be announced. Albert K. Antonio, Esq., 26 Bosworth Place, Barrington, RI
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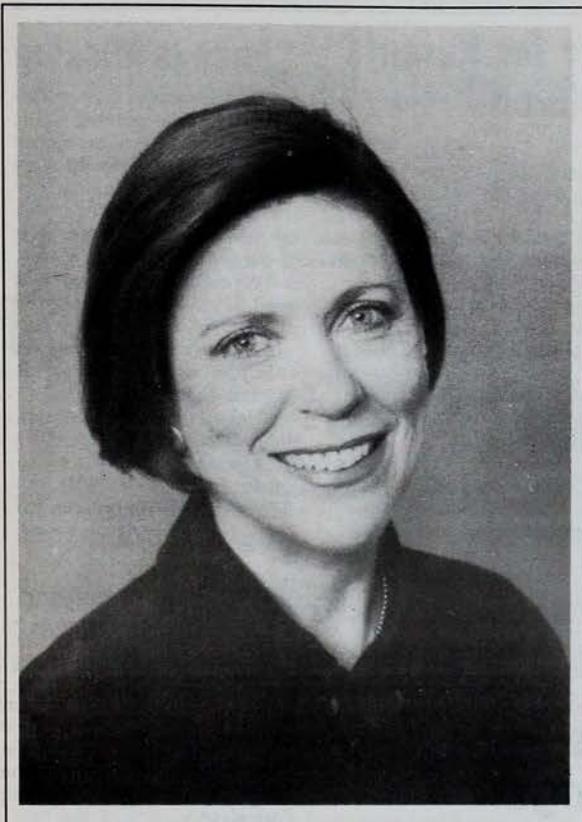
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Judith Love

Hadassah Appoints Director Of Development

Judith Love has been appointed national director of development by Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc.

With 385,000 members throughout the United States and Puerto Rico, Hadassah is the largest and oldest American Zionist women's organization in the world and operates almost in its entirety as a volun-

teer-driven organization. In fiscal year 1993/94, Hadassah raised and earned more than \$82 million.

In her new capacity, Love will be responsible for providing professional expertise to Hadassah's fund-raising planning process and will help to establish a fund-raising plan that integrates a variety of techniques for short- and long-term

JNF Recognized By Arbor Day Foundation

The Jewish National Fund of America has been named recipient of the National Arbor Day Foundation's 1994 International Award.

The National Arbor Day Foundation recognizes individuals and organizations who have made important contributions to tree planting, conservation, stewardship or environmental education on the local, national and international levels.

Volunteers Needed At The Miriam

The Miriam Hospital is seeking volunteers for the following positions:

Social Work Department receptionist — excellent phone skills and data entry knowledge for afternoons.

Medical Suites — filing patient records, abstracts, and other documents.

Greeters — to escort visitors and patients to various locations within the hospital.

Admitting — to assist the staff by running errands to various areas within the hospital. Friday mornings available.

Clerical Aid for Cardiac Cath Lab office — should have general clerical knowledge.

For more information, contact Sally Irons at 331-8500.

Sandy Bass Comen Concludes 16 Years of Dedication to JCCRI

Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island staff member Sandy Bass Comen leaves the center as a beloved friend of the senior adult department.

For more than 16 years, Comen has devoted her heart and soul to the center, making many close friends and helping to shape the lives of many individuals of all ages.

A trained school teacher, Comen arrived at the JCCRI in September of 1978 as a preschool instructor.

In addition to teaching, she led music programs where she played guitar and sang with center members, and occasionally led senior adult programs. "I always enjoyed leading occasional senior adult programs, but never thought much of it," she said.

It was not until years later, in 1989, that she switched departments and began working as senior adult coordinator.

Comen started revamping programs when she arrived, introducing new senior trips and

financial stability.

"Judith brings much more than fund-raising experience to Hadassah," said Deborah Kaplan, Hadassah national president.

"She has a strong personal commitment to Zionism and almost all of her professional life has been in the Jewish communal world."

Prior to joining Hadassah, Love was vice president for development at the Jewish Theological Seminary. Before that she was national director of B'nai B'rith International's 150th anniversary campaign and before that she was director of development for the New York Holocaust Memorial.

Learn To Dance The Night Away

There will be instruction in ballroom and Latin dancing or swing and slow dancing at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, 401 Elm Grove Avenue, Providence. Classes will be taught by Clo and Joe Bouthillier, owners/directors of the American Ballroom Dance Studio, Lincoln.

Classes begin Jan. 5, with ballroom and Latin dancing class from 7 to 8 p.m. and swing and slow dancing class from 8:15 to 9:15 p.m.

They will be held at the JCCRI Aerobics and Dance Studio.

The cost is \$50 for JCCRI members, \$65 for supporting members, and \$80 for non-members.

Contact Jay Snyder, at 861-8800, for details.

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Cycling Through the Jewish Year

Training Wheels (Al Galgalim in Hebrew), a program for Jewish families with young children (ages 2 to 5), is now offered by Hadassah chapters throughout the United States.

Developed by Hadassah and the University of Judaism in Los Angeles, Training Wheels combines songs, fun-filled activities and learning experiences that teach adults and children how to creatively celebrate the Sabbath and Jewish holidays. Utilized in a group setting, Training Wheels provides both a support system for parents and grandparents who share concerns about raising Jewish youth, and provides a play group setting for children.

According to Belle Simon, co-chair of Hadassah's Jewish Family Education Project, Training Wheels is not about kids, it's about families. "It's about parents and children spending quality time together and participating in Jewish rituals together."

Jewish rituals such as lighting the Shabbat candles, and conducting a seder, are taught step-by-step so that they may be duplicated at home. "This is where it truly strengthens families," says Simon.

For information on Training Wheels, contact Hadassah's National Membership Services Division, 50 West 58 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019, (212) 303-8122; or call your local Hadassah chapter.

activities. She organized meetings and excursions for the Golden Age Club. She led the Meals on Wheels program and supervised its volunteer drivers. She coordinated all aspects of the kosher mealsite, which involved ordering food and checking in the 35 to 55 daily participants.

She also launched the "50 and Up Club," an increasingly popular group that has been successful in integrating senior adult programs into other JCCRI departments.

Comen has even been the kosher mealsite chef. Last spring and summer, when the JCCRI was void of a caterer, Comen began cooking hot lunches for mealsite participants. "All of the seniors told me that I made good soup and wanted to know the secret ingredient," she recounted. "I told them the secret ingredient was 'love'."

Without any doubt, Comen's greatest contribution to the senior adult department has been her personal dedication to each and every individual senior adult who has ever attended the kosher mealsite or participated in a program.

She often arrived at the JCCRI between 7 and 7:30 a.m. in order to get paperwork out of the way and to spend more time with senior participants.

Although Comen has officially retired, she will still be a part of the center, "taking advantage of programs as a JCCRI member" and remaining in contact with her senior adult friends.

"I see the seniors as an extended family. They know of my sorrows and my joys and are very much a part of my life," she said.

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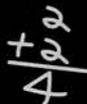
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Meet The Zoo Keepers

Join the animals and the people who take care of them, winter, spring, summer, and fall at the Roger Williams Park Zoo. Come to the zoo for "Meet the Keepers," the zoo's 1995 winter lecture series aimed at educating (and entertaining) visitors about how the zoo's animals are fed, looked after, and even educated. The winter lecture series is on Sundays at 1 p.m. during January and February. There will be a slide show and lecture by the zookeepers from different areas of the zoo, followed by a question and answer period and refreshments. The winter lecture series is free with zoo admission and space is limited.

Heat up your winter with a lecture about the zoo's Tropical America animals on Jan. 8, given by zookeeper Tracy Frampton.

On Jan. 15, learn about the cold-loving animals of the zoo (like polar bears and bison)

with a lecture by Ronald Martini, lead zookeeper for the North America exhibits.

Learn about our feathery friends on Jan. 22 with the help of Dave Wetzel, the zoo's general curator and bird expert.

The varied animals of the Nature Center are the highlight for the Jan. 29 lecture, given by zookeeper Becky Ewing.

On Feb. 6, plan to attend the lecture to learn about reptiles and amphibians in the Nature Center presented by zookeeper Jim Hitchner.

Zookeeper David Martini will end the 1995 winter lecture series on Feb. 13 with the zoo's grandest animal — the elephant.

Roger Williams Park Zoo is open all year with free parking. Hours: November to March, daily 9 to 4; April to October, daily 9 to 5. Closed Christmas Day. Admission is \$4 for adults, \$2.50 for children 3 to 12 and seniors.

Postcards From the Museum

Children will discover fascinating creatures and scientific wonders as they "travel" to remote destinations without ever leaving Rhode Island this winter.

The Museum of Natural History, Roger Williams Park, will transport inquisitive minds, during the week of school vacation, to places such as the frigid Arctic and the center of the earth.

Each adventure will "take

off" with a story hour, beginning at 11 a.m.

A hands-on activity is scheduled for 1 p.m., followed by a film, completing the journey.

The children will create their own postcards as a souvenir of their learning experience.

Scheduled Adventures:
 *Dec. 27 — The Arctic
 *Dec. 28 — Outer Space
 *Dec. 29 — The Tropics
 *Dec. 30 — The Center of Earth

Book by Brandeis Professor of 'Special Merit'

The National Jewish Book Awards has selected a book on Judaism and feminism by Sylvia Barack Fishman, assistant professor of contemporary

Jewish life at Brandeis University, as a 1994 "Honor Book."

A Breath of Life: Feminism in the American Jewish Community was deemed to be of special merit by a panel of distinguished judges.

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Magazine Available for Parents of Exceptional Children

Exceptional Parent is an award-winning, monthly magazine created in 1971 to provide practical guidance and emotional support to parents of children with disabilities.

In the December issue, the fact that religious faith and participation can play an important role in the lives of children with disabilities and their families, is discussed. A noted psychologist asserts that many professionals do not appreciate this role.

Stanley D. Klein, Ph.D., editor-in-chief, writes, "In this (December) issue, we celebrate religion, religious education and spirituality and illustrate the progress many faiths are making in including children and adults with disabilities and their families in community congregational life."

Roger Williams Park Zoo Wins Brass Rings

Roger Williams Park Zoo recently won three Brass Ring Awards from the International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions. The awards recognize originality, creativity and excellence in marketing among professionals in the amusement industry.

The zoo won a first place award in the television category for the "Gone to the Zoo" advertisement for this past summer's dinosaur exhibit.

A second place award was presented to the zoo in the signage category for the dinosaur billboard which proclaimed, "They're Back. And They Want Their Movie Royalties."

Auditions For Tanglewood And BUSA

The Boston University Tanglewood Institute and the Boston University School for the Arts has announced its regional audition tour for the 1995 summer season and fall semester.

Regional auditions for Boston will be held Jan. 21 from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Marshall Room, Boston University School for the Arts, 855 Commonwealth Ave., Boston.

Through its music programs and the Tanglewood Institute, Boston University provides musicians of college and high school age with professional music training year-round.

The School for the Arts combines the intensity of conservatory training with the resources of a liberal arts education.

The Tanglewood Institute offers summer music programs for gifted high school and college age musicians at Tanglewood, the internationally renowned summer home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

The Boston University School for the Arts offers a full range of flexible programs for career-oriented musicians on both the graduate and undergraduate levels. Degrees are awarded in performance, his-

The psychologist notes, "Sadly, the important role that religious participation can play in the lives of families is rarely discussed in meetings between parents and education and health care professionals."

Included in the special section on religion is "A Jewish Education for Every Child," which takes a look at the progress of Jewish education programs for children with disabilities.

"Advocating for Access," suggests strategies in searching for a faith community that will welcome parent and child.

"Faith Group Resources," gives the reader a directory of resources by denomination and/or faith group.

For subscription information, call (800) 247-8080.

Chase Is Missing

We received a long letter, this week, from the grieving family of a golden retriever named Chase who disappeared from First Beach in Newport on Sept. 1993. The family has not given up on finding Chase. Her owner writes:

"We implore all of you who read this letter to kindly keep a watchful eye out for a female golden retriever who moved into your neighborhood within the last 16 months.

"Have you or someone you know adopted a golden with a questionable history? If so, please contact us at (401) 683-5754. All calls are confidential.

Sincerely, Annie Bovay"

What They're Saying About Rhode Island...

"...a slice of eastern Rhode Island seems a bit like Provence — only closer."

— Boston Globe, May, 1994

Times called Roger Williams Park Zoo "... one of the best zoos in the country for its conservation efforts."

The zoo was also recently the recipient of two national awards from the American Association of Zoos and Aquariums.

Roger Williams Park Zoo is open all year except for Christmas Day.

Lincoln School Announces Greenhalgh Examination

Lincoln School will hold the Greenhalgh scholarship examinations for the 1995 to 1996 school year on Jan. 21 from 10 a.m. to noon. The exam is open to any girl who seeks admission to Lincoln's Upper School, grades nine through 12.

Recipients of the scholarship will be awarded \$2,500 based on merit, and will be given first preference for additional financial aid. Lincoln School is an all girls' independent school, grades nursery through 12, located at 301 Butler Ave. on the East Side.

For more information on the examination, contact Ellen Lough at 331-9696.

JFS Offers Mothers and Infants Group

The Mothers and Infants workshop is once again being offered by the Family Life Education Program at Jewish Family Service, 229 Waterman Ave. in Providence.

This group provides an opportunity for new mothers to discuss the growth and development of their babies, themselves and their family life.

There will be eight sessions, from 1:30 to 3 p.m. on Mondays, beginning Jan. 9. The fee is \$65 per person.

Pre-registration is required. Call Stephanie Sakalian at 331-1244.

SPORTS FEATURE

Wrestling with Success

by Neil Nachbar
Herald Associate Editor

Year in and year out the wrestling team at Cumberland High School is consistently among the top five programs in the state. The success of the team can be mainly attributed to the dedication of coach Steven Gordon.

Gordon, who has been the head coach for 26 years, instills in his wrestlers a lot more than the technical knowledge of moves and counter-moves. He has built a solid program on discipline and sportsmanship.

"Discipline is extremely important," said Gordon, 53. "I want the kids to have a good time, but I also want them to have confidence in their abilities."

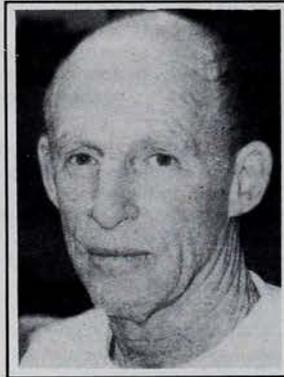
Last year the wrestling team was selected among all the winter sports teams statewide for the *Journal-Bulletin* sportsmanship award. Gordon takes great pride in this distinction.

"We want to win every time

out on the mat," said Gordon. "But it's especially important for the kids to be able to handle a win and a loss."

This can be a difficult lesson to learn during the heat of battle in a packed gymnasium.

"Sometimes it's an embarrassing sport," said Gordon. "Espe-



Steve Gordon
Herald photo by Neil Nachbar

cially if you get your butt kicked in the middle of the gym."

A coach's schedule can often be a strain on one's family. Practices or matches may occur in the afternoon, at night or on the weekend.

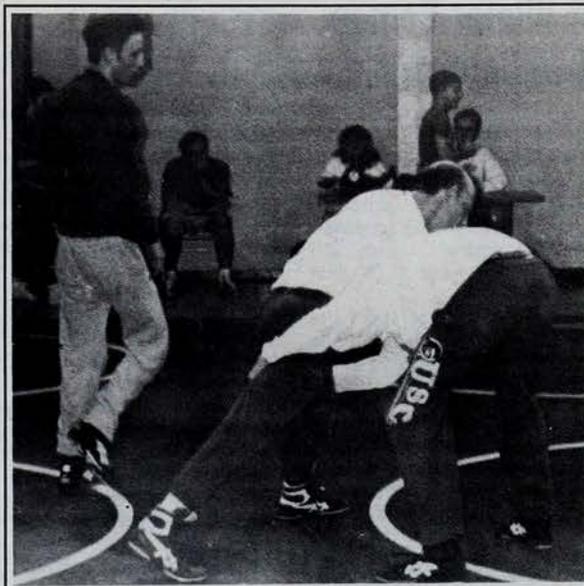
Gordon's family has been very supportive of his commitment to the team. In fact, his wife Judy attends every match — home and away.

"Without her I wouldn't have stayed this long," said Gordon. "She's as much a part of the team as I am."

This year Cumberland has a young lineup. Three starters are freshman and four are sophomores. Therefore Gordon is cautiously optimistic about his team's chances.

"We're getting better, but I don't think we'll do well early in the season," said Gordon. "We have a young crew, but they'll improve. When we win, it will be close — and that's OK."

Gordon, a member of Temple Emanu-El in Providence, is one of only a few Jews at Cumberland High School. But he takes great



TRY THIS ONE ON FOR SIZE — Gordon demonstrates a hold for one of his athletes. Although his team is young, Gordon has high hopes for his squad.
Herald photo by Neil Nachbar

pride in his religion.

One time a student came to school with a swastika printed on the front of a T-shirt, which enraged Gordon.

"I went ballistic," said Gordon. "I don't go for that stuff. I felt it was incite and harmful so I brought it to the attention of the school committee."

Holyfield Visits Holy Land

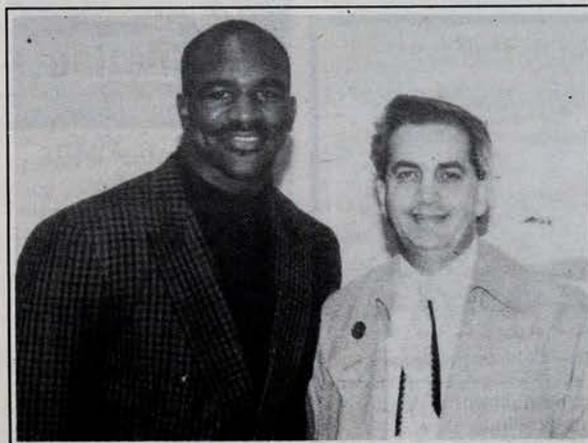
Pastor Benny Hinn of the Orlando Christian Center in Florida recently led a 10-day pilgrimage to the Holy Land, filling two EL A1 747 jumbos from New York.

More than 900 pilgrims from all over the United States, including the former two-time world heavyweight boxing champion, Evander Holyfield, plus 80 people from Switzerland, participated in the Benny Hinn Media

Ministries Partner's Conference Tour.

The group toured many of Israel's important religious and tourist sites and took part in evening prayer services, led by Hinn, in Jerusalem and at the Sea of Galilee.

This is the third consecutive year that Pastor Hinn has taken groups of this size on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land.



READY FOR TAKEOFF — Shown here prior to departing on EL A1 are Evander Holyfield (left) and Pastor Benny Hinn.

RV Show Rolls Into Town

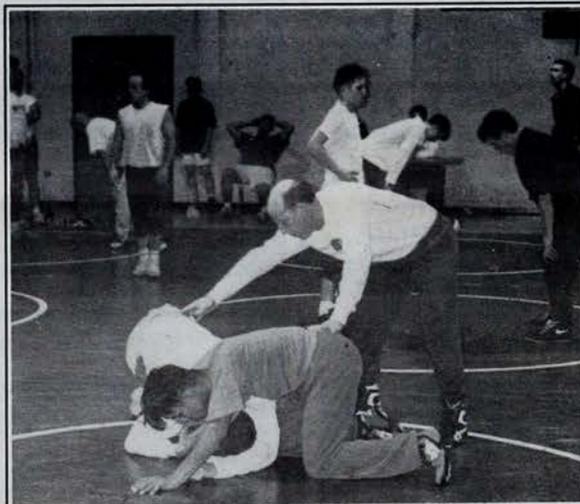
The second annual Rhode Island RV Show, the largest of its type in the state, has been scheduled for a four-day run Jan. 12 to 15 in Rhode Island Convention Center with dealer optimism stronger than it's been in five years.

Space has been reserved for about 200 of the industry's 1995 recreational vehicles of all types produced by most of the nation's major manufacturers.

Dealer optimism is based on the result of a survey conducted by the Recreation Vehicle Industry Association, which posted national gains of 15.7 percent for motor home sales and 21.3 percent for travel trailers for the month of July, com-

pared with the year-ago month. July was the latest period the association reported.

Show hours are 1 to 10 p.m. on Jan. 12 and 13, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Jan. 14, and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Jan. 15.



JOCKEYING FOR POSITION — Gordon works closely with two of his wrestlers, making sure they have the proper technique.
Herald photo by Neil Nachbar

Hoop It Up

On Jan. 10, Mativ will take in a Providence College basketball game at the Providence Civic Center. The Friars will play Boston College.

Tickets are \$15 each, with a portion of each ticket benefitting Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island. Only 20 tickets are available.

Mail your check, payable to Temple Beth-El, to Cantor Nancy Ginsberg, Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence, RI 02906.

If there are any questions, call Sue Goldman at 461-6202.

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ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

If Winter Comes . . . Can Convergence VIII Be Far Behind?

And Bob Rizzo, director of public programming for the Providence Parks Dept. at Roger Williams Park, has issued his annual invitation to area artists to submit proposals for Convergence, which will run from July 5 to Sept. 10 next year.

There are a few specs the artist should keep in mind. The work should be a temporary, site-specific creation.

The public will have impact on the work. Attendance is estimated at more than 200,000, so public contact should be considered in construction.

Performance art, dance, theater and music proposals are also welcome.

The top figure for a commission will be \$2,000.

A resume, project budget, samples of previous work (no more than 20 slides or two tapes) and a SASE must accompany the proposal.

Any proposal received after the deadline — Feb. 1 at 4 p.m. — will be returned unopened.

Call 785-9450 for more information.

Send proposals to: Bob Rizzo, Director of Public Programming, Providence Parks Dept., Roger Williams Park, Providence, R.I. 02905.

Monologist Tom Sgouros Presents 'Forget It!'

As a special extension of the Multimedia Art and Performance Art Festival, performance artist/monologist Tom Sgouros will present his new piece "Forget It!" at Perishable Theatre's new home at 95 Empire St. (in the AS220 Complex), Providence. (Sgouros is the son of Tom Sgouros, much-loved artist and teacher at R.I.S.D.)

Performances are Dec. 30, and then Thursdays to Saturdays, Jan. 5 to 7 and 12 to 14. All shows are at 8 pm.; tickets are Pay-What-You-Can on Thursdays and \$8 on Fridays and Saturdays (\$6 for students and seniors).

"Forget It!" is Sgouros's second full-length work. It was begun after the death of a close friend caused him to reflect on the fragility of memory and started him on a quest to find a way to preserve his memories in a more secure way.

The show is about brains and memory and how they work,

and how forgetting is crucial to everyday life.

Sgouros began his performing career in 1985 as a rope-walker and silent clown and toured regionally with his show Tom the Fool.

In 1990 he decided the world was too peculiar for him to remain silent any longer. Since then Sgouros has written, produced and performed five more-or-less documentary monologues.

The subjects have ranged from the invention and manufacture of pink plastic lawn flamingoes to the recycling of sewage sludge and from instructions for building a swamp to the uses of a dead zebra.

Tom's most recent show, "Liar: An Evening of True Stories," a meditation on how you tell when something is true, premiered at Perishable's 1993 MA & PA Festival and ran at the Boston Center for the Arts during last winter's season.

For tickets or information, call 331-2695.

E.P. Library Hosts Book Club

The Library Book Discussion Club, sponsored by the East Providence Public Library, begins on Jan. 10, at 7:30 p.m. and will continue on a bi-weekly basis through June. The group meets at the Weaver Library, 41 Grove Ave.

The January schedule includes:

Jan. 10 — *Of Human Bondage* by M. Somerset Maugham

Jan. 24 — *Redburn* by Herman Melville

For more information about the Library Book Discussion Club, contact Valerie M. Toner, adult services librarian at 434-2453.

"After The First 5700 Years ..."

"That's Life", a musical revue that draws a comic bead on Jewish life in America, is playing at the Jewish Theatre of New England until Jan. 22.

The theatre is located at the Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center, 333 Nahantton Street, Newton Centre, Mass.

For performance times and ticket information, call (617) 965-5226.

What They're Saying About Rhode Island...

"...Providence has emerged as the Venice of New England."

— Esquire, November, 1994

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MILESTONES

Randi Bean Marries Timothy Diemand

Randi Ellen Bean and Timothy Andrew Diemand were married Oct. 22 at the Ledgemont Country Club, Seekonk, Mass. The bride is the daughter of Marjorie and Norman Bean of Cranston, R.I. Her grandparents are Harry and Molly Halpern of Pawtucket, R.I., and Boca Raton, Fla., and the late Katherine Halpern and Sarah Bean of Lauderdale Lakes, Fla., and the late Morris Bean. The bridegroom is the son of Patricia Diemand of Sterling, Virginia, and Dennis Diemand, of Wolcott, Conn. His grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Frank Halligan of North Haven, Conn.

Rabbi Beverly Lerner of Arlington, Mass., officiated at the 7 p.m. candlelight ceremony. A reception immediately followed at the Ledgemont Country Club.

The bride was given in marriage by her parents.

Maid of honor was Lori Lynn Bean, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Susan Halpern and Nancy Rubinstein, cousins of the bride, Heather Diemand,

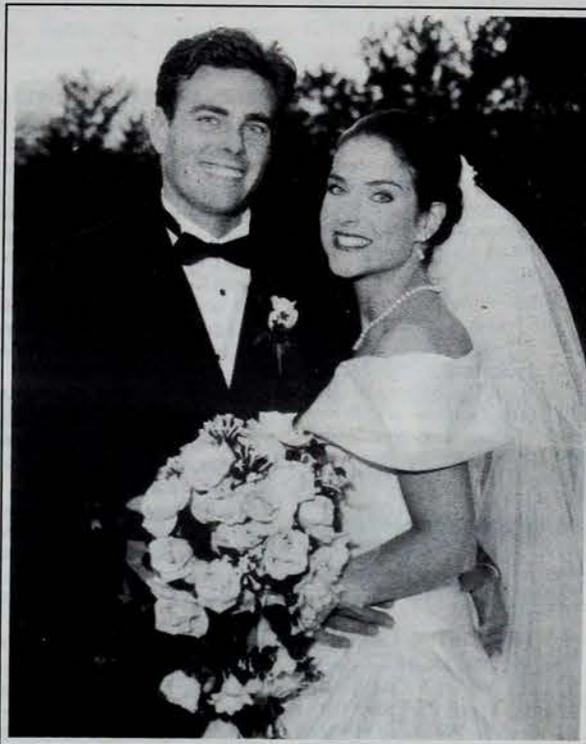
sister of the groom, Tracy Abedon Filosa, Sherri Lepore Blanchard, Allison Klimerman, and Stacie Lisette.

Best man was Dr. Michael Ostad. Ushers were Jeffrey Scott Bean, brother of the bride, Jason Cohen and Dylan Lisette.

The bride is a graduate of Moses Brown, Providence, R.I., and Clark University, Worcester, Mass., with a bachelor of science in sociology and the University of Pennsylvania with a masters of social work. She is currently on a hospital staff as a social worker in Washington, D.C.

The bridegroom is a cum laude graduate of Clark University, Worcester, Mass., with a bachelor of arts in international relations and J.D. with honors from George Washington University, Washington, D.C. He is an attorney for Patton Boggs L.L.P., Washington, D.C.

They honeymooned in St. Lucia and Virgin Gorda, Little Dix Bay, and now reside in Rockville, Maryland.



Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Diemand

Gereboff Named President of Chased Schel Amess Association

On Dec. 11, Murray Gereboff of Providence was elected to his first term as president of the Chased Schel Amess Association, the organization that is charged with overseeing care at Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

Gereboff, 48, became a member of the board in 1986 and has been active in the association ever since. He works full-time as an attorney.

Also elected to offices of the 86-year-old organization were: Samuel Mendelowitz, first vice president; Simon Chorney, second vice president; Rennie Brown, treasurer; and Rodney Locke, financial secretary.

Elected as board members were: Samuel Eisenstadt, Phillip Geller, Richard Goldfine, Irving Levin, Philip Rosenfield, Ralph Rottenberg, Ernest Schleifer, Melvin Shuman, Jacob Temkin, Susan Vederman, Herb Wagner, Irving Zaidman, Gershom Barros, David Pliskin, and Sheldon Blustein.

Elected as honorary board members were Max Kerzner, George Labush and Jacob Mossberg.

The organization also includes board members selected by various temples and organizations. They include: Aaron Davis, Temple Torat Yisrael; Dee Dee Witman, Temple Emanu-El; Hilton Rosen, Congregation Ohawe Shalom; Samuel Rotkopf, Congregation Mishkon Tfiloh; Harold Silverman, Sons of Jacob; Rubin Zeidman, Temple Am David; Joseph Margolis, Congregation Shaare Zedek; Maurice Sternbach, Congregation West Warwick; Aaron Segal, Temple Beth Shalom; Aaron Falcofsky, R.I. Jewish Fraternal; Harold Fink, Jewish War Veterans; Michael Sugerman, Loyal Family Circle and Robert Miller, Touro Fraternal Association.

Installing officer at the Priest Memorial Chapel was Rabbi Alvan Kaunfer of Temple Emanu-El. Chairman of the nominating committee was former state Rep. Irving Levin.



SWORN IN — Murray Gereboff (left) is installed as president of the Chased Schel Amess Association by Rabbi Alvan Kaunfer.

Rhonda Pressman Engaged to Robert Pack

Mr. and Mrs. Joel M. Pressman of Cranston, R.I., announce the engagement of their daughter, Rhonda, of Cromwell, Conn., to Robert Pack, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Pack of Westfield, Conn.

The bride-to-be has a B.A. degree in elementary education from Rhode Island College and

a M.S. degree in special education from Boston University. She is a special education teacher with the Rocky Hill, Conn., school system.

Her fiancé has a B.S. degree in industrial technology and a M.S. degree in organization and management, from Central Connecticut State University. He is purchasing administrator at Hartford Steam & Boiler Insurance Co. of Hartford, Conn.

A May 1995 wedding is planned.



Leah Jo Tinberg

Howard and Toni Lenz Tinberg proudly announce the birth of their second daughter, Leah Jo, born Nov. 5. She joins her older sister, Miriam Edith.

Leah Jo is named in loving memory of her grandfathers, Leon Tinberg and Joseph Lenz.

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OBITUARIES

DAVID A. BLITZ

PROVIDENCE — David A. Blitz, 37, of 141 Sessions St., died Dec. 13 at home.

Born in Providence, he was a son of Stanley G. Blitz, and Barbara (Albert) Hassett, both of Providence.

He was product manager, USA, from 1983 to 1985 for Marithe and Francois Girbaud in New York; product manager, USA, from 1986 to 1987 for In/Wear Matinique, in Mahwah, N.J.; product manager from 1987 to 1989 for MEXX, USA, in New York; director of sales/merchandising from 1989 to 1991 for Paul Smith Sportswear, New York, and a men's merchandise manager from 1991 to 1992 for Charles International in New York. He attended Syracuse University and the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York.

Besides his parents he leaves a brother, Jonathan Blitz of Newport Beach, Calif.; a half brother, Stefan Blitz of Philadelphia, Pa., and a half sister, Elizabeth Blitz of Providence. He was the brother of the late Lori Ellen Blitz. The funeral was held Dec. 15 at the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery in Warwick.

RAISA DINABURG

PROVIDENCE — Raisa Dinaburg, 91, of 50 Park Row West, died Dec. 17 at home. She was the widow of Zinovy Dinaburg.

Born in Tomsk, Russia, a daughter of the late Israel and Miriam Kijberg, she lived in the Orient most of her life, and in Providence for the past three years.

She was active in the Women's International Zionist Organization.

She leaves a daughter, Ellie Elbaum of Providence, and five grandchildren. She was the mother of the late Isabel Taylor.

The funeral was held Dec. 18 at the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

SYLVIA GORFINE
SOUTH PASADENA, Fla. —

Sylvia Gorfine, 70, of South Pasadena, Fla., died Dec. 13 at the Palms of Pasadena Hospital. She was the wife of the late Dr. Robert Gorfine, a surgeon in the Providence area for 28 years.

Born in Cambridge, Mass., a daughter of the late Myer and Ida (Pearlman) Gross, she lived in Providence until moving to South Pasadena in 1974.

She was a member of the Brandeis Women.

She leaves a son, Dr. Larry Gorfine of Palm Beach, Fla.; two daughters, Terry Bachheimer of Arlington Heights, Ill., Tety Gorfine of Shrewsbury, Mass., and five grandchildren.

The funeral was held Dec. 18 at the David C. Gross Beth David Chapel, 6366 Central Ave., St. Petersburg, Fla. Burial was in Chapel Hill Memorial Park in Largo, Fla.

HARRIET V. LAKE

NEWTON, Mass. — Harriet V. Lake, 59, of 5 Carlton Rd., Sharon, Mass. died Dec. 13 at the Newton-Wellesley Hospital in Newton, Mass. She was the wife of Harold Lake. Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Philip and Ida (Golubchik) Seidman, she lived in Sharon for 28 years. She had also lived in Long Island, N.Y.

She was a graduate of the University of Bridgeport. For many years, she was a dental hygienist in Massachusetts and Rhode Island, most recently working at the Tufts University Dental School in Boston until retiring in 1992. She was a member of Temple Israel in Sharon, and its Sisterhood. She was a member of the Sisterhood of Temple Beth Abraham in Canton, Mass.

Besides her husband she leaves four daughters, Debra Sheldon of Lexington, Mass., Sheryl Miller of Sharon, Beth Rosenblatt of Canton, and Rhonda Lake of Waltham, Mass.; two brothers, M. David Seidman of Cranston, Michael Seidman of Hartford, and five grandchildren.

The funeral was held Dec. 15 at Temple Beth Abraham, Washington Street. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery in Warwick. The service was coordinated by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

dedicated by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

HELEN LEZBERG-HOCHBERG

BOSTON — Helen Lezberg-Hochberg, 89, of Chestnut Hill, Newton, died Dec. 17 at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston. She was the widow of David Lezberg. She was also the widow of Sol Hochberg.

Born in Russia, a daughter of the late Harold and Leah Retchen, she lived in Chestnut Hill for 18 years. She previously lived in Fall River.

She attended college in Russia. She had been a member of Temple Beth-El in Fall River. She was a member of Hadassah and the B'nai B'rith.

She leaves a daughter, Tanya Wallick of Providence; a son, Cyril Hochberg of Chestnut Hill; two stepsons, Erwin Lezberg of Berea, Ohio, and Arnold Lezberg of Newton; a stepdaughter, Barbara Galis of Peabody; six grandchildren, nine step-grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held Dec. 20 at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Temple Beth-El Cemetery in Fall River.

ESTHER SILVERSTEIN

PROVIDENCE — Esther Silverstein, 102, of the Rosewood Manor, Pitman Street, died Dec. 13 at the manor. She was the widow of Irving Silverstein.

Born in Russia, a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Coleman Adelman, she lived in Providence since 1985. She previously lived in Brookline, Mass.

She leaves a daughter, Charlotte Margolin of Boca Raton, Fla.; two sons, Leon Silverstein of Marlboro, Mass., and George Silverstein, Delray Beach, Fla.; six grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.

A graveside service was held Dec. 15 at Sharon Memorial Park, Sharon, Mass. Burial followed. The service was coordinated by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

ROSE SUGARMAN

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

the wife of the late Myer Sugarman.

Born in Boston, a daughter of the late Frank and Fannie (Ridler) Springer, she lived in Providence for the last nine years, previously living in East Providence for 12 years, and before that in Providence for many years.

She attended Bryant Stratton Business College in Boston. She was a bookkeeper in Boston for many years, and a member of the Women's Association of the Jewish Home for Aged.

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

She was a member of the Women's Association of the Jewish Home for the Aged.

She is survived by two daughters, Estelle Gold of Cranston and Frema Goldshine of Sebastopol, Calif.; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She was the grandmother of the late Susan Goldshine.

A graveside funeral service took place on Dec. 13 at Lincoln Park Cemetery in Warwick. The service was coordinated by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

LENA TUCKER

PROVIDENCE — Lena Tucker, 98, a resident of Elmhurst Extended Care Facility, Maude Street, Providence, died Dec. 15 at the facility. She was the wife of the late Barnett Tucker and also of the late Benjamin Salzman. Born in Russia, a daughter of the late Jacob and Frima Gralnick, she had been a resident of Providence for 80 years.

She is survived by a daughter, Sylvia Paris of East Providence; two grandchildren; and three great-grandsons.

A graveside funeral service was held Dec. 18 at Temple Beth-El Cemetery, Reservoir Avenue, Providence. The service was coordinated by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

RHODA R. WITKIND

NEW BEDFORD — Rhoda R. Witkind, 82, of the New Bedford Jewish Convalescent Home, 200 Hawthorn St., died there Dec. 13.

She was the widow of the late Herbert Witkind and daughter of the late William and Lena (Kaplan) Rocklin.

A lifelong resident of New

Bedford, she was a member of the Tifereth Israel Congregation and its Sisterhood.

She was a member of Hadasah and a member of the Council of Jewish Women.

She is survived by a daughter, Francine Shalevitz of Marblehead, three grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Graveside funeral services were held Dec. 14 at Plainville Cemetery, New Bedford, Mass. Arrangements were by the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

Reform Leader Says Interfaith Families and Jews-By-Choice Enrich Synagogue Life

A leader of Reform Judaism said his movement's outreach effort to involve interfaith couples and Jews-by-choice in congregational life is an enriching experience for long-time members as well as the new congregants themselves, because the newcomers "often contribute in many valuable and diverse ways to the well-being of our synagogues."

Melvin Merians, chairman of the board of trustees of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations told an audience of trustees and congregants that many of those who converted to Reform Judaism in recent years have served in their own way as "teachers to their congregations."

In his address, Merians said that "the new Jews-by-choice or those who are studying our religion are some of our best teachers, because they challenge us to confront our own spirituality."

He added: "Their questions make us think. They ask the questions we have not thought to ask, or have not asked in years. Through their eyes they help us see our Jewish world, our beliefs, anew. Accompanying a Jew-by-choice on his or her religious journey is like taking a grandchild to an old familiar place — and seeing it with a freshly renewed vision."

"Their questions have also taught those of us close to them, to see the miracle in our Torah and to actively seek the answers of our tradition, not only for them but for us."

He urged a balance that would maximize outreach while respecting the religious integrity of the synagogue.

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CLASSIFIED

First Night

(Continued from Page 1)

will be exciting, and fun.

A Gallery of Ice will glisten in Citizens' Plaza. Wandering minstrels will serenade party-goers. Food vendors in Kennedy Plaza will stir up hot chocolate and delicious meals. The air will pulse with music and laughter.

The festivities will begin at 2 p.m., Dec. 31, with an afternoon of activities for children and their families, starting at the RISD Museum, where kids will learn about the African-American festival called Kwanza.

Across town at the Rhode Island Convention Center, things will be popping with jugglers, music, a strolling Roger Williams, clowns, stunt-comics, storytellers, workshops, and marvelous Marvin's Magic of Science act.

The Looking Glass Theater will present "The Tooth Fairy Finds Wisdom." Perishable Theatre will unveil David Elie's award-winning musical, "The Sun's Musicians." Schools such as Mount Pleasant, Hope High, Perry and Roger Williams will show off their dance troupes' latest numbers.

There will be everywhere a continuous country jamboree with Mudsole's Dixieland jazz and Las Comadres' folksy Latin harmonies.

The afternoon will conclude with a grand procession, featuring the Bread and Puppet Traveling Cardboard Circus, and a 5:30 p.m. fireworks display, a preview of the pyrotechnics to come at midnight.

As darkness closes in, the emphasis shifts, and by 6 p.m., the night programs will be in full swing.

When Marilyn Murphy Meardon and Johnnie Walker combine storytelling with a Cajun fiddle, the result is Southern magic. Poets will offer an evening-long lineup of work presented in new and collaborative ways, often combining words with music and other media.

Costa Rica

(Continued from Page 1)

thought the article was mostly objective and "in some ways has a favorable tone."

But, he added, "it is very unfortunate that the magazine has taken up this subject and especially the headline, which is what the greatest number of people read, which reminds us of black pages from the European and particularly German press from the Nazi regime."

The largest Jewish migrations to Costa Rica came in the period between the two world wars. Most of the people named in the article are second-generation Costa Ricans descended from Polish Jews.

The country's vice president and a Cabinet minister are members of the Jewish community — as are two deputies in the Legislative Assembly, the heads of some of the larger importing and construction firms and the presidents of four private banks.

One member of the community, Luis Fishman, is considered a front-runner for the opposition Social Christian Unity Party's 1998 presidential nomination.

Especially for people 16 to 25, four dynamic programs featuring hip hop, alternative rock, salsa and a Best of Rhode Island DJ Jam provide a chance for hormones and harmony to meet on the dance floor.

The Rhode Island Philharmonic will return after a five-year absence with a performance of Viennese waltzes and polkas. Country and western lovers will get to stomp to the rhythm of Electric Rodeo. Also available will be one Hot Tamale Brass Band, David Moore on his musical saw, the Stacy Phillips Duet, a Gospel Jubilee and Magnolia, a Cajun dance music group.

But music is only part of the art and entertainment planned for First Night. Tap dancers known as Hot Foot, comic performer Robert Post, the Banished Fools, Tomas Kubinek, vaudevillian, and Barnaby Evans, who will use Providence's waterways as backdrop for his floating torches. (Sounds like a very big "Photo Op.") In fact, the whole evening sounds like a very big "Photo Op.")

Performers will be filling the auditoriums, theaters, churches, even shop windows downtown with every imaginable revelry, ensuring that First Night Providence 1995 will go down in merrymaking history.

Weather is no obstacle to enjoying First Night. Nearly every attraction can be enjoyed in indoor comfort, and shuttle buses are available to transport revelers from site to site. Most sites are also within easy walking distance of each other.

First Night admission buttons are on sale at more than 100 locations statewide. Prices are \$7 before Dec. 25 and \$9 during the last week of the year. Children under 6 are admitted free.

Among the outlets are Citizens and Shawmut banks, Christmas Tree Shops, AAA, X-Tra Mart, Taco Bell, CVS, Providence Public libraries, the YMCAs of Greater Providence,

and Peaberry's.

Four-button value packs for \$24 are offered before Dec. 25 at AAA locations, the Rhode Island Mall Customer Service Booth, and the First Night office. VISA and MasterCard are accepted at the First Night office for a minimal service charge. Call 521-1166 for information.

Complete program guides are available wherever buttons are sold. The guide also contains a discount coupon for \$3 parking at the Rhode Island Convention Center Garage.

Buttons entitle holders to all indoor performances and workshops on a first-come, first-served basis, as well as free transportation on the shuttles.

This is a much more memorable way to spend New Year's Eve than sitting at home watching someone on television half-heartedly put in his or her time till the cameras go away and he or she can party somewhere else.

First Night Providence is an independent, non-profit organization and member of the International Alliance of First Night Celebrations. It is one of 125 member cities and towns that sponsor such New Year's events.

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

The First Night package contains several suggested gambits for the afternoon and evening, depending on the tastes and ages of the family members. If you've never "done" First Night before, one of these tours might be a good way to start. Or you could ask each person to pick two things they really want to see —

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Hillel Students

(Continued from Page 1)

comfortable, pro-active Jews," said Richard Joel, international director of Hillel.

Joel said he sees the fellows, who will work under the campus Hillel directors, as complements to Hillel, rather than as competitors.

At Yale University, the Steinhardt Fellow, Jesse Lunin-Pack, has initiated a program where challah is placed in every dining hall on Friday night, according to Saul Zipkin, a sophomore at the college.

Zipkin said that Lunin-Pack had also created a weekly "Seinfeld" study break, during

choices a. and b. When the votes are in, it should be possible to arrange a schedule that ensures that everyone gets to see his or her first or second choice.

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which Jewish students can watch the popular television series together.

"It's a low-commitment way to meet other Jews. I think it's been successful," said Zipkin.

David Finger, a recent graduate of Tufts University, was attracted to the job because it would allow her to "help celebrate their Judaism."

"I say 'celebrate,'" she said, "because there are so many ways to be Jewish. Many people come with pre-conceptions of Judaism. I want to open them up."

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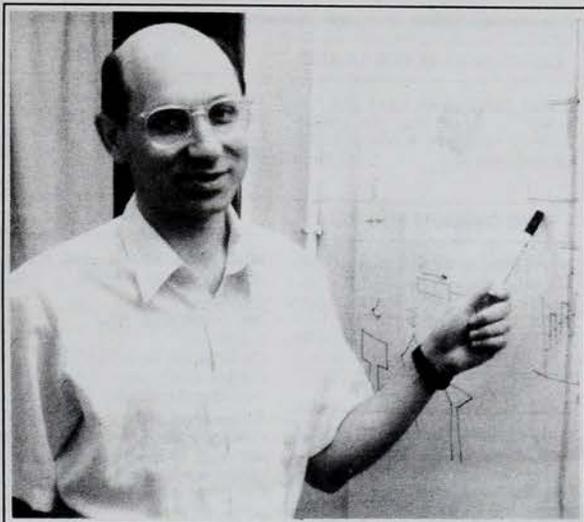
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Dr. Levy Ulanovsky of the Weizmann Institute

Teva Prize to Weizmann Scientist Developed New Gene-Deciphering Technique

A Weizmann Institute scientist who developed a method that may speed up gene deciphering 20- to 50-fold and make it drastically cheaper, was awarded the prize given annually by Teva Pharmaceuticals Ltd. in memory of the company's founders recently.

In existing methods of gene deciphering, or DNA sequenc-

ing, special pointers called primers must be produced at regular intervals to define the starting point for "reading out" each subsequent stretch of DNA. The primers are custom synthesized anew in each case, which is costly and time consuming.

The technique developed by Dr. Levy Ulanovsky and his

team eliminates the need for primer synthesis, thus rendering DNA sequencing fully automatic. Primers are assembled quickly from three "ready-made" segments selected from a so-called "library" rather than produced from scratch. (Simply keeping in stock all possible-primers of a given length would be impractical because their number reaches the billions.)

The savings that may be offered by Ulanovsky's approach are all the more important in light of the growing expenditure on DNA sequencing worldwide, which currently amounts to about \$500 million a year and is doubling every 18 months.

The approach may also greatly accelerate the multinational Human Genome Project, an ambitious \$3 billion, 15-year effort intended to decode all human genes.

This undertaking is expected to have a major impact on the understanding and treatment of a wide range of conditions, from cancer and heart attacks to strokes and aging.

To continue his research, Ulanovsky recently received a three-year \$1.25 million grant from the United States Human Genome Program, which funds the Human Genome Project on behalf of the U.S. government.



Chanukah At The State House

From the left, in back, Rabbi Yehoshua Laufer and Shmuel Berman of Chabad Lubavitch, and Rhode Island State Treasurer Nancy Meyer light a menorah and pray for world peace.

Rifkind Succeeds Moses at AJC

by Avi Aronsky

NEW YORK (JTA) — Robert Rifkind, a prominent New York attorney, has been named president of the American Jewish Committee.

He succeeds Alfred Moses, who took up his post as U.S. ambassador to Romania.

In an interview, Rifkind, 58, said he was not looking to make any sweeping changes. The AJCommittee is "exceptionally well-run," he said, "and right on target on the most critical issues."

Rifkind, a partner at the law firm Cravath, Swaine and Moore, worked previously in the Justice Department as an assistant to the solicitor general.

He has served in a number of leadership positions with the AJCommittee, most recently as chairman of the board of governors.

Looking to the challenges of a new Republican Congress, Rifkind said AJCommittee would be meeting with congressional leaders early next year to "try to get a feel for their commitments to the Jewish

community" and the U.S.-Israeli alliance.

He said he hoped the new leaders will remain "as steadfast as the old" in dealing with issues of relevance to the Jewish world.

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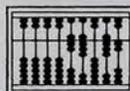
This photograph is in the collection of the Joslin family. Identified is Judge Philip Joslin, seated, third from the left. At the extreme left is Rabbi Israel Goldman. Perhaps one of the *Herald* readers knows the identification of the other illustrious men. The presumption is that they may have posed in the Joslin living room before attending a fund-raising event. Telephone the R.I. Jewish Historical Association office, 331-1360, with your information.

Israeli Cost of Living Up Again

by Naomi Segal

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Israel's cost of living index rose by 1.3 percent during November, the Central Bureau of Statistics has announced.

Increases of 10 percent in the cost of fruits and vegetables were the leading cause for the month's rise in the cost of living, according to the bureau, which estimated the annual inflation rate at close to 15 percent.



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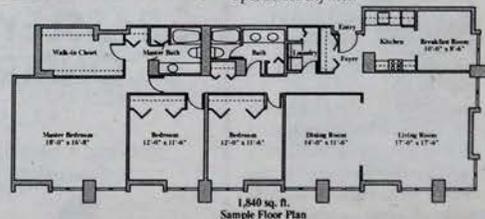
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