

# Rhode Island Jewish HERALD

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

Local Comments  
on Bombing  
PAGE 4

Purim  
PAGES 10, 11, 12

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## How Will the Recent Bombings Affect the Peace Process?

by Neil Nachbar  
Herald Associate Editor

After every terrorist attack in Israel, there is much speculation about how the peace process will be affected.

Following the two suicide bombings on Feb. 25 in Jerusalem and the town of Ashkelon, in which 25 people were killed and dozens of others were injured, possible repercussions seem to be even more in doubt with Israeli elections set for May 29.

"The bombings were very shocking and disturbing, but we must continue with the peace process," said Ofra Farhi, Israeli consul in Boston, by telephone. "It's not time to break our engagement. We must see how we can move forward even stronger."

According to Farhi, most Palestinians don't agree with the actions of militant Islamic groups, such as Hamas, which claimed responsibility for the most recent attacks. She also said there are measures that can be taken to weaken such groups.

"We're trying to contact organizations that raise money for Hamas and convince them not to support them," said Farhi.

As for Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat, Farhi feels there is more that he can do to combat terrorism.

"Some people say to put more pressure on Arafat, but you can't put too much pressure because that may have the opposite result," said Farhi. "He's doing things, but we think he's not doing enough. There are people he knows (terrorists) that he can contact, people he can arrest."

Farhi felt that the bombings won't have a dramatic effect on the upcoming Israeli elections.

"It's very difficult to say because Israel has never been in such a situation before," said Farhi. "It seems that when something like this happens, it strengthens political opinions. But I don't expect tremendous changes."

However, a public opinion poll by the Dahaf Institute, a Tel Aviv research and polling organization, conducted immediately after the bombings showed a sharp drop in public support for Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

Farhi said people who have been thinking of visiting Israel shouldn't change their minds.

"Israel is one of the safest places in the world," she stated. "Usually people don't look at the big picture. I can walk down the streets of Tel Aviv at 2 a.m. and feel perfectly safe. I'm not sure if I can say that about Boston."



### Meeting The President and His Wife

Shula Reinharz and Brandeis University President Jehuda Reinharz meet conference participants recently at Brandeis during a meeting on "Exploring Issues of Gender and Jewish Day School Education."

Photo by Heather Pillar

## Temple Emanu-El to Present Jerusalem 3,000 Weekend

On March 15 to 17, Temple Emanu-El in Providence will host a Jerusalem 3000 Weekend. There will be presentations throughout the weekend by scholar-in-residence Professor Samuel Heilman, a concert of Jerusalem music on Saturday night, delicious meals, and other activities.

Most of the weekend activities are open to the public. Due to limited space, some of the meals may not be open to the entire community.

Heilman, of Queens College and the City University of New York, is a noted Jewish sociologist, author of numerous books and articles and an award-winning teacher. He will give three presentations on several thought-provoking aspects of Jerusalem.

On Friday night, following services and a temple dinner, Heilman will speak on the topic: "Jerusalem — One City or Many?" which will focus on the multi-ethnic neighborhoods and cultural communities — both Jewish and Arab — in today's diverse capital.

On Shabbat morning during services, he will continue his exploration of Jerusalem with the topic: "Jerusalem: A Tapestry in Time." He will explore how differing historical and cultural memories of Jerusalem produced varying spiritual attachments to this holy city.

Following a congregational luncheon, there will be an open-question session on the morning's topic.

Saturday afternoon, Temple Emanu-El teen-agers will have an opportunity to enjoy dinner and an informal conversation with Heilman at a seudah shlishit program.

At the annual Benton A. Odessa Memorial Concert on Saturday night, the community

will be treated to the cantorial singing of the chief cantor of the Great Synagogue of Jerusalem, Naphtali Herstik.

As chief cantor for more than 15 years, he has helped to develop the Great Synagogue's extraordinary music program. The program will include the repertoire of the Great Synagogue, as well as favorite songs about Jerusalem. The cantor will be accompanied by the Temple Emanu-El choir, Choral Club and Youth Choir.

The Jerusalem 3000 Weekend will continue on Sunday morning with a breakfast program, when Heilman will speak about "Jerusalem in the End of Days: Messianism and the Jewish Imagination."

He will explore the role Jerusalem has played in messianic aspirations and in our religious imagination. In this talk, Heilman will discuss the Gush Emunim settlers, the peace process, and his vision of what Jerusalem might look like after peace is achieved.

Throughout the weekend, the temple's Museum Committee will display artwork from The Abraham and Natalie Percelay Museum, as well as from members' collections.

For more information about the weekend, call Temple Emanu-El at 331-1616.

## Security Services on Alert Again

Danger to Ministers  
Increases

by Naomi Segal

JERUSALEM (JTA) — As Israel's election campaign gets under way, security officials have stepped up the protection of Cabinet ministers in the wake of reports that Jewish militants are planning attacks against them.

At the weekly Cabinet meeting, International Security Minister Moshe Shahal said security officials had received information that right-wing Jewish militants had targeted a number of ministers, including Prime Minister Shimon Peres, Environment Minister Yossi Sarid and Shahal himself.

Further underscoring fears for the lives of leading Israeli officials, Peres' daughter, Zvia Valden, told Israel Radio this week that she had received an

anonymous telephone call warning that her father would be assassinated.

A number of ministers blamed Israel's right wing for the atmosphere of threats.

"We have returned to the incitement of the days of Zion Square," Trade Minister Michael Harish was quoted as saying, in a reference to a Likud rally last year in which posters were displayed of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in a Gestapo uniform.

Harsh right-wing rhetoric against Rabin's peace policies with the Palestinians was cited last year for creating the charged political atmosphere in which the assassination of Rabin took place.

A senior security source told the Israeli daily Ha'aretz that in light of the latest warnings of possible attacks against Cabinet

(Continued on Page 19)



Cantor Naftali Herstik

Photo courtesy of Temple Emanu-El



# INSIDE THE OCEAN STATE

## Cancer Prevention Series, Screenings Scheduled by Lifespan

Lifespan acute care hospitals, Rhode Island Hospital and The Miriam Hospital, will sponsor a series of Thursday night nutrition and cancer prevention lectures during March and free screenings for colorectal cancer.

The lectures feature health professionals from each of the hospitals discussing several aspects of cancer and the role of nutrition in preventing the disease.

The series begins with "Everything You Need to Know About Colorectal Cancer," with Steven Schechter, M.D., at 7 p.m. on March 7, in Sopkin Auditorium at The Miriam Hospital.

Second in the series is "The Role of Nutrition, Lifestyle and the Environment in the Prevention of Cancer" with Michael Nissensohn, M.D., also in The

Miriam's Sopkin Auditorium, at 7 p.m. on March 14.

The third lecture, "Eating for Life," will be presented by registered dietitians Kathryn Pennington, Diane Bussick, and Karen Pasquazzi at 7 p.m., March 21, in the George Auditorium at Rhode Island Hospital.

The final lecture will be "Eating to Reduce the Risk of Cancer" by registered dietitian Linda Wilson at 7 p.m., March 28, in the George Auditorium at Rhode Island Hospital.

The free screenings consist of a digital rectal examination and a test to detect blood hidden in the stool, a common indicator of colorectal cancer.

They are intended for people over age 40 who have not had the examinations within the past

year.

The screenings, by appointment only, will be done in the George Clinics at Rhode Island Hospital on March 9 from 1 to 4 p.m., on March 11 from 6 to 8 p.m., and on March 12 from 6 to 8 p.m.

At the Miriam Hospital's Fain health centers, screenings will be done on March 13 from 5 to 8 p.m., on March 18 from 5 to 8 p.m., and on March 19 from 5 to 8 p.m.

Appointments for the screenings and reservations for the lectures can be made by calling the Lifespan Health Connection at 444-4800, or (800) 927-1230.

Parking will be free for the lectures and the screenings.

## Travel to the Caribbean with 'Once on This Island'

Brown University Theatre presents the captivating Caribbean-flavored musical "Once on This Island" from Feb. 29 to March 3 and March 7 to 9 at 8 p.m.; March 10 is a 3 p.m. matinee only. All performances are in Stuart Theatre.

Based on the novel, *My Love, My Love* by Rosa Guy, "Once on This Island" is the story of a romance between Ti Moune, a peasant girl and Daniel, a rich boy from the city whom she saves from death.

The cast of "Once on This Island" includes Leslie Abrams, Justin Bernstine, Michelle

Ferdinand, Daniel Fortin, Julia Grabowski and Rebecca Sederbaum.

Tickets are available at the Leeds Theatre box office, 77 Waterman St., Providence, Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and at Stuart Theatre on performance dates beginning one hour before the show.

Ticket prices are \$11 regular, \$8 senior citizens and Brown faculty/staff, and \$5 for students with a valid identification. Phone reservations are accepted with Visa/Mastercard. For more information or to make reservations, call 863-2838.

## Miriam Offers Fashions to Live For

Yolanda of Boston, an expert in fashion shows, will bring her production to the Rhode Island Convention Center Ballroom on April 16, for the Miriam Hospital Women's Association "Fashion to Live For," program.

Door will open at 10 a.m. to guests who may purchase high style jewelry, handbags and clothing from select vendors.

Lunch will be at noon, and the show will immediately follow at 1 p.m.

Proceeds from the event will benefit The Miriam Hospital Women's Wellness Program to be especially used for the Women with AIDS Program, under the direction of Dr. Charles Carpenter.

Area women's and health organizations have been invited, and area businesses have underwritten the costs of the production.

Chairpersons of the event

area Cheryl A. Blazar and Harriet D. Granoff. Committee members include: Sharon Baron, Maryann Cohen, Jill Goldstein, Lillian Zarum, Barbara Rosen, Terry Lieberman, Patricia G. Cohen, Estelle Klemer, Leonore Leach, Sylvia Brown, Mary Kitzes, Carlyn Summer.

For more information, contact The Miriam Hospital Women's Association office at 331-850, ext. 2520.

## Computing Workshop Will Examine Options and Strategies

NERCOMP, the New England Regional Computing Program, will sponsor a workshop at Brown University for computer users who plan, design, develop and deliver computer

training.

The workshop, open to the public, will be held on March 7 in the Sharpe Refectory, 144 Thayer St., from 8:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Panelists include members of Brown's Computing and Information Services staff as well as speakers from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Bryant College, Wellesley College and Babson College.

They will discuss such topics as World Wide Web publishing, using the Web in the classroom, and strategies and options in computer training.

During the day, software and hardware vendors will be on hand to display their products and answer technical questions.

Conference attendees will also be offered tours of Brown's Center for Information Technology facilities.

The conference is \$50 for NERCOMP members, \$125 for non-members.

For registration information, call (508) 682-4100, send e-mail to nercomp@world.std.com, or visit NERCOMP's web site at <http://www.dartmouth.edu/nercomp>.

The Rhode Island Philharmonic will present another concert in its popular Concerts at Noon series entitled "From Russia with Lunch" on March 8 at noon at Veterans Memorial Auditorium in Providence.

The concert will feature music director candidate F. John Adams leading the orchestra in a performance of Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 6, "Pathétique" and Ravel's dynamic "La Valse."

Adams currently serves as assistant conductor of the Rhode Island Philharmonic. He also serves as the music director of the New Bedford Symphony, conductor of the Concord Chorus and a professor of undergraduate music theory at the New England Conservatory.

The "Lunch with

## DEA Will Process Identification Cards

The Rhode Island Department of Elderly Affairs processes identification cards for persons 60 and older, and disabled persons age 18 to 59, on weekdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 160 Pine St. in Providence.

Persons 60 and older must present proof of age such as a birth certificate, driver's license or Medicare supplement insurance card.

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

Tchaikovsky" concert will last approximately one hour, and is a general admission sit-where-you-want performance. Concertgoers may bring their own lunches, or purchase lunches at the auditorium.

Tickets are \$10 each, with discounts for groups of 10 or more. A complimentary round-trip shuttle bus is available to and from the Rhode Island Convention Center parking garage beginning at 11:15 a.m.

Tickets may be purchased at the Philharmonic office, 222 Richmond St., Providence, by phone, 831-3123, or fax, 831-4577, using Mastercard or Visa, or in person during business hours, Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tickets for the concert are also available at the Veterans Memorial Auditorium box office, beginning March 1, or by phone (272-4VMA) from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. Tickets will be available at the door the day of the performance.

## Hang Out With Dr. Seuss on Sunday

Books on the Square has announced the return of Marc Kohler, puppeteer and storyteller, who will entertain children ages 3 to 8, and their families, with stories from Dr. Seuss, including the infamous *The Cat in the Hat*.

The program is free and open to the public, on March 3 from 2 to 3 p.m. It will be held at the store at 471 Angell St., in Wayland Square, Providence. Call 331-9097 for more details.

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## Directory to this week's Herald

Arts & Entertainment .....	16, 17
Classified .....	19
Editorial .....	4, 5
Features .....	3, 13
Jewish Community .....	6, 7
Obituaries .....	18
Ocean State .....	2
Purim .....	10, 11, 12
Schoolbeat .....	8, 9
World & National .....	14, 15

## Correction

On Page 9 of *The Herald* for Feb. 8, under a picture of Su Zucker working with students at Temple Am David, the caption read: "Su Zucker, formerly of Plantiques..."

Zucker still operates Plantiques but on an appointment-only basis, not out of her familiar East Side shop. We regret this error.



## FEATURE



## Jews in Cape Verde

by Mike Fink  
Herald Contributing Reporter

"Expulsion and Cape Verde" figured as the second of the programs titled "Saudade" sponsored by the Jewish Federation, this feature in conjunction with the University of Massachusetts in Dartmouth.

Dr. Richard Lobban, professor of anthropology at Rhode Island College, presented a brief history of the Jews on the African archipelago. This distinguished scholar, author and journalist has promised to bring photographs of Jewish cemetery headstones in Hebrew characters and to meet for a friendly interview.

There is a movement to seek funds for the restoration of Jewish cemeteries among the Cape Verdean islands. As a prelude to that rendezvous, some excerpts from his recent address may prove of interest to the reader.

"Jews, both in the islands and on the Guinea coast, were at the heart of the Afro-Portuguese merging which became Crioulo (Creole) culture... The former commercial lingua franca has become the national folk language for both Cape Verde and Guinea-Bissau... The commercial skills and higher level of literacy put the Jews in a strong position to have a critical role in an economy and society which otherwise shunned them... Virtually all had African wives and consorts and their subsequent generations continued to play a central and substantial role in the culturo-linguistic melange

which constitutes Cape Verdean Crioulo culture.

"In the Caribbean, in Curacao, Surinam and Jamaica, there were Jewish populations similar to, and linked with, those in West Africa.

"The dimension of Jewish cultural identity unquestionably survives. It is essential to realize that Jews were only brokers within a system fully endorsed by the Portuguese kings who made the greatest fortunes of all.

"For those who single out Jews in the sorry traffic in humans, it must be recalled that African Muslims were earlier into the trade across the Sahara, down the Nile, and in the Indian ocean. It is in these regions of Muslim Africa that the cruel trade still continues to the very present.

"The time for recriminations is long gone. This must be replaced with a celebration of complex roots and relationships in the context of building a new sense of national unity and collective pride."

Something of this collective pride may be growing right here among us, within events like those of the "Saudade" colloquia.

In Cape Verde, pirate and exile, slave and trader, African and European blended into a people with a language, and now an independent nation based upon its own story. One of its principal storytellers lives in Providence.

## 'Cats' Facts at PPAC

"Cats" opened on Broadway at The Winter Garden Theatre on Oct. 7, 1982, where it continues to play to capacity houses to this day.

Since opening in London on May 11, 1981, at the New London Theatre (where it is also still playing), "Cats" has been seen by millions of people.

In addition to four national touring companies in the United States, "Cats" has played or is currently playing in England, Japan, Germany, Hungary, Austria, Canada, Australia, Norway, Finland, the Netherlands, Sweden, France and Mexico. Productions have also performed in Moscow and East Berlin.

Directed by Trevor Nunn, "Cats" has music by Andrew Lloyd Webber based on T.S. Eliot's *Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats* and features a cast of 35 actor/singer/dancers.

In addition to Andrew Lloyd Webber's music and T.S. Eliot's poems, much of "Cats" appeal lies in its spectacular visual elements. Between 2,000 and 2,500 props are built into the set and from any given seat, a viewer is exposed to some 1,500 oversized pieces of toothpaste tubes, broken dishes, discarded cartons and other assorted trash on the junkyard set.

There are more than 100 props used in the show, more than 35 wigs made of yak hair (only Grizabella's wig is human hair), and more than 250 costumes, including headpieces and footwear.

It is hard to imagine that this most successful production had a difficult and painful birth. But as composer Andrew Lloyd Webber and director Trevor Nunn describe it, the creation of "Cats" was full of hurdles and doubt.

The idea to turn T.S. Eliot's book of verse, *Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats*, into a musical occurred to Andrew Lloyd Webber in 1972 when he picked the book up in an airport bookshop.

Reading it in-flight, he recalled that as a child his mother used to read these poems to him and the thought occurred that "they might make a lovely album for children... or something."

A full decade went by before he called on his friend director Trevor Nunn to help him turn Eliot's book of verse into a full-fledged musical. Nunn and Lloyd Webber went into rehearsal with nothing more than bits and pieces of songs based on the poems, but no story or relationships to support a full musical.

It was late in the rehearsal when the key to making the show work was literally handed to them. "Valerie Eliot, T.S. Eliot's widow, came up with this rather crumpled, grubby sheet of typing paper with these eight lines on it at a very late stage," recalled Nunn.

That fragment introduced the character of the lonely haunted Grizabella: The Glamour Cat and, said Nunn, it was the breakthrough they had been waiting for.

"Valerie Eliot said, 'Tom didn't include it in the published work because he said it would be too upsetting for children.' That was the insight," said Nunn. "There's an image of isolation and pain, there's the idea of change. You were something, now you are the opposite. How do you cope with that?"

As the opening night loomed closer, though, Nunn was still troubled.

The show lacked an emotional climax; the "11 o'clock number" that sends the audience out humming. Little did Lloyd Webber and Nunn realize as they began work on this moment that the result would be their toughest hurdle and greatest success. Nunn recalled telling Lloyd Webber "What we need in the show is your big emotional outpouring. You don't have your Puccini aria." The composer resisted the idea initially, but finally agreed to go home and attempt something, though he would make no promises.

So Lloyd Webber went home and — literally overnight composed one of the most popular theatre songs ever. Nunn remembers the moment when he heard the tune for the first time.

"The next morning — I can only assume he'd been up all night, maybe he just jotted it off — he said, 'What about something like this...?' He played it in a rehearsal room where we were having a meeting and I said to everybody 'What's the date, what's the time? Remember it because you have just heard a phenomenal smash hit.'"

That tune, of course, became "Memory." But at that point it was just a melody with no lyrics and, unlike any other song in the show, no poem to adapt or serve as inspiration.

With days to go until performances began, a search was launched for a lyricist who could make the song work and fit in well with the Eliot lyrics which made up the rest of the show. Three separate lyricists tried their hand without success and the pressure was mounting.

Finally, with just days to go, Nunn headed for his country home to write the lyrics himself.

He spent the entire weekend reading and re-reading Eliot's poems, but still could not find a focal point. "How that lyric came about was desperation," Nunn admitted.

I agreed that we should announce that it was based upon two poems by Eliot. Of course, that's not true. He does use the word 'memory,' but that's about it. The 11 o'clock number truly did come at the 11th hour. "Memory" unlocked for Nunn the mystery of how to structure the show.

After coming up with the most memorable show tune in recent years, Lloyd Webber and Nunn should have been able to relax as "Cats" went from rehearsal to previews, but Nunn humorously recalls that time with a shudder.

It's the time when all your supposed friends and colleagues in the business come and are supportive, to see the work at the earliest stage because they just can't wait.

"Actually, what's going on is all your potential enemies are there to celebrate the disaster. The earlier they can come, the bigger the disaster is likely to be — before anybody's had a chance to fix anything."

It has won seven Tony Awards, including best musical, and that 11th-hour song, "Memory," has been recorded more than 600 times, and been an international hit recording for various performers.

## The Lady They Call The Gypsy

by Mike Fink  
Herald Contributing Reporter

I see Riva Leviten among the cafes. She brings a certain Gypsy glamour to your table, in her wildly colored outfits that mix patterns and designs in a kaleidoscope of impressions. And then, she practices a witchcraft of her own, reading your fortune and your character. "I'm a native of California, a creature out of Hollywood," she tells you.

You can have a look at her recent collage artistry at the Art Club on Thomas Street. She is showing an homage to "Alfred," and leaves you guessing about who the great figure is she is honoring. It's Hitchcock of

course, the master of irony and experiment. "I do things my way. Collage design leads to swiping but I invent my own shapes and ideas," says Riva.

Now I have sipped a brew with Riva here and there from Hope Street to Wickenden to Thayer and along toward Moshassuck Square. We used to soak in the Jacuzzi together some seasons ago, and swap stories about the art world. She likes to tell people what she thinks of their destinies, a figure out of dreams, the wise, eternal elder with lots of spirit and spunk.

"Your function in life is to listen to people nobody else will

bother with," she tells me kindly. There are people who use the streets not to move along but to stay put. Lost souls who find themselves among the passersby. Riva has the urge to help and guide them. My drive is only to hear their stories and find some calm for myself in the midst of their storms.

Riva Leviten has the heart and the mind of an artist, and her work has both originality and depth. One time she introduced me to a young man at her table. It turned out he was in fact part Gypsy. "You and you alone bring out the Gypsy in me," goes the lyric of an old song.

That's Riva's special gift. She makes me see the beauty and zest in everybody in the room where she makes her entrances and her exits. We seem to have become part of the same world. She stretches from here to Beverly Hills in the chapters of her life.

I live in Hollywood only among its shadows on familiar local walls and screens. But together we frame a Bohemian world. Providence can take its place among the romantic centers of the world, and Riva Leviten shines like a chandelier among our spaces.



Mike Fink and Riva Leviten Photo by Risa Wolfam

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# EDITORIAL

## We Need Friends to Come to Israel

by Dorothy Wiener

My family lives in Jerusalem. Their children are all succeeding in school, college, high school and public school.

Jerusalem is a wonderful city with its Knesset (Parliament), the Israel Museum, the Bibleland Museum, the new Supreme Court building, music halls and much evidence of historic surroundings. Also, the Hassenfeld Music Esplanade with great musicians, guests and Israeli music geniuses performing, and sharing the world's great works.

Everyone is trying to earn a livelihood and live in peace. It's a pity that their neighbors, a small minority, do not want to live in peace.

I have been to Israel 48 times. I've taken groups there and we were all exposed to our ancient past.

This week the newspapers reported the news that an Arab-American was killed.

Upon closer scrutiny, they found that my 16-year-old niece and other school children were on a bus headed for French Hill. My niece was waiting to change

from one bus to another. Along came this strange Arab American in a car headed for the children. An Israeli saw the children in danger and he shot him to death.

When this Arab American left his friends earlier, he told them he was going to be on television that night.

Israelis want peace. This year, 1996, the Israelis are celebrating the 3,000 years since King David founded Jerusalem. I took a group to Israel in November and we all signed the *Book* at the municipality to bear witness that we came to celebrate Jerusalem's 3,000 years.

The *Book* will be sealed at the end of the year. Only those who signed the *Book* can say that they were there to remember Jerusalem's founding by King David 3,000 years ago.

My group enjoyed sight-seeing in Israel. We need friends to come to Israel to see its inventions, hear its music and bear witness to an ancient history.

We need an even-handed press in the world.

L'Shana Haba V Yerushalayam.

## How Dangerous the Road to Peace Is

by Rabbi Leslie Gutterman  
- Temple Beth-El

I first learned of the latest bombing which Israel sustained when a local television station asked for an interview. My schedule did not permit that, but I did make the time to call dear friends who live in Jerusalem. They told me that the terrorist target was the same bus their son would have taken to the Central Bus Station on his way back to his Army unit. Blessedly, another soldier offered him a ride and so his death was averted. We spoke of the risks all Israelis take just going about their daily business.

To be the victim of random violence is an outrage. I cannot find meaning in that which is essentially meaningless except to affirm that every government's first responsibility is to protect its citizens. It is right that Prime Minister Shimon Peres vowed a "methodical and incessant" war against the militant Islamic movement Hamas. They can hide, but they will surely be found. Terrorism will ultimately be routed out and eliminated.

Israel is also waging a war for peace. The agreements with the Palestinian Authority are in the implementation stage. There is now no turning back. Peres was also right when he exclaimed in the aftermath of this latest wanton attack on innocents that "Murder will not kill the peace process."

Israel has exhibited remarkable courage in reaching out to the Palestinian people who desperately desire and need peace. Islamic fundamentalism is their enemy, too. I was in Gaza City the day before the Palestinian elections. Gaza is a garbage-strewn place of desolation. It has no infrastructure. It is a town of hopelessness. I listened to General Naser Usaf, a hardened soldier, who is head of Palestinian Security. He bemoaned the breakdown of the Palestinian family during the Intifada uprising. Gang leaders, 18- and 19-year-old youths, became role models instead of mothers and fathers. Young boys were throwing rocks instead of studying and then they failed their exams. Palestinian cultural patterns were disrupted. Stable

family life can flourish only in times of peace. Palestinians need jobs which will come only with a lasting peace.

The next day we met Prime Minister Peres in Jerusalem. He spoke eloquently of the miracle of Jewish history. "Our people," he said, "have experienced expulsion, mass murder, loss of a common language, the adoption of foreign mentalities, and still returned to its homeland to build a state by a democratic process. Israel has become pre-eminent in agriculture, education and the military."

The Prime Minister spoke of the uncertainties inherent in the peace process. It is as if there are two convoys on parallel paths. "One is filled with hope, accommodation, reasonable compromise and the prospect for peace. The other is a convoy of danger and disaster, including rogue states such as Libya, Iraq and Iran striving to achieve nuclear capability."

Peres prayed the first convoy would reach its destination first. Last week's tragedy reminds us of how dangerous that road to peace has become.

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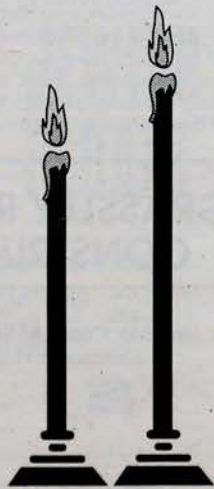
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**Candlelighting**  
**March 1, 1996**  
**5:17 p.m.**



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

## Reach For It

In the past decade or so, anthropological discoveries in Africa have caused scientists to re-estimate numerous times the tenure of humans on earth. Not long ago, they thought our species was a million years old — babes in the grand scheme of living things.

Then their figure was raised to 2 million, 3 million and now more than 4 million years ago. Oops.

The Hubble space telescope

gave science another reason to rewrite the rule book when it took the clearest picture yet of a small portion of space, revealing far more galaxies than were imagined to be there. The long-standing estimates of a 10-billion galaxy universe had to be erased. This new evidence suggests 40 or 50 billion galaxies.

Oops. This kind of news occasionally causes people to discount the capabilities of scientists who

are trying to fathom G-d's wonders.

But they may as well put away that smirk, because the scientists are actually doing their work according to the plan. And many of these scientists are true believers as well.

Last week's portion, Mishpatim, reveals numerous civil laws that G-d delivered to us. The mishpatim ("judgments") are one category of mitzvot, the ones dictated by reason, such as prohibitions against theft and murder. The other two categories

(Continued on Page 5)



## Building a Sanctuary

As we read in last week's Torah portion, Teruma, the commandment to erect a sanctuary to G-d was given to the Jewish people as a whole — men, women, and, as explained in the Midrash, even young children — regardless of their stature or level of knowledge.

"All Jews," Maimonides wrote, "are obligated to build and support it... both physically and through contributions; men and women, as they were required in the desert."

Upon reflection, this is an astounding requirement, taking into consideration the significance of the sanctuary and the function it performed. The erection of the sanctuary marked a truly unique innovation, the institution of a phenomenon that had never existed before.

For the first time in history, G-d's divine presence would dwell in a physical structure. But how could such a thing be possible? Or, as the prophet phrased it, "The highest heavens cannot contain You; how can this house?"

Our astonishment is even

greater when one considers that even the simplest Jew was called upon to effect this.

Furthermore, we learn from the verse, "And they shall bring to Me a contribution," that the contributions to the sanctuary had to be made with a pure intent, solely for the glory of G-d's name.

This highest level of service of G-d, on which a person "does the truth because it is true," is not something which is attained by all; in fact, our sages commented that "not every wise man can merit it."

How then could G-d have expected this level of service from each and every individual, without exception?

The answer lies in the essential change that took place in the nature of the Jewish people when the Torah was revealed on Mount Sinai.

At Sinai, G-d took the Jews, a "regular" people like any other, and transformed them into "a kingdom of priests and a holy nation."

Forever after, every Jew

would be connected to G-d by virtue of his "pintele Yid," the essential spark of Jewishness that can never be obliterated. Since Sinai, no Jew can cut himself off from G-d, no matter how hard he may try.

The inner desire of every Jew is to fulfill G-d's command; if this basic truth is not reflected in his outward behavior, it is only because he has allowed himself to be influenced by the evil inclination.

Moreover, we are promised that "A person who serves G-d with an ulterior motive will eventually come to serve Him for the sake of His name." For, in truth there are no ulterior motives, as the Jew's inner desire is solely to serve his creator and carry out his will.

Thus every Jew, even the most untutored, has been given the power to build a sanctuary in which G-d can dwell in the physical world. For the mere fact that he possesses a Jewish soul places him on the highest of all possible spiritual levels.

Adapted from *Sefer HaSichot of the Rebbe*, 5752. Vol. 2. Submitted by Rabbi Yehoshua Laufer.



## EDITORIAL

## Providence Marks 200th Year

To the Editors and Herald Readers:

It has been some time since I wrote one of my nostalgia pieces for the Herald — I simply ran out of memories that were interesting enough to commit to paper.

But a recent event in our little town may be worth noting.

My address, as you surely note, is Galway, N.Y. I do not, however, live in Galway — it is simply the nearest post office in Saratoga County, of which my town is a small part. That town is Providence (which has no post office of its own).

Hence, the enclosed article, which is pretty much self-explanatory, as far as it goes.

(We paraphrase the enclosed article "Providence Marks 200th Year" by Stephen Williams of the Daily Gazette.)

Providence stretches from the foothills of the Adirondacks in the south, to the Great Sacandaga Lake, and it is still "wilderness country."

Forests have provided most of Providence's economic base. During the early 20th century, a tuberculosis hospital (located there because the air was so healthful) also provided income and employment.

This upstate New York Providence currently has 1,360 residents. The town was originally founded after local residents

voted to separate themselves from nearby Galway (an independent group of name-sakes, obviously).

Actually, since the town was settled mostly by people from Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island, and since the town was named after Rhode Island's capital city, the display of rugged independence seems only natural.

The deliberate flooding of the Sacandaga River to create Sacandaga Lake, in 1930, sent the former bustling little community into a decline. But it is surging back.

150 people have been added to the town rolls in the last decade or so.

But, said town historian Mary Packer, whose family ran a nearby general store for years, "...we don't want it to grow too fast."

At the present time, my wife Rosalie (Korman) and I appear to be about the only active Jews in Providence. We know, for certain, of one mixed marriage in town, and we believe there may be two or three additional households with one or two Jewish members.

Since Providence is more than a dozen miles from any sizeable city, we have to travel quite a distance to a synagogue. In a way, this is an advantage — it

gave us a wide choice of affiliation when we moved here.

Saratoga Springs, some 20 miles away, offers three choices — one of each of the major Judaic persuasions.

Schenectady, 25 miles away, likewise offers the three alternatives.

Amsterdam, 12 miles away, has a Conservative congregation, and Gloversville, also at a distance of 12 miles, is the home of Knesseth Israel, the Conservative synagogue to which we belong.

We have lived in this Providence for 17 years; almost as long as I lived in Providence, R.I., where my wife and I were born.

We enjoy the rural atmosphere of this part of New York, and we value the friendships that have developed here.

Still, there is a soft spot in our hearts for the Providence of our youth.

Our infrequent visits there have revealed the tremendous changes that have taken place since we left 48 years ago. Nevertheless, the good friends and well-loved relatives that remain there are a reminder of the times and places in which we grew up.

Hal Bloom  
Providence, N.Y.

## Divine Higher Math

Welcome to geometry class. Today we're going to study mathematical mysteries.

Consider, for instance, the tesseract. Taken from the ancient word for a square tile, tesser, the term refers to a cube with unusual properties. Imagine that each side of this cube represents a different cube. Yet all six of them are folded into one object: six occupying the space of one.

Impossible? Well, you can't buy one from Hammacher Schlemmer, but maybe you can hold this fascinating idea in your head.

Let's move on to spiritual mathematics. Imagine the Mishkan, the traveling sanctuary described in great architectural detail in this week's portion, Terumah.

Forerunner of the Beit HaMikdash which stood in Jerusalem, the Mishkan had three parts: the outer court, 100 cubits by 50 (a cubit was a unit of measure based on the forearm, about 18 inches); the inner court, with the altar of sacrifice and a laver for the priests; and the tabernacle, which had the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies, where the Ark of the Covenant rested.

It's vital to note that the plans for this construction were laid out with excruciating exactitude: any deviation made the object unsuitable for inclusion.

The width of the Holy of

Holies was 20 cubits. The Ark of the Covenant, positioned lengthwise, was 2.5 cubits long. Yet there were 10 cubits from either edge of the ark to the wall. In other words, the physical ark occupied no space!

Impossible? Well, you can't buy one from the Judaica catalog, but here's how to hold this idea in your head:

Just as with the tesseract, the Ark represents the fusion of finiteness and infinity. It has a measure, yet is above the plane of space. G-d transcends the finite to the infinite, yet manifests Himself in both.

If you use a computer, you know that some programs are compressed "in order to fit on a disk, and "decompress" when you open them up. Where was all that information when it was compressed? You didn't add water. Yet suddenly the program became bigger.

On a more compelling level, if the G-dly light were revealed fully, it would nullify all matter just by its magnitude. Somehow, G-d compresses His life-energy so that we can experience it on our level.

One more lovely mystery: the Mishkan had windows. To let light in? No, to let divine light out into the world. To receive it, all you have to do is open the windows of your soul.

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## AJCongress Asks African-American Leaders to Denounce Farrakhan

Following Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan's visits to Libya and Iran, where he denounced the United States, The American Jewish Congress recently called on mainstream African-American leaders "to let Farrakhan know their sense of betrayal over his recent actions and words, and to let him and the world know that he does not speak for them."

The statement, written by AJCongress President David V. Kahn and Executive Director Phil Baum, follows:

"Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan's recent forays into foreign policy, in which he has allied himself with America's mortal enemies, should serve as a wake-up call to mainstream African-American leaders who supported Farrakhan's Million Man March and who stood by him in the Washington sunshine in October.

"This, we know, is not what they had in mind. They have been had.

"The thousands who turned out because of sincere commit-

ment to the announced purposes of the march could not have expected nor desired that Farrakhan would quickly move to exploit their support by a tour of friendship with some of the worst despots and demagogues in the Middle East.

"According to Iran's official news agency, Farrakhan referred to the Tehran government as a "perfect" model for religious democracy and denounced the United States as the "Great Satan," which of course is the Iranian regime's expression of hatred for this country.

"Previously, in Libya, Farrakhan and strongman Muammar Qaddafi agreed to work together to influence U.S. elections and foreign policy, financed by the Libyan's pledge to spend \$1 billion on Muslim causes in the United States.

"While they may have agreed with Farrakhan's message of Black self-sufficiency and improved family values, which formed the rationale for the

march, those African-American leaders who supported the October mobilization must now realize that the increased legitimacy they conferred upon Farrakhan through their support of the march has backfired. Instead of being used to provide promised benefits at home, this new legitimacy has been used primarily to gain credibility with leaders of world terrorist regimes.

"Farrakhan doubtless asserts that he speaks for these leaders while denouncing America. We call on them to let Farrakhan know their sense of betrayal over his recent actions and words, and to let him and the world know that he does not speak for them.

"We also call upon the Justice Department to look into federal laws that may have been broken by Farrakhan's journey — for example passport laws and economic sanctions imposed on Libya by the President — and if there are violations, to take strong and appropriate action."

## Zionist Convention Set for April

A coalition of Zionist and Jewish-national organizations has announced plans for an International Zionist Convention to be held on April 21 in New York City.

This convention will serve as a vehicle to inspire a revival of the original Zionist ideals, to renew the Jewish bond with the land of Israel, and reestablish a sense of the Jewish people's special and unique connection to that land.

The convention will bring together intellectuals, religious leaders, and community activists from the United States, France, England and Israel, in order to map out a strategy to implement these goals.

Midge Decter, member of the Zionist convention steering committee, said, "True Zionism, I believe, rests upon this bedrock principle: Jews must have a haven in a sovereign Jewish state whose boundaries combine our religious patrimony with maximum security for its citizens."

Rabbi Chaim Kaminetzky,

president of the National Council of Young Israel, comprised of 200 synagogues, added, "The time has come to end the confusion and counteract the negative influence of recent attempts to adapt Zionist ideology to current political initiatives, which have obscured the real goal and purpose to Jewish national consciousness."

Herbert Zweibon, chairman of Americans for a Safe Israel, said, "The convention will reaffirm the view held by David Ben-Gurion, Israel's first prime minister, who declared before the Zionist Congress in Basle in 1937, 'No Jew has the right to yield the rights of the Jewish people in Israel. No Jew has the authority to do so. No Jewish body has the authority to do so. Not even the entire Jewish people alive today has the authority to yield any part of Israel. It is the right of the Jewish people over the generations, a right which under no condition can be cancelled.'"

Submitted by Americans for a Safe Israel.

## Reach For It

(Continued from Page 4)

ries are eidus ("testimonials"), about rituals, and chukim ("decrees"), suprarational commands we may not understand but do not question.


Why three categories? The whole body of mishpatim, as we can see in the Ten Commandments, is the first evidence of G-d's will and wisdom, that portion we can easily understand and willingly follow.

This establishes a bond with G-d that then grows stronger, as we penetrate the further dimensions of mitzvot.

The plan, therefore, is to lead us up the scale gradually, as we ourselves grow in wisdom. The discovery of the mishpatim whets our appetite for further revelation, just as the recent discovery of the first planets outside our solar system replenished our desire to know more.

There is no conflict between scientific inquiry and faith; they are both a search for the truth from different perspectives. In fact, it is faith that propels inquiry — the belief that there is yet more to know. Or, as the poet noted more elegantly, "...a man's reach should exceed his grasp, or what's a heaven for?"

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# THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

## JCCRI Celebrates 'Leaven Heaven'

### Make Your Reservations Now

It's April 2, just hours before the beginning of Passover. Ever dutiful, you've emptied the refrigerator of breads, cereals, pizza, pasta, hamburger rolls... the list goes on. You don't even have popcorn or pretzels for late-night snacks.

One option would be to scrimp by and go with the roll-less hamburger meal or a potato platter.

How about a second option? The Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island is holding "Heaven Leaven," a full-blown pre-Passover feast complete with games, raffles and Klezmer music.

The get-together, which is open to the public, will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. April 2 at the JCCRI's social hall in Providence.

"Rather than brooding at home, we want families and friends to enjoy their last 'hametz' supper with us," said JCCRI Executive Director Vivian Weisman. "The event will be strictly fun with games for kids and entertainment for adults."

Weisman said the meal will include pasta, hamburgers and hot dogs.

For more information or to make reservations, call the JCCRI's Debbie Blitz at 861-8800, ext. 116, or Evy Rappaport at 861-8800, ext. 117.

JCCRI members can pay in advance. The cost is \$5 per person, with a maximum of \$20 per family. Tickets purchased at the door will cost \$1 more.

The cost for non-members is \$6 per person, with a maximum of \$25 per family. Tickets purchased at the door will cost an extra \$1.

The event will also be a benefit for a local food bank. Donations of hametz foods, canned goods and other non-perishable items will be collected at the door. Contributors of food will receive a free raffle ticket for a prize.

The JCCRI is also holding a community seder at 6 p.m. on April 4, at its Elm Grove Avenue location. The service will be led in English and Russian so that everyone can hear the story of Exodus and participate in the holiday.

The cost will be \$15 for adults and \$8 for children 2 to 12 years. Children under 2 will be admitted at no charge.

Prepaid reservations should be made by March 29.

For more information, contact Sue Robbio at 861-8800.

## PBS Video 'Fires in the Mirror' to be Shown at Agudas Achim

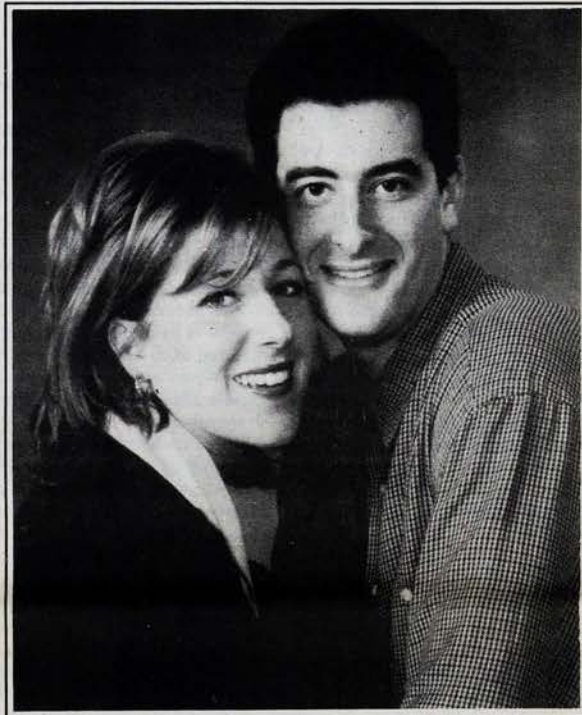
In a belated celebration of Black History Month, Congregation Agudas Achim will be showing the video, "Fires in the Mirror" on March 2, at 7 p.m. at the synagogue, 901 North Main St., Attleboro.

This video, as shown on PBS, is a one-woman performance by Anna Deavere Smith exploring the tensions between Jews and blacks following a car accident resulting in the death of a young black boy and the subsequent

death of a Chassidic student in Crown Heights, N.Y., in 1991.

After the movie there will be an opportunity to discuss reactions and thoughts relative to the current state of black-Jewish relations.

There is no charge for this event. Light refreshments will be served. All are invited to attend. For more information, contact the synagogue at (508) 222-2243.



Julie Volin and Kenneth Gray

## Attention Herald Readers and Advertisers!

Reserve greetings space now for our 1996

# Passover Issue

Thursday, March 28, 1996

Wish your relatives and friends in the Jewish community a Joyous Pesach

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## Volin and Gray Are Engaged

Sidney and Arline Volin of Sharon, Mass., have announced the engagement of their daughter, Julie Ann, to Kenneth Lee Gray, son of David and Joan Gray of Dix Hills, N.Y.

A 1986 graduate of Sharon High School, the bride-to-be received a bachelor of arts degree from the School of Management at Syracuse University in 1990. She is employed by Saks Fifth Avenue, New York, as the women's designer shoe buyer.

Her fiancé, a graduate of South Side High School in Rockville Centre, N.Y., received his degree from Tulane University. He is vice president of sales for Bushwick Commission Company in Farmingdale, N.Y.

The bride-to-be is the granddaughter of Harold and Shirley Coleman of Cranston, and the late Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Volin of Spring Valley, N.Y. Her fiancé is the grandson of Rhoda Koondell of Boca Raton, Fla., and the late Jack Koondell and Ruth Gray of Tamarac, Fla., and the late Leo Gray.

An April 1996 wedding is planned.

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# THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Reform and Conservative Synagogues Sponsor Social Action Conference

Reform and Conservative synagogues will be holding a Regional Social Action conference on March 6 from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Congregation Mishkan Tefila in Chestnut Hill, Mass.

Working in partnership with the Jewish Community Relations Council and the synagogue Council of Massachusetts and supported by funding from a Ford Foundation grant, the two movements will bring together Conservative and Reform rabbis, social action committees and members of congregations to

discuss our Jewish response to issues of persistent poverty and proposed welfare reforms.

Meeting at the UAHC offices recently, Conservative and Reform rabbis sat together to choose appropriate texts on social justice which participants will study in small groups at the start of the conference. It is the hope of the conference planners that synagogue social action teams will develop skills which enable them to implement social service and social change programming as well as strengthen working relation-

ships between Reform and Conservative congregations, JCRC and the Synagogue Council.

The conference planning team includes Aaron Kishel and Susan Cole (United Synagogue), Rabbi David Wolfman, Audrey Wilson and Susan Levin (UAHC), Nancy Kaufman, Randi Donnis and David Jaffe (JCRC), and Alan Teperow (Synagogue Council).

Information about the conference can be obtained by calling Susan Levin, conference administrator at the UAHC (617) 449-0404.

## Course to Examine How Female Survivors Are Portrayed

The Adult Enrichment Committee at Temple Beth-El in Providence has announced a new three-week course to run from March 6 through 27, from 8:15 to 9:15 p.m., at the temple, 70 Orchard Ave. in Providence.

The course, entitled, "Portrayals of Female Holocaust Survivors," will examine the way women have been depicted in Holocaust literature.

Two short texts will be used for study, *The Shawl* by Cynthia Ozick and *Enemies, A Love Story* by Isaac Bashevis Singer, and these will be used as a springboard for a discussion of women's experiences in the Holocaust.

The books are available at Books on the Square and participants should begin to read them before the first class. The course will be led by Valerie

Sandler, a graduate of Yale University, who is currently a graduate student in Jewish studies at Brandeis University. Sandler teaches courses in Jewish studies in the Boston area.

Registration may be made by phone. There is a \$10 registra-

tion fee per family per academic year, so if you or a member of your family took a course in the fall, you will not need to pay any additional fees.

For further information, call the Temple Beth-El office at 331-6070.

## Hadassah Donor Kickoff Luncheon Announced

The Pawtucket and Providence groups of Hadassah will hold a joint Donor Kickoff on March 6 at the Jewish Community Center, with the coffee hour at 12:30 p.m., followed by the meeting and program at 1 p.m.

The two groups have announced that the speaker for the kick-off will be Dr. Yaacov

Amidi, director of the Hadassah College of Technology in Jerusalem.

This program has been planned by the presidiums of the two groups: Providence — Claire Bell, Shirley Chernick and Muriel Leach; Pawtucket — Rosalind Bolusky, Elaine Kroll and Ruth Shein.



BOBBIE STEINBACH and Lori Glaser star in the "New Purims of 1996" at the Striar Jewish Community Center in Stoughton, Mass.

Photo courtesy of the Striar JCC

## JCC in Stoughton Presents 'New Purims of 1996'

The Striar Jewish Community Center, 445 Central St., Stoughton, Mass., gives spring a rollicking, early kick-off by presenting "New Purims of 1996," a musical comedy cabaret on March 16 at 8 p.m.

Starring Bobbie Steinbach and Lori Glaser, both of whom were members of a touring production of the hit musical, "Nunsense," when they first met, "New Purims of 1996" is a

blend of comedic showstoppers, hilariously drawn character sketches and poignant ballads.

Wayne Barker on piano is musical director.

Group rates are available to this show. The auditorium is handicapped accessible and there is ample free parking.

Tickets cost \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members. Call (617) 341-2016, ext. 294.

## Everyone Laughed at Ocean State

Temple Am David, Warwick, sponsored an evening of Charlie Hall's Ocean State Follies Feb. 18. More than 125 people laughed at the Rhode Island political scene and at themselves — "Rho' Dislanders."

The show was a complete night out including a deli dinner before the show and dessert at intermission.

The Follies poked fun at celebrities like Gov. Lincoln Almond, and former Gov. Bruce Sundlun, Congressman Jack Reed, Mayor of Providence Buddy Cianci, Doug White, Ginger Casey, Arlene Violet and Maryanne Sorrentino. They covered the Ocean State.

Attendees to the performance began laughing the moment the

show began and didn't stop until the program was over.

Temple Am David's next major social program will be their annual raffle dance which is scheduled for April 20. This event will include dinner, dance, and a chance to win more than \$500.

For more information, call the temple at 463-7944.



CO-CHAIRWOMEN Lorraine Rappoport and Fran Weisman practice teeing off for the Hadassah Golf Tournament on May 20.

## Golf, Anyone?

*Hadassah Tournament Coming*

The Rhode Island Chapter of Hadassah's second annual golf tournament will be held on May 20, at Valley Country Club in West Warwick.

The event will benefit Hadassah's breast cancer awareness program.

For information on playing in the tournament or becoming a sponsor, call the office at 463-3636.

## The 'Dentist' Visits Borders

On March 5 at 7 p.m., Borders Book Shop in Garden City Center, Cranston, will present "Holocaust Memoir."

Benjamin Jacobs, author of *The Dentist of Auschwitz: A Memoir*, will be at Borders to discuss this first person account of the horrors of living in Nazi Concentration Camps. Thanks to his case of dental tools and rudimentary dental skills, he was able to survive.

Call Borders at 944-9160 for more information.



EAT, DRINK, AND BE MERRY, like these folks at Temple Am David's recent night out with Charlie Hall's Follies.





# SCHOOLBEAT



## 'JNF on Campus' Sponsors First Eco-Zionism Conference

A conference sponsored by the Jewish National Fund's JNF on Campus division, which provides college students with information about "Eco-Zionism" and promotes Jewish environmental awareness, will be held from March 22 to 24 in Tucson, Ariz.

Co-sponsors of the conference include the Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life, the International Arid Lands Consortium, The University of Arizona Hillel and Arizona State University Hillel.

"Participants in the conference will gain a renewed feeling of spirituality and a respect for what has been accomplished to preserve and renew the environment," said Michael Rabkin, a JNF student activist at the University of Colorado at Boulder, and a member of the Eco-Zionism Conference planning committee.

At the upcoming conference, students will "study Torah and flora while hiking in the mountains," said Aliza Kline, JNF on Campus' national coordinator.

The program will feature talks by experts from the IALC on desert ecology in America and Israel; a tour of Biosphere 2; an "Eco-Shabbat" in the midst of the Arizona landscape; a meeting with Native Americans who share our environmental ethics; a briefing on Israeli-Arab cooperation on protecting the Middle Eastern environment, and training in JNF campus leadership skills.

The cost of the Eco-Zionism Conference, including all programs, room and meals, is \$75.

Participants will stay in cabins at the Triangle Y Ranch

Camp in Oracle, Ariz., 40 miles north of Tucson. Attendees must bring their own bedding (sleeping bags are suggested). All food will be vegan and strictly kosher. Free transportation will be provided from the Phoenix and Tucson airports on Friday afternoon.

Travel to Arizona is not included in the fee. Subsidies may be available; consult the local Hillel professional or JNF office.

For applications, contact Aliza Kline (212) 879-9300, ext. 330, or send e-mail to jnfoncamp@aol.com or jnfboston@aol.com.

## Non-Credit Courses At BCC

Bristol Community College is offering many non-credit courses during the month of March.

Low Cal Dessert will meet on March 4. This seminar discusses an assortment of low fat and low sugar creations. Prepare and sample the fabulous desserts with gourmet coffee and a desert wine.

Chinese Wok Cooking will meet on March 28. Spend one evening learning how to prepare and sample an assortment of menu items using the Chinese wok.

Real Estate Law will meet on March 5. In this seminar, learn about buying and selling a house, making an offer and accepting one, signing the purchase and sales agreement, getting your mortgage from appli-

cation to commitment, as well as landlord and tenant rights.

Getting into the Touring Spirit: An Introduction to Bicycle Touring. This course will meet on Thursdays for three weeks starting March 28. Learn how to care for yourself before, during, and after a bicycle ride.

Healthy Eating and Self-Esteem is a seminar meeting on March 28 and April 4. Learn about the connection between healthy nutrition and emotional well-being. Identify physical and emotional hunger, examine societal influences on a personal body image, and generate ways of building and maintaining a healthy self-esteem.

For additional information on many other non-credit courses, call (508) 678-2811, ext. 2269.

## Soltner Is 100th Distinguished Visiting Chef at Johnson & Wales

With 99 equally great chefs having paved the way, Johnson & Wales University College of Culinary Arts recently rolled out the red carpet for its milestone 100th distinguished visiting chef—the legendary André Soltner, for more than three decades the chef-owner of the world-renowned restaurant Lutèce in New York City.

The godfather of French chefs in America, Soltner spent three days at the Providence campus, touring the school's state-of-art facilities and talking with faculty and culinary arts students.

The highlight of the prestigious visit was a three-hour cooking demonstration by Chef Soltner before a packed audience of students who rose to their feet to give the much-respected chef a thunderous standing ovation.

"This is a great time for chefs," Soltner told the students. "It is the nicest work in the world, but you must be very serious if you decide to make it your career. It is very demanding, but no other job is as rewarding. There are opportunities for chefs the world over..."

## Receive a Ph.D. for Free

Who has not dreamed of a free education?

Now, through the generosity of the Revson Foundation, one graduate student at the Jewish Theological Seminary will become the Simon H. Rifkind Scholar in Advanced Jewish Studies and receive tuition and other costs for five years of study.

The grant, worth \$25,000 a year, honors the memory of Judge Simon H. Rifkind whose life was bound up with JTS for the better part of a century.

One of the creators of the Revson Foundation, Rifkind

was a prominent federal judge and senior partner of his law firm Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison; and a graduate of the JTS Teachers' Institute (now the Albert A. List College of Jewish Studies).

A peerless lay spokesman and supporter of the seminary, Rifkind served as chairman of the JTS board and became a lifetime board member.

The recipient of the scholarship will be an outstanding entering scholar with demonstrated vision, wisdom and high character. For more information, call (212) 678-8953.

## Music School Marches Ahead

### Spring Brings on Puns

On March 4, from 8:15 to 9:45 p.m., there will be a lecture by Martin Gardiner, Ph.D., on Symphonic #6, "Pathétique," by Tchaikovsky. It will be performed by R.I. Philharmonic on March 8 and 9. The lecture will be given at The Music School, 101 Sessions St., Providence.

The same talk will be given on March 6, noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center, 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence; and on March 7, from 5:45 to 7:15 p.m., and on March 9 from noon to 1:30 p.m. at The Music School. There is a \$15 fee. A shorter version (1/2 hour) of this talk will be presented 45 minutes before the concert itself. The fee for this program is \$5. Call Gardiner at 949-2729 for more details.

On March 10 at 4 p.m. there will be a program entitled, "A Little Light Music: Serenades, Divertimenti and Divertissements for Strings," which is a Providence Chamber Music Society concert at the Gov. Henry Lippett House Museum. Admission will be \$9, \$6 for students and seniors. Call 453-0688 for reservations.

On March 16, from 1 to 2:30 p.m., there will be a St. Patrick's Day Irish music and dance fest for dancers and instrumentalists.

Fiddlers, guitarists, flutists and banjo players are welcome to join members of the Irish band, Devine's Diner, to learn traditional Irish songs. Dancers will work with an Irish dance instructor. The fee for this program is \$25. Jimmy Devine and Laura Travis will be featured. The event will be held at The Music School at Nathan Bishop Middle School, 101 Sessions St., Providence. Call 272-9877 for more details.

On March 23 from 9 a.m. to

12:30 p.m., there will be a workshop on performance anxiety. This workshop addresses the basic causes of performance anxiety and presents basic strategies for coping with it effectively. Katy Roth will lead the program. There will be a fee of \$30. It will be held at the school.

On March 26 from 7:30 to 9 p.m., there will be a community sing with songwriter and storyteller Bill Harley and folk singer Marcia Taylor. This is for all ages and all voices. Call 272-9877 for more details. The fee will be \$3, at the door. There will be a minimal charge for sheet.

On March 29 from 6 to 11 p.m. SCORE will hold The Music School's annual fund-raising auction. Trips, antiques, art and other great buys will be offered for bids. Light dinner and entertainment are provided. The program will be at the Biltmore Hotel. Proceeds support the school. There is a fee of \$35 per person, \$300 per table of ten. Call 272-9877 for more information or reservations.

On March 30, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., performance anxiety will be battled with advanced strategies. A workshop will go beyond the basics to help participants develop more strategies for dealing with this common problem. Katy Roth will lead the workshop at The Music School, Nathan Bishop Middle School, 101 Sessions St., Providence. The fee is \$30. Call 272-9877 for more details.

On March 30, from 1 to 4 p.m., there will be a program on Feldenkrais Awareness Through Movement®. This workshop gives an introduction to the work of internationally acclaimed physicist and healer Moshe Feldenkrais. Laura French will lead the group. There is a fee of \$30. The program will be held at the school. Call 272-9877 for more details.

## See the Stars at Wheaton

Venus and the "Beehive" star cluster will come into view this month at the Wheaton College Observatory.

Visitors to the observatory's open houses on March 7, 14 and 28 should be able to see Venus, the "Beehive" star cluster, the Orion Nebula and the "Whirlpool" galaxy.

The moon will be visible on March 28 only.

The college's observatory

open houses, which run from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. every Thursday that classes are in session, are free and open to the public. The public can utilize the facility's seven computerized 12-inch telescopes and two computerized 14-inch telescopes.

Because the observing deck is outside, visitors should dress appropriately for the weather. If conditions appear doubtful, call (508) 286-3937 for cancellation information.

## Specialized Training

New England Institute of Technology has developed a specially designed education training program for any Almacs employee who was displaced when the food chain store closed. The program was developed between the college and the state's job training partnership act program.

Computerized Office Technology is the official title of the program and gives students enough business and computer skills to be marketable.

For information on this program, contact the admissions office at 467-7744.

## Open House for Cranston East

An open house for present eighth-grade students (and their parents) planning to attend Cranston High School East, will be held in the auditorium on March 5.

The schedule begins at 7 p.m. and includes an auditorium program, a program with department chairpersons, and informal tours of the building.

Refreshments — compliments of the high school — will be available.

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# SCHOOLBEAT



## Program in Judaic Studies to Present Holocaust Films

Brown University's program in Judaic studies will present three upcoming films on the Holocaust.

The film "The Wannsee Conference" will be shown at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 29, in Room 1418 of the Sciences Library, 201 Thayer St., Providence. This 1988 film recreates the Wannsee Conference of January 1942, at which Nazi leaders planned the Final Solution.

The films titled "The Story of Chaim Rumkowski and the Jews of Lodz" and "Night and Fog" will be presented at 7:30 p.m. on

March 7, also in Room 1418 of the Sciences Library.

"The Story of Chaim Rumkowski..." is a 1982 documentary which examines the tragic moral dilemmas confronting Jews during World War II by focusing on the role of the Nazi-appointed Jewish councils.

In the 1955 film "Night and Fog," Alain Resnais contrasts past and present in a film that documents the nightmare of the concentration camps.

Admission is free for all three films and the public is welcome.

## UMass Dartmouth to Sponsor Safety and Health Institute

The Arnold M. Dubin Labor Education Center at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth and the Massachusetts Committee on Safety and Health are co-sponsoring a five-week, non-credit Safety and Health Institute at the UMass Dartmouth campus.

Classes will be held on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the Liberal Arts and Business building, Room 119, from March 5 to April 2. Parking is available in lots 1 and 2 on campus.

Registration for the five-week

program is \$40 per person and includes class materials. For 10 or more people from the same union, registration is \$35 per person. Registrations will be accepted at the first class on March 5.

Checks should be made payable to Labor Education Center, UMass Dartmouth, 285 Old Westport Road, N. Dartmouth, MA, 02747-2300.

For additional information, contact Jose Soler at the Labor Education Center by calling (508) 999-8007.

## Smith Exhibits Paintings

Rhode Island College's Banister Gallery will be the site of an exhibit of four decades of paintings by art professor Don Smith of Johnston.

The exhibit opens Feb. 29, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the gallery which is located in the RIC Art Center.

The exhibit continues through March 29. Smith will talk about his art March 6 at 7 p.m. in the

gallery.

The exhibit and talk are free and open to the public.

A noted artist, Smith's rigorous thinking and diligent commitment to the art of painting have been evident throughout his career — a span of time that has taken the common understanding of art, visual images, and reality, on a wild and bumpy ride.

Regular gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6 to 9 p.m. The gallery will be closed March 11 to 18 during spring break.

For more information, call O'Malley at 456-9765 or 8054.

## RIC Dance Co. Features New Works

Newly commissioned works by New York-based Marta Renzi and Providence's Peter Bramante will be featured in the Rhode Island College Dance Company's spring concert series Feb. 29 to March 3 in Roberts Hall auditorium.

Performance Thursday through Saturday will begin at 8 p.m. The Sunday matinee is at 2 p.m. General admission tickets are \$9 with discounts for students and groups.

"Representing the culmination of various choreographic projects undertaken this academic year, the RIC Dance Company's spring series will showcase RIC students in the performance of works by local, regional and nationally acclaimed dance makers and two noteworthy RIC student choreographers," said Dante Del Giudice, RIC dance director.

Call 456-8060 for ticket information and reservations or Dante Del Giudice at 456-9791 for more information on the series.

## Tikva and Hillel Welcome Dr. Kalechofsky

Roberta Kalechofsky, Ph.D., writer and founder of Micah Publications, the source for Jewish vegetarian books, will be speaking on Jewish vegetarianism and how to conduct a vegetarian seder at the Tikvah Traditions Shop, 727 Hope St., Providence, on March 10 at 3 p.m.

She will sign copies of her books as well.

For more information about this event, call Rhoda Fischman, 421-0309.

Kalechofsky will also be speaking at the Jewish Environmental Ethics Conference at Brown University on March 10 at 11 a.m.

Her subject at that time will be "Diet, Disease, and the Environment."

For more information on this talk and the Jewish Environmental Ethics Shabbaton Conference at the Brown-RISD Hillel Foundation, call Glenn Dubin at 863-1591.

## Wheeler Honors its Young Scientists

Six Wheeler middle school students will compete in the State Science Fair this month having won first place honors in the Wheeler Science Fair in February. The six and their projects follows:

### Seventh-Graders

Rachel Aaronson — Investigation of the refraction of light

Jacqueline Mancini — Organizational system of the mind

Dick Small — Optical illusions: Does gender affect how they are perceived?

### Eighth-Graders

Harrison Khan — Effect of temperature change on different surface frictions

Stephanie Markoff — Comparison of different types of room deodorizers

Zack Witman — Factors affecting ability to differentiate color pulses of light

Honorable mention awards went to seventh-graders Lily Gillett, Carrie Kaufman, Amy Phelan, Alex Schoenfeld and Becci Weiss. Eighth-graders receiving honorable mentions included Nate Berg, Leslie Friedman, Summer Lockett, Michael Love and Ali Massie.

The People's Choice awards for best project went to Harrison Kahn, Amy Phelan and Jackie Mancini.

The People's Choice Awards for best science display went to Joel Scanlon and Alex Schoenfeld.

## ACT Presents 'Snow White'

The All Children's Theatre Ensemble is presenting "Snow White," an audience participation play for children 3 to 11 years old, on March 2 and 9 at 10:30 a.m. and on March 16 at 2 p.m.

The performance will take place at the East Side Fox Point Elementary School, 455 Wickenden St., in Providence. Tickets are \$4 for children and \$6 for adults.

ACT's "Snow White" has a walking, talking magic mirror, seven dwarfs such as Sarge, Gloomy Gus and Ticklish and an enchanted forest where Snow White meets up with the dwarfs.

Audience members can help the queen concoct her deadly potions, help Snow White clean up the dwarfs' home or be flowers for Snow White to pick.

For reservations and/or more information, call 331-7174.

## Local ORT Sponsors Camp Fair

On March 3, the Elm Grove Chapter at Large of Women's American ORT is sponsoring their annual camp fair from noon to 4 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence.

This yearly event provides a sampling of camps from around New England. About 30 direc-

tors from residential and day camps will be on hand with exhibits and to answer questions about their co-ed, specialty and nonsectarian camps.

Admission to the camp fair is free and open to the public. For more information, call 942-0412.

## Career Night Scheduled

New England Institute of Technology and the Rhode Island Chapter of the Association of Systems Management will co-sponsor a "Career Night" on March 6, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The event will be held in the college's Center for Technology and Industry, with New England firms present to speak to participants about careers in the computer industry.



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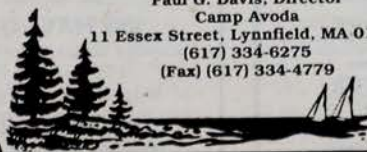
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# PURIM

## Megillah Offers Diaspora Jews Lessons in Relations With Israel

by Irving Greenberg  
NEW YORK (JTA) — The holiday of Purim is the record of three great achievements in Jewish history — and of one huge mistake.

At this moment, American Jewry is on the brink of a major decision which will affect its relationship with Israel. If we grasp the lesson of the holiday, it might save us from repeating an historic error.

The first great achievement was the saving of the endangered Jewish community in the Persian Empire, in the 5th century, BCE. This salvation is retold in the Megillah. The Purim practices of "shalach manot" (food portions and gifts to friends) and "matanot la'evyonim" (gifts to the poor) express the Jewish solidarity which played a key role in saving the day.

The second great achievement was the renewal of the covenant of Israel. Purim occurred after the destruction of the temple; the age of visible miracles was over.

But humans like Mordechai and Esther took this as a call to greater responsibility and to partnership with G-d. They took charge to achieve a new redemption. Reading the Megillah (which omits G-d's name but hints at G-d's presence) and the

use of masks and masquerade capture the presence of the hidden deity and the new human role.

The third great achievement was the coming of age of the diaspora. Ever since the Israelites had conquered the land of Israel, the diaspora was dismissed as a state of exile. Centuries passed before the Book of Esther was fully accepted; many claimed that only an Israel-based event could be truly redemptive and on par with the divine redemption of Passover and Sukkot.

Yet the Jews of Persia insisted that Purim was nothing less than Passover II.

This time, the outcome was not an exodus in the Promised Land, but peace and prosperity in Persia. Purim became the exodus event of the rabbinic era. The Purim family feast — seudah — makes this analogy stronger by association with the Passover seder.

The huge mistake is hinted at in the fact that unlike all the other holidays of redemption, we do not say Hallel — psalms of Thanksgiving — on Purim.

The Talmud explains that the Purim achievement left the Jews in the diaspora. True, they were triumphant over Haman and the anti-Semites, but they remained vulnerable to the powers that-

be, Ahashverosh and his future successors. This would imply that the error was that Jews continued to live outside the land of Israel.

There was a deeper error, however, Persian Jews did not relate to Israel as a source of inspiration and Jewish learning. Early on, when the Jews were in trouble, the Megillah connects Mordechai to the exile from Israel.

The argument over the proposed merger between United Jewish Appeal and the Council of Jewish Federations is being projected as a struggle over protecting Israel's share of American Jewish fund-raising.

In the plaintive melody with which this verse is read, we sense how much was lost by being cut off from Jerusalem. However, when Mordechai and Esther were victorious and on top of the world, they sent out Purim instructions to Jews worldwide, but they made no special con-

nection to the Holy Land as the focus of Jewish life and longing. This weaker link left Persian Jews more vulnerable to assimilation later.

Today, American Jewry wrestles with the nature of a new relationship to an Israel heading for peace and more able to take care of itself. The argument over the proposed merger between United Jewish Appeal and the Council of Jewish Federations is being projected as a struggle over protecting Israel's share of American Jewish fund-raising.

In this scenario, those who are deeply concerned for American Jewish survival and continuity are fighting for a larger share of the funds to stay here to meet local needs.

If the merger side wins, as seems likely, those whose attachment to Israel remains fierce threaten to pull their money and send it there directly.

The terms of the argument are wrong and the polarization threatens to repeat the mistake of Purim.

American Jewry has come of age. It must focus on the inner content of its life and the urgency of communicating its values to the next generation. It cannot go on with Israel serving as its surrogate for Jewish living.

But vital Jewish living has always been connected with Israel as the land of history, tradition and memory. Jewish loyalty and pride are focused on Israel as a Jewish majority society.

Israel's quality of life and exemplary behavior can serve as a living model that Jewish values work. When Israel comes across well, even unaffiliated Jews identify positively with the country and with the whole Jewish people.

Furthermore, Jewish learning comes alive in the land of Israel. Jewish culture is flourishing in

Israel's Hebrew-speaking environment, especially since the national calendar incorporates the classic Jewish holidays and events. The Holy Land is a natural setting to inspire diaspora Jews with a deeper, more holistic sense of being Jewish.

Instead of arguing funding priorities — continuity versus Israel — a growing percentage of the money being sent to Israel should be spent on educating American Jews, especially youth, in Israel.

The experience of total immersion in Israel and Jewish living and learning will enrich their Jewish identity for life. Being there will create profound memories and personal relationships that will link American Jews to Israel. The spending will strengthen American Jewry and Israel's society simultaneously.

An American Judaism focused on its own spiritual needs but turning away from Israel would be distorting the classic Jewish message. The Torah calls for the creation of a vibrant human society; it envisions a people living G-d's laws, practicing Jewish ethics.

An American Jewish culture with a strong inner life connected to Israel will recreate the classic sense of a universal religion which serves G-d, and a people which enriches humanity, wherever it is located.

Purim is the holiday that celebrates diaspora, but Purim attains an unmatched vitality in Israel. Let that be a lesson to all of us.

Let the exchanges shift to more "shalach manot" — more food portions — spiritual and material — between inseparable friends.

Irving Greenberg, president of CLAL — The National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership and author of *The Jewish Way* (New York: Summit Books).

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## Temple Shalom Celebrates Purim

Purim, the Festival of Lots, will be celebrated at Temple Shalom in Middletown commencing with an early Sabbath eve family worship service, March 1 at 7 p.m.

Rabbi Marc S. Jagolinzer will conduct the worship and host a Purim quiz bowl. All those in attendance will participate, drawing upon their knowledge for answers. An Oneg Shabbat will follow the service, which is sponsored by the Touhey Family in honor of Helena's 8th birthday.

On March 3, following Hebrew school classes, commence-

ing at 11 a.m., The Samuel Zilman Bazarisky Religious School will host a Purim carnival complete with games, raffles, prizes and fun for all. Esther's Kosher Kitchen will open for lunch. Enjoy a Haman hot dog, Big than burger, Shushan soda and Hamen-taschen.

On March 4, at 6:30 p.m., costumers are cordially invited to the reading of the Megillah (The Book of Esther), a costume parade, a holiday sing-along and a Purim Spiel under the direction of Linda Franklin, featuring students from the religious school.

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# PURIM

## Purim Our Lot in Life

by Mike Fink  
Herald Contributing  
Reporter



Don't make a ganze megillah, a big story, out of it! Yiddish debunks. It says come off it. The Scroll of Esther holds too much melodrama. Make fun of it, better. Okay. But still, I took out my Tanach and read, in English of course, the whole thing, the history of the harem queen who defeats the enemy of the Jews.

I found the tale alarming, steeped in anxiety, strangely modern, and disturbing as one of those films noirs. Remember, Esther is an orphan, adopted by a cousin, Mordechai. The prior queen, Vashti, was punished severely for disobedience. So insecure, unsure Esther awaits her role like a starlet. Once Haman starts trouble, primarily because Mordechai brings down his pride, she needs a sharp reminder from her cousin that the fate of her people will threaten even her, safe for now in the palace.

Once Esther goes into action, though, she weaves her web with skill and guile. Like any good folklore, the plot folds in on itself, and the stake set out for Mordechai impales the villain. This time, the Jews win out. But their terror is clearly spelled out, a condition they have known before and will taste again. No, this is a dark chapter, not a lighthearted comedy. It is oddly moving, if you read it under the midnight lamp.

I recently watched Merle Oberon play an Esther type in a World War II flick where she marries a Nazi in order to send secrets to the allies. When he is

killed, she goes on to wed another officer to keep up the flow of information. She was lovely, and frightened, and yet confident too! It wasn't all that far-fetched. Jewish women in Europe could hide their identity and go to work for the resistance. "A Girl Named Judith" recounts such an adventure, written by an Israeli heroine, Judith Strick, an Ashkenazic Esther.

But the figure and myth of Esther was especially popular among the secret Sephardic Jews of Spain and Portugal. Like Mordechai, they had served the court. Like Esther, they were hidden among stately homes. Like Haman, inquisitors waited in the wings to trap them if they did not bow down to idols. The "New Christians" revered the saintly majesty.

So even as we have a great time with the frolic of Purim, its almost Bacchanial spirit of wine women and song, we can pick up an existential echo behind the music, an enduring tragic-comedy. The beauty of Helen launched the ships of battle. But the charm of Esther saved a people. We celebrate both connection and solitude.

It's also the part of Bible that welcomed the fancy calligraphy of artists, the free reign of imagination and skill. Under the masks and props, Purim promises that our lot in life will go on beyond the powers of the foe, and our children will laugh and play in the springtime round the corner.

## JERI Purim Festivals

Residents of nursing homes throughout the state will enjoy Purim festivities thanks to the Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island program.

Approximately 300 "Mishlach Monot" party bags filled with homemade hamantaschen were sponsored, assembled and will be delivered by Kulanu of Temple Emanu-El, the women's association of the Jewish Home and the JERI staff and volunteers.

On March 3, at 2 p.m. the B'nai B'rith Plantations Unit 5339 will sponsor a Purim party at Rosewood, featuring entertainer Natalia Ritchie. JERI has scheduled several other Purim parties at area nursing homes, including March 4 at Summit, March 5 at Oak Hill and March 6 at Rosewood.

For more information, contact JERI at 621-5374.

## Congregation Agudas Achim Purim Festivals

An evening of fun and celebration for all will be held at Congregation Agudas Achim in Attleboro on March 4, to mark the Jewish holiday of Purim.

Purim, also known as the Feast of Lots, celebrates a victory of the Jews of Shushan in Persia, who were saved from a decree of annihilation. Traditional celebration includes costumes for adults and children, skits, treats and noisemakers.

The frivolity begins at 5:30 p.m. with a potluck dinner and costume parade. This will be followed by the reading of the Scroll of Esther. Surprises are always in store and the reading rarely proceeds as planned. Join the fun at 901 N. Main St.

For more information, contact Congregation Agudas Achim at (508) 222-2243.

## United Synagogue Leaders to Visit Bosnia This Purim

This Purim, leaders of The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism will travel to Bosnia to share the holiday with the Jewish community of Sarajevo.

International President Alan Ades, together with USCJ Executive Vice-President Rabbi Jerome Epstein, will conduct a public reading of Megillat Esther, deliver traditional gift baskets (mishloah manot), and present the community with funds donated by affiliated Conservative congregations.

In addition, an invitation has been issued through the armed forces to Jewish service personnel in Bosnia to join the Sarajevo Jewish community in a traditional Purim seudah, or festive meal, on March 5.

The United Synagogue has promoted Bosnian relief efforts for several years, appealing to member congregations to place the issue high on their agendas. Several synagogues have already made substantial contributions — and two, B'nai Torah

of Boca Raton, Fla., and Temple Emunah of Lexington, Mass., have sent over full shipping containers packed with shoes and clothing.

While the Purim appeal has targeted the special needs of the Jewish community, a portion of the proceeds will be used to provide food, clothing, and medical care to the general population.

According to leaders of the Bosnian Jewish community, the last public reading of the Megillah in Sarajevo took place prior to World War II. To enhance the experience for participants, the USCJ leaders will bring with them portions of the Megillah, as well as rabbinic writings and stories, translated into Croatian.

To give the community a "taste" of the holiday as it is celebrated around the world, The United Synagogue has arranged to purchase from Israel a quantity of Purim costumes for children and adults. A Purim "shpiel," translated into

Croatian, has already been sent to Sarajevo, and the children of the community will present it on Purim night.

On the Shabbat preceding the Purim holiday, Epstein will lead services and teach in the city of Split. The community, which has been without spiritual leadership for many years, issued an invitation to Epstein on learning of his impending visit. In addition, the USCJ executive vice-president will visit a Jewish nursing home in the city of Makarska and deliver several lectures to the Jewish community of Zagreb.

According to Ades, "Purim — which celebrates the perils and ultimate triumph of the Jews in ancient Persia — remains one of the most popular Jewish holidays today, for children and adults alike. With its theme of Jewish survival, it is particularly appropriate for the brave and struggling Jewish community in Bosnia, which has had to contend with such hardships."

## A Purim Perspective

Perspectives, the Rhode Island Jewish Young Adult Project, will celebrate Purim on March 4 at Temple Am David in Warwick. Listen to some Perspectives members read from the Megillah, starting at 6:15 p.m.

Participants are encouraged to come to the temple dressed in a costume. Afterwards, the group will go out for refreshments.

Perspectives is geared toward Jewish adults in their mid-20s to mid-30s, either married or single.

Call Perspectives director Marcie Ingber at 521-3541 for more information, transportation or directions.

## Catch the Purim Spirit

There will be a Purim Razzle with Chabad at Congregation Ohave Shalom, East Avenue, Pawtucket, on March 4. The Megillah reading will be at 6 p.m. The rest of the program will begin at 7 p.m.

The Megillah will stir your soul, the music will stir your heart and the Grand Purim Shpeilers will stir your kishkes!

There will be jugglers, magical acts, balloons and lots more. Drinks and refreshments will be served.

For information, call 273-7238.

## The Megillah Teaches Us a Valuable Lesson

by Rabbi Maurice Weisenberg  
Congregation Agudath Achim,  
Taunton, Mass.

It is a mistake to think that just because Purim is a fun holiday, that it is not an important holiday.

Children in costume twirling graggers in the synagogue with a carnival atmosphere prevent us from appreciating the lesson of the Megillah. Purim is popular not only because we are bidden to party, but more because it rings true to Jewish experience.

The names in the story may change, but Jews have seen the script played out time and again over the centuries. Jews become successful and comfortable in a country, until a Haman-like character repeats his charge against the Jews.

"There is a people scattered and distinctive among the nations. Their laws differ from every other people, and the king's laws they do not obey. It is not in the king's interest to ignore them." (Esther 3:8).

With some variation, these are the words of the anti-Semite of every age.

The story of Purim has been a living reality for Jews with its fearsome threat of doom fol-

lowed by eventual deliverance. Not in every instance has the story ended so happily.

However, there have been enough occasions when the hidden hand of providence has acted to rescue the Jews; that shows that thanksgiving and celebration are more important in Jewish life than mourning and misfortune. Purim symbolizes the happy side of Judaism. Tragedy and defeat is not the entire story.

The triumphant overcoming of humiliation and persecution and a vibrant faith in the coming of a glorious future is primary to our faith in a redeeming G-d.

We can understand why it is a mitzvah for every adult man and woman to listen to the story of Esther when the Megillah is read on Purim evening, which falls this year on March 4.

Congregation Agudath Achim will host a carnival for the children at 4 p.m., pizza at 5 p.m., a costume parade at 5:30 p.m., and the Megillah reading at 6 p.m. Adults are encouraged to come dressed in costume, but costume or not, the observance on March 4 is for adults as well as for children.

May we all have an enjoyable Purim holiday.

## Temple Torat Yisrael to Hold Purim Carnival

Temple Torat Yisrael in Cranston will hold its annual Purim carnival on March 10 from 10:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The carnival is sponsored by the Temple USY group to raise funds both for the chapter and a national ecology project.

There will be games for all ages, a penny social, and holiday refreshments.

A Megillah reading will be held on March 4 at 6:30 p.m. and again on March 5 at 6:30 a.m.

For more information, call the temple at 785-1800.

## Purim Party At Mishkon Tfiloh

The annual Purim party at Congregation Mishkon Tfiloh will be held on March 4 after the Megillah reading, which starts at 6:25 p.m.

Refreshments will be served and Rabbi Berlinksky will deliver his Purim message. Everyone is invited. Call 453-1839.



# PURIM

## On Purim, Do What I Say...

**D**o you remember hearing a parent, teacher or elder tell you, "Do what I say, not what I do"? Although as children we might have considered such an instruction a contradiction (and maybe it was!), as "mature" adults we can certainly understand it. After all, who's perfect? We're human. At least once in a while it's hard to avoid doing something that cannot or does not match our instruction to someone else.

G-d, however, isn't limited as we are. When G-d tells us to do something, He accepts upon Himself the same obligations. And we don't have to worry that G-d will say one thing and do another.

Thus, as Jews are commanded to wear tefilin, G-d, too, "dons" tefilin, though His tefilin are slightly different. Whereas our tefilin speak of our love for G-d and our responsibility to obey His commands, G-d's tefilin speak of His love for the Jewish people.

This reciprocal relationship is evident in the upcoming holiday of Purim, as well. On Purim we have the mitzvah of giving charity to anyone who extends his/her hand for help. Our sages explain that on Purim, we, too, have the right to "put out our hand" to G-d and ask Him for our needs, even more than on any other day.



As we are commanded by G-d to fulfill the needs of others when they extend their hands on Purim, G-d will also fulfill our needs when we do the same.

How do we put out our hand to G-d? Through prayer.

The Baal Shem Tov taught that on Purim one should rise early to pray and ask G-d for everything that he needs. And not only for oneself, but for oth-

ers as well, for Purim is an especially auspicious time for our prayers, just like Yom Kippur.

Interestingly, Yom Kippur is also referred to as Yom HaKipurim, literally "the day that is like Purim," hinting that Purim is an even more auspicious day than Yom Kippur!

Thus, amidst the rejoicing, merrymaking, charity-giving, hamentaschen-eating, gifts of food (shalach manot) sending, Megillah-hearing, and dressing up of Purim, it's a truly auspicious time to spend some minutes in heartfelt prayer to G-d, putting out our hands for all of our own personal needs, and for the needs of our family and friends.

On Purim, the holiday of redemption from Haman's evil plan, we should also remember to ask G-d for our most personal and, at the same time, global need, the revelation of Moshiach and the final redemption.

Submitted by Rabbi Yehoshua Laufer of Chabad House.

## Purim — Then and Now

Based on the works of the Lubavitcher Rebbe

One of the Purim mitzvot is the reading of the Megillah — the Scroll of Esther, in which the miracle of Purim is recounted.

The Talmud tells us that "whoever reads the Megillah backwards, does not fulfill his obligation," our sages explain that "backwards" does not only mean in reverse order; it also means that whoever reads the Megillah merely as ancient history has missed the point.

The Purim story is directly relevant to our contemporary world. As the Megillah itself tells us, when we celebrate Purim each year, the miraculous events of Purim are "remembered and reenacted" in our lives.

One does not have to look far to find Haman's modern-day heirs. Now, as then, there are evil schemers who seek to scapegoat the Jewish people and — Heaven forbid — to erase us from the face of the earth.

Each time they rise up to destroy us, their schemes are foiled by the miraculous hand of G-d. The most striking example in recent times was the Persian Gulf War which ended victoriously on Purim, 5751.

Throughout our history, we have seen miracles. Despite centuries upon centuries of persecution, we have survived and flourished, by the grace of G-d.

Yet we have remained in exile for nearly 2,000 years, hoping and praying for the final and complete redemption — the redemption that will end suffering and exile forever.

May the observance of Purim be a precursor to the coming of Moshiach, our righteous redeemer, whose imminent arrival will bring about a better life for all the nations of the world.

Courtesy of Prestige Litho, Brooklyn, N.Y. Submitted by Rabbi Yehoshua Laufer of Chabad House.



**Purim Party, March 8, 1955, Hebrew Culture Council**

Photo Courtesy of R.I. Jewish Historical Association



## FEATURE

## 'You're Just Like My Siamese Cat!'

by Alison Smith  
Herald Editor

Rina Saltzman is coming to town with "Cats", on March 14. She is the company manager for the production, and she is Jewish. So we interviewed her last week, to learn more about what a company manager does, and how a Jewish company manager handles touring and religious observance.

Saltzman says, of her job, "I take care of the company... I take care of the people... housing, travel, paying the company, seeing that contracts are executed correctly..."

I asked, "How does someone prepare to become a company manager?"

Saltzman said, "I don't think you do. You just sort of gravitate to this job. There are a very small number of us, relatively speaking, and an even smaller number that go on tour."

She thought a moment, and added, "You need to be a people person, and pretty well organized, and you need a good (she stressed the word, with passion)... a good assistant."

Saltzman is not married, and does not have children, so family to her is her sibling and parental family. She grew up in New Jersey, lives in Southern California now, and tries to be in her Reconstructionist synagogue near her West Coast home or with her family on the East Coast, for major holidays.

She spent Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur in California at her synagogue, and will be spending this coming Passover with her New Jersey family.

Sometimes, on the road, she finds herself in a town where she knows no one, and at times like that, frequently, she is invited to be the guest of a local synagogue, which she appreciates very much.

You could almost hear her shrug. "You arrange for things as you can," she said. Flexibility is part of the company manager's basic equipment.

She was raised in a very traditional Conservative home, and attended a Lubavitcher yeshiva.

Today, her brother is very Jewish, a member of the Conservative movement, and her younger sister is "Ultra-Orthodox", as is her husband.

She joined a Reconstructionist synagogue in California after a period of trial and error, of searching for the place where she would fit in.

"I'm very culturally Jewish," she said. "I like the inclusiveness of Reconstructionism, but I do not agree with intermarriage."

She felt that the Reconstructionists she had met reached out more, making an effort to bring people who were once Jewish back to being Jewish... that they were warmer than those of the Reform movement.

She added, "I love the fact

that you can see a woman on the bimah, now. But I love even more the fact that this has always been the case in Reconstructionism."

We talked a little about the show. Even after two years of being with the show, now — which would mean she'd been in the theatre when "Memories" was about 800 to 900 times, she says she has never gotten tired of it, although, if she's busy backstage, sometimes she doesn't actually hear it.

I asked her how the casting staff managed to find so many people who could physically imitate cats, and sing, too. I imagined that most of the cast was very, very young.

She said, "No. The cast ranges from about 22 to 44. Some of them have been with the production for five or six years."

The first requirement is that the actors be good dancers — and then the singing roles are cast. In the theatre today, performers are expected to be multi-talented... to be both singers and dancers."

We talked about cats with a small c for a moment or two, and she told me that she could not count the number of times audience members had come backstage after a performance and said, "Oh, my G-d, you're just like my Siamese cat!"

I guess there's no greater complement one could pay to a cast member of "Cats."

## Drummers, Dancers, Crafters and Storytellers Prepare for Spring

Sacred drums will sound and ceremonial dancers will move to age-old rhythms when the Dine' Intertribal Pow Wow and Native American Trade Show takes place at the new Valley Expo Center, March 9 and 10, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sponsored by the Kaweah Nation, this event presents an opportunity for families, collectors and hobbyists to not only learn, but actively participate in tribal traditions.

Pow wow participants also will gain access to a wide array of authentic regalia, native goods and crafts not normally available to non-indigenous people. More than 75 traders will be on hand, displaying and trading such artifacts as regalia belts, moccasins, war clubs, tomahawks and headpieces.

Flint knapping, weaving, bead working and other traditional arts will be demonstrated as well, with the resulting craft work available for purchase.

This intertribal event will attract Native Americans from throughout the United States, Canada and Central and South America, including Cherokees, Apaches, Navahos and Seminoles, and is open to the public as a multicultural learning experience.

The dancing, storytelling and trading that make up much of

the Native American religious and social culture will be shared, as the people prepare for spring. Good Thunder will serve as the host drum, accompanied by guest drum Split Feather.

The new Valley Expo Center, located 30 miles north of Boston, occupies 150,000 square feet of former retail space at the Methuen Mall. The center is the area's third largest exhibition facility, ranking only behind the World Trade Center and Bayside Expo Center, both in Boston. The center offers easy access from major transportation Routes 93 and 495, ample parking nearby, and access to a wide range of refreshments through the mall's food court vendors.

The show will take place from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. both days, and the grand entry procession will be held each day at approximately noon.

Photographs will be allowed at certain times during the proceedings.

Admission to the Dine' Intertribal Pow Wow and Native American Trade Show is \$5 per person, with children under 12 admitted free. The Valley Expo Center is located at the Methuen Mall, Pleasant Valley Street, Methuen, Mass., in the heart of the Merrimack Valley.

For more information about this event, call (508) 681-9000.

## Management Expert Finds the Time for Camp JORI

Michael Schuster, is president of Competitive Human Resources Strategies Inc., a former Fulbright scholar and faculty member at the Syracuse University School of Management, and the newly installed president of Camp JORI.

At CHRIS, an international consulting firm specializing in organizational change, human resources and compensation systems, he has developed a special niche in creating organizational change in union-represented and high performance settings.

Schuster is credited with developing the gain sharing program that saved the uncertain future of the Whirlpool Corporation's manufacturing facility in Benton Harbor, Mich. — the subject of a front-page story in *The Wall Street Journal*, (May 1992).

His long business hours and incredible amounts of air travel — he has enough unused frequent-flyer mileage to circumnavigate the globe more than 45

times — are offset by having an office in his Narragansett beach home.

Family time is precious, and yet the peripatetic Schuster has found the time to reach back to a place that holds special memories for him. He has accepted the presidency of a local summer camp.

"There are many things that you can spend your time on, Camp JORI has given me lifelong friendships. I spent my summers at JORI and I met my wife Ronda there while we were working as counselors," said Schuster. Now my children enjoy summers at Camp JORI, marking a 30-year association with the camp for our family."

Camp JORI is Rhode Island's only Jewish overnight camp. For more than 50 years, boys and girls have spent their summers at the 13.5-acre campground in Narragansett, building the valuable skills, self-confidence and friendships that make successful adults.

## Russian Version of Talmud Released by Rabbi Steinsaltz

by Lev Krichevsky

MOSCOW (JTA) — The first volume of the Babylonian Talmud to be translated into Russian has been released.

Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz, an Israeli known for translations of the Talmud into modern Hebrew, English and French, presented the Russian-language edition at a ceremony earlier this month at the office of the mayor of Moscow, Yuri Luzhkov.

The Babylonian Talmud — which contains 63 sections, or tractates, and which was written in Aramaic and ancient Hebrew when it was compiled some 1,700 years ago — has never before been available to Russian Jews in their native language.

The 59-year-old Steinsaltz, who is the founder and the head

of the Jerusalem-based Israel Institute for Talmudic Publications, has already published 27 volumes of the Talmud in modern Hebrew, as well as in English and French.

The Russian Talmud is being published under the auspices of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

Steinsaltz first became known to Russian Jews in 1990 for his book, *The Thirteen Petalled Rose*, a personal exposition of Jewish mysticism translated into Russian.

It led many Russian Jews to re-establish links to Judaism.

In 1995, Steinsaltz was invited by the chief rabbi of Russia, Adolph Shayeveich, to take on the title of Duchovny Ravin — the spiritual leader of Russian Jewry.

Since that time, he has spent

a week every month in Russia giving lectures and visiting Jewish communities.

"I see my attempt to be in Russia today as a big chance, a big effort and a big gamble," Steinsaltz said in an interview. "Many have asked me why to go to Russia, where any chances to revive Jewish spiritual continuity are so weak."

Russia's Jews number an estimated 600,000, but Steinsaltz fears that a high rate of assimilation is threatening the community with extinction.

But the risks of assimilation, he added, are not only to be found among Russian Jewry.

"Where Russian Jewry is now, European Jewry will be in 15 years, American Jewry in 30 years, and even possibly, Israeli Jewry in 50 years," he said.

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# WORLD AND NATIONAL NEWS

## U.N. Reception Highlights AJCongress

In a celebration of Israel's changed and vastly improved stature in today's international community — including the United Nations — the American Jewish Congress will pay tribute to former President of Israel Chaim Herzog, Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan and the Hon. Leonard Garment, for leading the 1975 fight against the infamous U.N. resolution equating Zionism with racism.

They will be honored at a dinner and program to be held in the United Nations delegates' dining room on March 16. The reception will highlight AJCongress' National Biennial Convention, to be held March 14 through March 17.

Herzog, Israel's ambassador to the U.N. in 1975, mounted the rostrum of the General Assembly and ripped the resolution to shreds, after calling it the anti-Semitic work of "a coalition of

despotisms and racists."

Moynihan, then ambassador of the United States to the United Nations, condemned the resolution as "an infamous act," which the United States would not "acknowledge," "abide by," or ever "acquiesce" to.

Garment, the United States Rep. to the U.N. Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee, declared that the "obscene" resolution would "put the work of the United Nations in jeopardy."

Other convention events will be held at AJCongress headquarters, 15 East 84th St.

The biennial convention serves as an opportunity for AJCongress delegates to consider resolutions that will guide the work of the organization for the next two years. For further information on the convention, call the AJCongress at (212) 879-4500, ext. 457.

## Farrakhan Compares Plight of Iraqi People to Holocaust

by Daniel Kurtzman

WASHINGTON (JTA) — The Louis Farrakhan 1996 world tour continues to showcase the Nation of Islam leader's uncanny ability to infuriate and baffle his critics.

As Farrakhan punctuates his travels with references to the United States as the "Great Satan," federal law enforcement officials continue to investigate whether he violated any laws in his visits to Iraq, Iran and Libya, where economic sanctions apply.

Farrakhan met recently with Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein in Baghdad, and then likened the plight of the Iraqi people to the horrors Jews endured in Nazi death camps.

After visiting a hospital, Farrakhan called U.S. economic sanctions against Iraq a "crime against humanity" that is leading to the "mass murder of the Iraqi people."

"Visiting the hospital," Farrakhan was quoted as saying, "would be, or could be, compared to visiting one of the [Nazi] death camps."

The black nationalist Muslim has crisscrossed Africa and the Middle East during the past month on what he described as a "world friendship" tour to show solidarity with Muslims.

His meetings with various foreign leaders — which reads like a Who's Who list of international terrorism sponsors — has been sharply condemned by U.S. officials, as well as Jewish groups.

An Iranian newspaper quoted Farrakhan as saying, "You can quote me: G-d will destroy America at the hands of Muslims," then adding, "We do not seek the fall of the U.S. government but are looking for ways to moderate the unjust policies of the American government."

His stopovers have included Sudan as well as Libya, where leader Muammar Qaddafi pledged \$1 billion to Farrakhan to finance political activities in the United States.

He also held meetings in Nigeria, South Africa, Turkey and Syria, where he met for three hours with Syrian President Hafez Assad just 10 days before Israeli-Syrian peace talks were set to resume at the Wye Planation in Maryland.

Farrakhan's exploits have been challenged on a number of legal fronts.

The Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control sent Farrakhan a letter asking whether he illegally spent money in restricted nations or accepted money for political purposes from countries under U.S. economic sanctions.

In addition, the Justice Department sent Farrakhan a letter informing him that he must register as a foreign agent for Libya if he engages in activities to influence U.S. policies or politics on that country's behalf.

Meanwhile, his most outspoken critic in Congress, Rep. Peter King (R-N.Y.), has been calling for congressional hearings into his activities abroad and has said Farrakhan would be subpoenaed if necessary.

"Louis Farrakhan has been paying courtesy calls to the most murderous regimes on the face of the earth," King said in a statement. "Any American citizen who consorts with the sworn enemies of the United States and seeks their financial backing must be held fully accountable for their actions."

But Congress remains reluctant to call Farrakhan to testify, fearful of becoming entangled in what would likely be a racially divisive hearing, according to congressional sources.

## Resolve of Candidates Tested by Extremists in Their Midst

by Matthew Dorf

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Four years ago, Pat Buchanan's campaign co-chairman stood next to a white supremacist, a Ku Klux Klan leader and a head of a militia group while a speaker branded opponents of gun control as "your enemies" who are "pumping all the Talmudic filth that they can vomit and defecate into your living room."

Larry Pratt, who recently took a leave of absence from the Buchanan presidential campaign, watched as the crowd burst into applause.

In more recent years, he returned to similar sessions, standing beside some of the most bigoted supporters of the right to bear arms.

Only in recent days has Pratt distanced himself from such offensive views.

As Pratt's history comes to light, Buchanan has become the latest aspirant for the nation's highest office to have a top-level supporter involved with his campaign who has ties to extremist causes.

Buchanan, whose boost in the early race for the Republican bid for president has alarmed many Jews, is not alone in at-

tracting extremists to his campaign. But his adamant defense of his longtime friend and adviser is raising troubling questions for many.

Republican hopeful Steve Forbes has been faced with questions about his informal adviser, Thomas Ellis, a former director of the Pioneer Fund, which is known for its anti-Semitism and white supremacy.

When asked whether Pat Buchanan has met that test, Foxman replied, "No, no, no."

The revelations about extremists in the midst of political campaigns are neither new nor surprising, according to students of politics.

As long as there have been political campaigns, people with extremist views tended to flock to those campaigns during the election season, they say.

It was true in 1988, with revelations that President Bush had Nazi SS sympathizers in his inner circle, and it is true today,

with the latest reports from this year's contest.

"Politics attracts passionate people and some of the passionate people are extremists," said Abraham Foxman, national director of the Anti-Defamation League.

"They feel they can get legitimacy by attaching themselves to mainstream candidates," he said.

Campaigns are "where the action is in American politics," said Jason Isaacson, director of the Washington office of the American Jewish Committee. "There is no very effective filter against extremist involvement in campaign personnel."

The true test of candidates is how they react when extremists are uncovered in their campaign hierarchy, Foxman and others argued.

"You can't really expect candidates to weed out in advance people who have extremist attitudes or have graced the platforms of extremists," Foxman said, adding that the only way to judge candidates is what they do "once the person's history is brought to their attention."

When asked whether Pat Buchanan has met that test, Foxman replied, "No, no, no."

## Likud Presses Jerusalem Issue

by David Landau

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The Likud party has drawn first blood.

In its opening thrust of Israel's nationwide election campaign, the main opposition party recently attacked the issue of Jerusalem — and it immediately had Shimon Peres' Labor-led government bleeding and backing away.

"If they carry on like this, we might win yet," a senior Likud figure said bemusedly in an interview.

Peres announced recently that he would seek early elections. But while all parties agreed that the polling should be moved up from its scheduled date in October, they spent several days bickering about the actual date until they agreed on May 29.

But Likud strategists did not wait until the date was resolved.

"Peres will split Jerusalem," they proclaimed recently on thousands of billboards and in full-page newspaper ads.

Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu and his top aides held a news conference in the capital to drive home the assault, accusing Labor of holding secret negotiations with the Palestinians — negotiations, according to Likud, that would result in the division of Jerusalem.

The attack might have been a one-day wonder — were it not for Peres government's fluttering reaction.

The leaders of Labor "have gone completely hysterical," the leader of the fervently Orthodox Sephardi Shas party, Aryeh Deri, observed on television.

Peres himself set the tone by dispatching the Cabinet secre-

tary, Shmuel Hollander, to solemnly assure reporters after the weekly Cabinet meeting that the prime minister was not going to split Jerusalem and, more specifically, that the government was not holding secret negotiations with the Palestinians about the future of the city.

This quickly backfired, however, when the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz* confirmed in its main headline recently that two Israeli academics involved in the early negotiations with the Palestinians held in 1993 in Oslo, had indeed held several sessions recently with Palestinian figures on the future of Jerusalem.

One of the two professors, Ron Pundak, was quoted as saying that the meetings were "purely academic."

Unlike the situation in early 1993, Pundak contended, there was currently no need for unofficial diplomacy because Peres and Palestinian Council President Yasser Arafat talk directly.

Compounding the impression of a governing party on the run — instead of, as the polls portray, a party with a commanding electoral lead — Labor slashed wildly at Likud for engaging in "negative propaganda" and "personal attacks."

Some ministers, at the Cabinet session, grimly recalled "the atmosphere before Yitzhak Rabin's murder" last November, when Likud engaged in hot political rhetoric that many later blamed for contributing to a climate that made the assassination possible.

But this charge fell flat when Minister of Tourism Uzi Baram commented that the Likud's tactic was in his view entirely within the bounds of political

propriety.

Perhaps Labor's most glaringly oversensitive response — radiating vulnerability — was an announcement from Minister of Internal Security Moshe Shahal's office that he would use police force if necessary to prevent high-profile Palestinian diplomatic activity at Orient House.

In formal letters to the prime minister and to the foreign minister, Shahal solemnly made this pledge — to which no one, Israeli or Palestinian, attaches the slightest credence.

## Japanese Dance Hora

by Naomi Segal

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Some 1,500 Japanese pilgrims sang and danced their way through Jerusalem's streets recently as part of their visit to honor commemorations of the capital's 3,000-year anniversary.

Members of the pro-Israel Makuya sect, which was formed in the aftermath of World War II, are Christians who believe in the Hebrew Bible.

The pilgrims, some dressed in traditional kimonos, held a jubilant procession through downtown Jerusalem.

They converged on Safra Square, outside the city hall, where they danced the traditional hora — to the strains of "Hava Nagila."

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# WORLD AND NATIONAL NEWS

## Researcher Says Health Officials Knew of Missing Yemenites

True Story — or Myth

by Naomi Segal

JERUSALEM (JTA) — According to a letter submitted before a state commission of inquiry into the disappearance of Yemenite children in the 1950s, health officials were aware of instances in which some of the children did not return to their parents after receiving medical treatment.

The letter, dated April 1950, was uncovered in the archives of the Jewish Agency for Israel and submitted as evidence by a university researcher who appeared last week before the commission in Jerusalem.

The letter was signed by Dr. M. Lichtig, the head of the hospitals department in the Health Ministry and was distributed to state hospitals at the time.

"There have been instances in which children were released from hospital and did not return to their parents. Apparently, they were found by people seeking to adopt," the letter said.

"The bereaved parents searched for their children, and there is no need to explain and stress that we must make every effort to ensure that such incidents do not repeat themselves."

In presenting the letter before the panel, Dr. Dov Levitan of Bar-Ilan University said that given the senior level of the letter's author, other high-rank-

ing officials, such as the health minister, must have been aware of the situation.

But just the same, Levitan said he did not think that hundreds of Yemenite children were involved — as the Yemenite community has alleged. He thought that there were only a few cases.

In his first appearance before the panel two weeks ago, Levitan claimed that in 1986, then-Prime Minister Shimon Peres and other government officials had rejected an appeal to establish a state commission of inquiry into the disappearance of the Yemenite children.

Levitan also said he had been advised by a number of "sources close to the current government" to stick to the academic aspects of the case and not to mention any political figures by name.

During a closed-door session Feb. 18, Levitan also presented papers documenting what he said were efforts in the 1960s by the Mossad, Israel's foreign intelligence agency, to locate children who might have been smuggled out of the country for adoption.

Levitan said the Mossad investigation was superficial, but added that his own inquiry into the allegations indicated that no children had been smuggled abroad.

"Children were not sold and not smuggled," he said. "That is a myth."

## Jewish Agency Report Suggests Changes in Former Soviet Union

by Michele Chabin

JERUSALEM (JTA) — A new report about the Jewish Agency for Israel's activities in the former Soviet Union could change the way the agency functions in Russia, Ukraine and elsewhere.

The report received a mixed response recently when the agency's Board of Governors' Committee on the FSU and Eastern Europe met.

While acknowledging the difficult conditions under which "dedicated employees [work] day and night to rescue Jews," the report is critical of some of the agency's methodology.

It calls on the body to decentralize its activities in the former Soviet Union and at the same time to unify all the units' operational budgets.

A primary task of the Jewish Agency in the former Soviet Union is to help Jews immigrate to Israel.

It is also involved in programs which are intended to strengthen Jewish identity and connection with Israel.

The report, commissioned by the agency, reflects the efforts by Jewish Agency Chairman

Avraham Burg to reform and consolidate the financially strapped entity.

One of Burg's reform plans, which was approved "in principle" by the board's plenum, calls for the establishment of an Israeli fund-raising campaign and an international endowment fund "to ensure the future of the Jewish people."

According to a Jewish Agency statement, the campaign is aimed at "developing the Israelis' personal — rather than governmental — responsibility for the needs of the less fortunate, development of communal identification, and broadening the circle of Israelis involved in Jewish Agency activities."

Agency leaders are conducting negotiations with the Israeli government to take over most of the Youth Aliyah program in exchange for the agency taking over the Student Authority and other responsibilities, for an estimated savings of about \$60 million.

Meanwhile, members of the FSU and Eastern Europe committee agreed that regionaliz-

ing the Jewish Agency's work into four separate missions — Russia, Ukraine, Central Asia and the Southern Caucasus — would streamline the bureaucracy.

Until now, all decisions have been made in Moscow.

Since 1989, more than 600,000 Jews have immigrated to Israel from the former Soviet Union.

(JTA staff writer Cynthia Mann in New York contributed to this report.)

## Terrorist Explodes

by Naomi Segal

JERUSALEM (JTA) — A man in a glider that exploded over southern Lebanon recently had planned a terrorist attack on an Israeli target, according to Israeli security officials.

The head of the Israel Defense Force's northern command, Maj. Gen. Amiram Levine, said the terrorist was likely operating for Hezbollah — a charge denied by officials of the militant Islamic fundamentalist movement.

## Jewish Campus Opens in Budapest

by Agnes Bohm

BUDAPEST (JTA) — The new campus of a Jewish school, funded with a grant of \$4.5 million from the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation, was inaugurated recently.

The first school campus to be privately built in Hungary since the end of World War II, the Lauder Javne Jewish Community School houses a kindergarten, elementary school and high school. It will offer a Jewish education to 600 Hungarian children ages 5 to 18.

The school, which was first founded in 1990, found a new site on a five-acre campus in the Buda Hills that was donated on a rent-free, 99-year lease by the Budapest municipality.

Among those attending the new campus' inauguration ceremony were Lauder, Hungarian President Arpad Gónz, Israeli Ambassador Joel Alon and other Hungarian officials.

The new school campus represented Lauder's largest investment in an Eastern or Central European Jewish community. The Lauder foundation also

funded Jewish kindergartens, schools and summer camps in Austria, Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Belarus.

Hungary, with an estimated 80,000 Jews, has the largest Jewish community in Eastern Europe.

At the dedication ceremony, Donald Blinken, the U.S. ambassador to Budapest, read a letter from President Clinton, who said the school "is the fruit of the young Hungarian democracy and tolerance, which will prevail over the deepest darkness."

Lauder spoke at the dedication ceremony of strengthening the Jewish identity of the school's students. "After so many years of repression, the spirit of Jewish education has once again taken root in Eastern Europe," he said.

"We believe that our school creates a unique environment for strengthening the Jewish identity of our children in this region," Lauder said, adding the hope that "the graduates of our Javne School will proudly carry the Jewish faith into the future."

The Rhode Island Jewish Herald announces its

## Spring 1996 Home & Garden Issue



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# ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT



## A Work of Wearable Art

This beautiful piece of stitchery, all handmade, will be on exhibit and for sale at the Temple Emanu-El Art Fair on the evening of March 16 and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on March 17. Artists and craftspeople will offer a wide range of high quality items for sale.

## Shakespeare's 'Macbeth' Appears at the Orpheum

The renowned Shakespeare & Company, known for its performance, training and educational programs for more than 18 years, presents an incisive

90-minute version of the classic "Macbeth" at the Orpheum Theatre in Foxborough on March 6 at 7:30 p.m.

This fast-paced version of this

masterpiece, performed by a professional cast of seven actors, explores the tragic descent of a young Scottish nobleman "Macbeth," as his ambitious urges for power lead him from being the best and brightest to an indiscriminating murderer.

Spurred by the influence of prophetic witches and the emotional manipulations of his wife, Macbeth races towards his fate, causing the destruction of all that is humane in his life.

Tickets are priced at \$12.50 for adults and \$7.50 for students and senior citizens. To purchase tickets or for further information, contact the Foxborough Regional Center for the Performing Arts at the Orpheum Theatre at (508) 543-ARTS or (800) 810-ARTS.

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## A Franco-American Version of Yang Zen Froggs

Trinity Repertory Company, under the artistic direction of Oskar Eustis, will present Theatre de la Jeune Lune in "Yang Zen Froggs in Moon Over a Hong Kong Sweatshop," an original piece by the Minneapolis-based theatrical troupe from March 7-24.

Often affectionately called "the Loonies," Theatre de la Jeune Lune was founded in France in 1978 by Parisians Dominique Serrand and Vincent Gracieux and Minneapolis native Barbara Berlovits Desbois.

The three were joined a short while later by Minneapolisian Robert Rosen.

All are graduates of the renowned theatre school Ecole Jacques Lecoq in Paris, and jointly share the duties of artistic director.

Steven Epp and Luverne Selfert later joined the company as artistic associates and Sarah Agnew, Diana Dresser, Bard Robin Goodrich and Joel Spence recently joined the troupe as company members.

Jeune Lune settled permanently in Minneapolis in 1985 after seven years of splitting

their seasons between France and the United States.

The 12-member troupe of American and French performers combines a group of diverse talents into a high-octane show of singing, dancing and clowning.

Trinity Rep's Upstairs Theater will be transformed into the "Cafe l'Amerique," an imaginary French bistro in which Jeune Lune presents "Yang Zen Froggs in Moon Over a Hong Kong Sweatshop," a series of 20 skits that look at life, love, and human behavior with a fresh, sometimes wistful, always

funny perspective.

Curtain times are 8 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays, 2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays and 7 p.m. on selected Sundays.

Individual ticket prices range from \$24 to \$28 for adults, \$10 for children 12 and under, with group rates available, as well as special ticket rates for subscribers.

For ticket information and the exact schedule, call the box office at 351-4242. Visa, MasterCard and American Express holders may also order by phone.

## Renegade Gallery Announces Exhibition of Photographs

Renegade Gallery has announced an exhibition of recent photographs by JK Potter opening March 1 and continuing through March 24.

With some 30 surrealist photographs in this his first Rhode Island exhibition, the artist continues on the path he has followed in the illustration of more than 30 books (Clive Barker, Ramsey Campbell, J.G. Ballard, Lucius Shepard, Stephen King and others) and hundreds of book covers.

Surprising in this day of high tech, the artist's fantasy photographs, darkroom alchemy, and bizarre creations are all the result of hand printing, hand coloring, and photographing of his own source material.

During the exhibition run, the gallery will be open Wednesday to Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. and by appointment.

Renegade Gallery is located at 118 Manton Ave., Providence. Call Jim Draper at 331-0877 for more information.

## New Bedford Symphony Orchestra to Feature Victor Rosenbaum

The New Bedford Symphony Orchestra has announced that Victor Rosenbaum will be performing Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 5 in E Flat Major with them on March 3 at 3 p.m.

As a pianist, Rosenbaum is critically acclaimed for his performances as a soloist and chamber musician, appearing throughout much of the United States, as well as Brazil, Japan, China, Taiwan, Israel and the former Soviet Union.

His chamber music collaborations have been with such artists as Leonard Rose, Walter Trampler, Eugenia Zuckerman, Arnold Steinhardt, and the

Vermeer and Cleveland Quartets. Rosenbaum regularly performs in Israel where he also gives classes at the renowned Jerusalem Music Center.

Rosenbaum has guest conducted the orchestras of Brandeis University, Princeton University, the New England Conservatory, the Longy School, the New England Conservatory Contemporary Ensemble; the Mystic Valley Chamber Orchestra (now the New England Philharmonic), and the Quincy Symphony Orchestra.

For ticket information, call (508) 999-NBSO.

## Gallery to Host Open Reading

The Writer's Collective of the English department of the University of Rhode Island will sponsor an open reading entitled "Life Writings: The Many Forms of Autobiography" at Hera Gallery, 327 Main St., Wakefield on March 3 at 2 p.m.

The event will be open to anyone who would like to participate, and to all genres of writing including: poetry, prose, journal writing, dramatic monologue, performance art.

Interested participants are asked to arrive at the gallery 10 minutes before the start of the event at which time a sign-up sheet will be distributed.

To allow time for as many writers as possible, participants are asked to limit their reading to 12 minutes.

For more information, call Alexandra Broches at 789-1488.

## DINING GUIDE



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# ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT



## 'I Don't Care About You!'

NEW YORK (JTA)—According to the Anti-Defamation League, the title of Michael Jackson's song "They Don't Care About Us" should be "I Don't Care About You."

Jackson apologized last summer for including anti-Semitic lyrics in the song that is part of his "HIStory: Past, Present and Future, Book I" album.

The ADL, the Simon Wiesenthal Center and others last June protested the words "Jew me, sue me," and "kick me, kike me."

Jackson said at the time that he would re-record the song and change the lyrics to "do me" and "strike me."

In his letter of apology, Jackson wrote, "My intention was for this song to say 'no' to racism, anti-Semitism and stereotyping."

"Unfortunately, my choice of words have unintentionally hurt the very people I want to stand

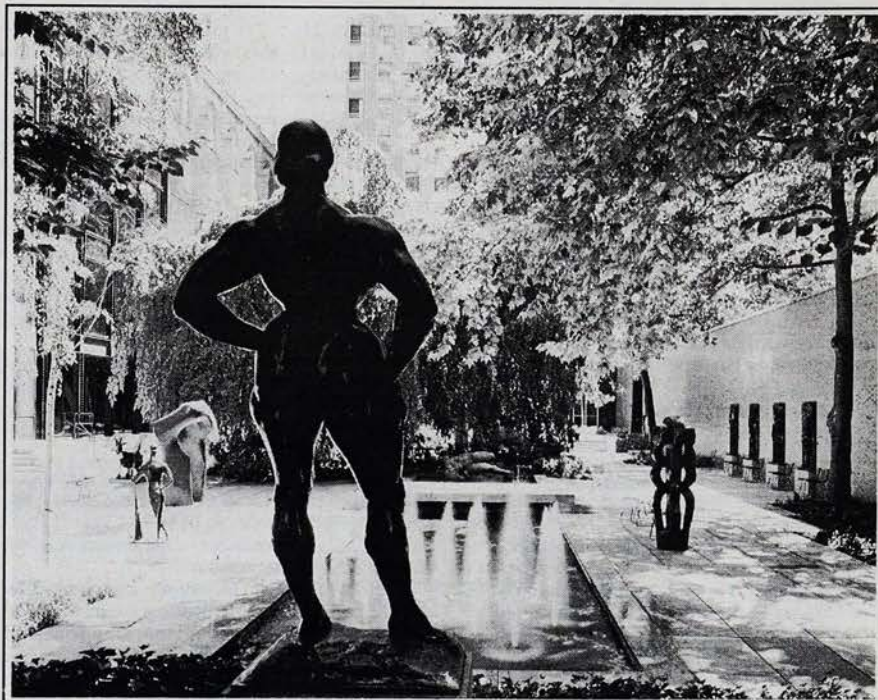
in solidarity with. I just want you all to know how strongly I am committed to tolerance, peace and love, and I apologize to anyone who might have been hurt."

Jewish leaders were satisfied with Jackson's response.

But, after the video version of the song was recently released — with the original anti-Semitic lyrics intact — on a nationally syndicated television program, the ADL expressed outrage.

"We accepted your apology, and we assumed that the video would conform with our understanding," ADL National Director Abraham Foxman wrote in a Feb. 6 letter to Jackson. "Apparently we were wrong."

Foxman added, "With the release of such a video, instead of remaining a spokesman against hate and prejudice, you have made a decision which reinforces intolerance."



YOU COULD BE IN ITALY, or Paris, or Athens, when you stroll through the Museum of Modern Art's Sculpture Garden. Exhibits are changed frequently.

*Photo courtesy of the Museum of Modern Art in New York City*

## A Magical Evening at Veterans

Veterans Memorial Auditorium and The Smith Hill Center will present The International Festival of Magic on March 2 at 8 p.m., at Veterans Memorial Auditorium, Brownell Street, Providence.

The event is being described as "the greatest gathering of magic talent in 50 years." According to the *New York Times*, the show is "for children who think they are adults and for adults who still believe they are children at heart."

The International Festival of Magic brings together the most innovative magicians from China, France, the Ukraine, Holland, Spain, Canada, Norway, Hungary and Hollywood.

Reserved tickets are \$24.50 and \$18.50. For children under 12 there is a 15 percent discount. There is a \$2 discount for students, seniors, AAA and WGBH members.

Call the VMA box office at 272-4VMA to order tickets.

## MOMA Sculpture Garden Waits for Spring

One of New York's most delightful outdoor spaces, The Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden, at the Museum of Modern Art, is celebrated for its setting of sculpture, trees, fountains, and reflecting pools.

Refurbished in 1989 for its 50th anniversary, the garden is a unique feature of the museum.

The garden is divided into three areas: an east terrace, a

central sunken garden, and a terrace to the west. Another terrace overlooks the main garden from the second-floor members' dining room at the garden's east end.

Groves of European cutleaf birch, little-leaf linden, and weeping beech are planted in beds in several areas, and English ivy, used throughout as ground cover, lends unity.

London planetrees, Andromeda, and a variety of seasonal plantings contribute to the overall harmony of art with nature.

Sculpture from the museum's collection is on view. Masterpieces by Alexander Calder, Henry Moore, Claes Oldenburg, Pablo Picasso, Auguste Rodin, David Smith, Jacques Lipchitz, Elie Nadelman, Joel Shapiro and Aristide Maillol come and go, as the seasons change and exhibits are freshened with new material.

## Get In On The Groundfloor

The Groundfloor, the movement education center of Groundwerx Dance Theatre, will sponsor Big Day, an open house for participants to sample the center's class programming, on March 3 from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Groundfloor studio at 95 Empire St., Providence.

The day will feature a variety of classes of half-hour length offered in three different spaces between 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Throughout the day, mini-performances and demonstrations will be offered in a variety of movement forms including Latin dance, Middle Eastern dance and swashbuckling.

The day will conclude with a

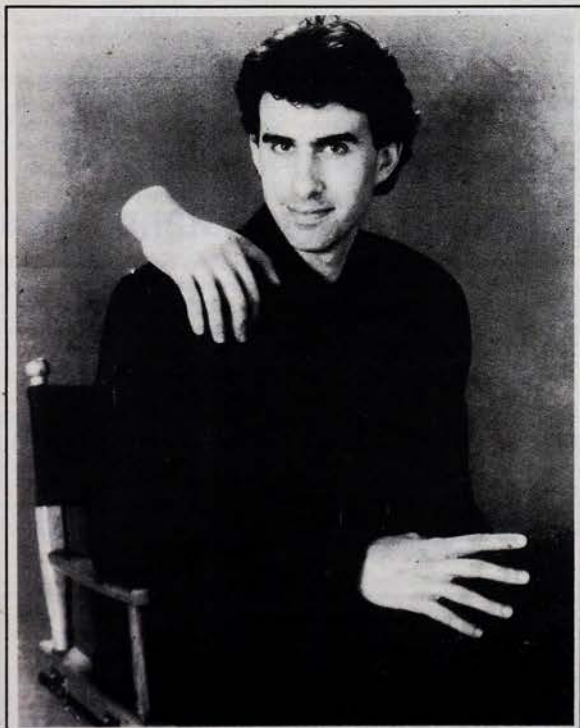
presentation by Groundwerx Dance Theatre's co-artistic directors, Heather Ahern, Peter Bramante and Donna Meierdiercks in the cafe at AS220. They will discuss the work of Groundwerx Dance Theatre and announce the company's plans for the celebration of their 10th anniversary season.

Big Day is open to the public free of charge. Participants are encouraged to wear loose, comfortable clothing appropriate for movement.

For further information, call Morgan Christopher at 454-4564.

*I am in earnest — I will not equivocate — I will not excuse — I will not retreat a single inch; and I will be heard!*

W.L. GARRISON 1805-1879



GIVE HIM A HAND — Christopher Hart, who played the role of "Thing" in the Addams Family movies, will be one of the magicians featured at the International Festival of Magic on March 2.

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# OBITUARIES

## NATHANIEL M. BODNER

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Nathaniel M. Bodner, 76, of Treasure Island, Fla., president of the Robin Agency, an insurance company, in Providence before retiring, died Feb. 15 at the Palms of Pasadena Hospital in St. Petersburg. He was the husband of Fay (Robin) Bodner.

Born in Jersey City, N.J., a son of the late Nathan and Rose (Biegel) Bodner, he had lived in Florida for the past 14 years and maintained a summer home in Provincetown, Mass. He had previously lived in Providence.

He was a graduate of Jersey City State College. He was an Army Air Corps veteran of World War II.

He was a past state commander of the Rhode Island Branch of the Jewish War Veterans of America, and past president of the Providence Fraternal Association. He was a member of Redwood Lodge 35 F & AM and the Trowel Club. He served on the board of directors of the Jewish Community Center, the YMCA Camp Fuller and the United Fund. He was an artist and his art work was displayed in galleries in Providence, Provincetown, North Carolina and Florida. He was an avid square dancer and a member of the Checkered Squares and the Circle Eighters.

Besides his wife, he leaves a daughter, Jill Lester of North Hampton, Mass.; a son, Peter Bodner of Providence; a sister, Blanche Dohrman of Jersey City, N.J., and four grandchildren.

The funeral service was held Feb. 19 at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

## GALINA GERSHENZVAIG

PAWTUCKET — Galina Gershenzvaig, 60, of 208 Lafayette St., died Feb. 19 at Memorial Hospital. She was the wife of Semion Gershenzvaig.

Born in Moscow, Russia, a daughter of the late Gregory and Raisa Hodorkovsky, she lived in Pawtucket for 11 years. She previously lived in Providence.

Besides her husband she leaves a daughter, Irit Gambuto of Pawtucket; a sister, Tatiana Hodorkovsky of Brooklyn, N.Y.,

and a granddaughter.

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

## ANNA KIRZHNER

CRANSTON — Anna Kirzhner, 72, of 85 Briggs St., a production worker at the former B.B. Greenberg Jewelry manufacturing Co., Providence, for 10 years before retiring in 1987, died Feb. 15 at Rhode Island Hospital. She was the wife of Foma Kirzhner.

Born in Russia, the daughter of the late Alex and Enda Shindelman, she came to this country 18 years ago and lived in Providence before moving to Cranston 10 years ago. She was a member of Congregation Torat Yisrael, Cranston. She was a member of the Women's Association of the Jewish Home for the Aged.

Besides her husband, she leaves a daughter, Sofya Tonkover of Cranston; a son, Gene Kirzhner of Westminster, Calif.; a sister, Sonya Dolub of Hollywood, Calif.; two brothers, Jacob Shindelman of California, and Urey Shindelman of Brooklyn, N.Y.; and five grandchildren.

The funeral was held Feb. 16 at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

## IDA KOTLEN

FALL RIVER — Ida Kotlen, 84, of 2155 Highland Ave., died Feb. 16 at Charlton Memorial Hospital in Fall River. She was the wife of David Kotlen.

A lifelong Fall River resident, she was a daughter of the late Jacob and Luba (Dashoff) Mossoff.

She was a member of Temple Beth-El of Fall River and its Sisterhood. She was a member of the Fall River Jewish Home for the Aged and a member of Hadassah. She was a former member of the Fall River Country Club and the Crestwood Country Club.

Besides her husband she leaves a daughter, Jill Meisels of New York, N.Y.; a son, Jason Kotlen of Trumbull, Conn.; a sister, Helen Levine of Fall River,

and four granddaughters.

A graveside funeral service was held Feb. 18 at Temple Beth-El Cemetery, North Main Street, Fall River. The service was coordinated by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

## NORMAN LEVIN

CRANSTON — Norman Levin of Oaklawn Avenue, a shoe salesman until retiring in 1988, died Feb. 18 at home. He was the husband of the late Bess (Brazner) Levin.

Born in New York, a son of the late Isadore and Fannie Levin, he lived in Cranston for 20 years. He previously lived in Providence.

He was a former member of Temple Sinai. He was an Army veteran of World War II and a member of the Jewish War Veterans.

He leaves a daughter, Elyse Levin-Russman of Canton, Mass., and two grandchildren.

A graveside service was held Feb. 20 at Lincoln Park Cemetery in Warwick.

Arrangements were by the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## BERTHA MEZOFF

WARWICK — Bertha Mezooff, 86, of Calla St., Providence a teacher in the Warwick public school system for 15 years before retiring in 1972, died Feb. 17 at the Kent Nursing & Rehabilitation Center in Warwick. She was the widow of Milton Mezooff.

Born in Boston, a daughter of the late Abraham and Ida (Young) Factoroff, she lived in Providence since 1957.

She was a 1931 graduate of Boston University. She was a founder of the Washington Park Community Center, and a volunteer for many years until a recent illness. She was a member of the Rhode Island and Warwick Retired Teachers Associations, and a charter member of the Social Seniors of Warwick. She received an award for many years of service to the RSVP. She was a member of Temple Am David and served on its religious committee. For three years, she was a daily literacy volunteer at the Washington Park Library.

She leaves a sister, Mildred Pivnick of West Warwick. She was the sister of the late Henry, Allick and Morris Factoroff.

A graveside service was held Feb. 20 at Lincoln Park Cemetery in Warwick. Burial followed. The service was coordinated by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

## HENRY MICKELSON

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — Henry Mickelson died Feb. 18. He was the husband of the late Sadye (Anapol) Mickelson and son of the late Samuel and Ida (Fajan) Mickelson.

He died at the J.F.K. Memorial Hospital in West Palm Beach.

Born in New Bedford, he lived there for most of his life before moving to Florida a year-and-a-half ago. He was employed in the produce/general merchandise business from a very early age until his retirement 12 years ago.

He was a member of the Tifereth Israel Synagogue and various charitable and social organizations in the community.

He was the last of 10 brothers and sisters.

Survivors include a son, Harvey Mickelson of S. Dartmouth, three grandsons, Steven Mickelson of Parker, Colo., Scott Mickelson of San Francisco, and Jeffrey Mickelson of Wellesley and two great-grandchildren.

He was the father of the late Barbara Mickelson and Jordan Mickelson.

The funeral service was held Feb. 22 at Tifereth Israel Congregation in New Bedford, Mass. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## SARA SEGAL

PROVIDENCE — Sara Segal, 80, of 14 Taft Ave., Providence, died Feb. 21 at home. She was the wife of Szymon Segal.

Born in Poland, a daughter of

the late Shaya and Ralzel (Uram) Baucher, she lived in Providence since 1981. She previously lived in New York.

In her youth, she was a member of the Zionist Youth Organization and was a founding member of an Israeli kibbutz. She was a Holocaust survivor.

Besides her husband, she leaves a daughter, Varda Stieglitz of Providence; two sisters, Malka Teitelbaum and Fryda Zaidman, both in Israel, and four grandchildren. She was the mother of the late Dr. Isadore Segal.

The funeral was held Feb. 22 at Congregation Beth Shalom, Rochambeau Avenue. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery in Warwick. Arrangements were by the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## DANIEL WEISMAN

ROYAL PALM BEACH, Fla. — Daniel Weisman, 69, formerly of Wildwood Drive, Cranston, and the former owner of West Warwick Scrap Metal, Inc., for several years before retiring in 1978, died Feb. 6 at his home in Royal Palm Beach, Fla. He was the husband of Amelia (Martone) Weisman.

Born in Providence, a son of the late David and the late Annie Weisman, he lived in Cranston for many years before making Royal Palm Beach his home for 15 years ago.

He was a Navy veteran of World War II, and a member of the Jewish War Veterans of America.

Besides his wife, he leaves a daughter, Cheryl Weisman of Royal Palm Beach and two brothers, Samuel Weisman of Cranston, R.I., and Benjamin Weisman of Kew Gardens, N.Y., as well as several nieces and nephews. He was the brother of the late Charles Weissman and the late Louis Weisman.

Funeral services were held Feb. 8 at Menorah Gardens and Funeral Chapel of North Palm Beach, Fla.

## Champion of Coexistence Dies

by Heather Camlot

NEW YORK (JTA) — The Rev. Bruno Hussar, founder of a joint Jewish-Arab community in Israel, died Feb. 8 in Jerusalem after a brief illness. He was 84.

Hussar established Neve Shalom/Wahat al-Salam, The Oasis of Peace, in 1972 as a community where Israeli Jews and Arabs could live in harmony.

The community, located near the Latrun Junction, about halfway between Tel Aviv and

Jerusalem, has become a center for promoting coexistence among Israel's Jewish and Arab citizens.

One hundred Arab and Jewish children, many of them from outside the village, study at its primary school, and more than 15,000 high school students from across the country have attended the four-day workshops at the village's School for Peace.

Bruno and the village were nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize five times.

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## Violinist David Kim Featured at R.I. Philharmonic Concert

The Rhode Island Philharmonic will present its next Classical Series concert on March 9 at 8 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Auditorium in Providence.

Conducted by music director candidate F. John Adams, the concert will feature acclaimed violinist David Kim in a performance of the Sibelius Concerto in D minor for Violin and Orchestra. The program also includes Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 6 in B minor, "Pathétique" and Ravel's La Valse.

Adams currently serves as the assistant conductor of the Rhode Island Philharmonic, where he conducts the popular Fleet Family Series as well as the annual series of outreach concerts, and the Philharmonic Educational Concerts for elementary and secondary school students. He also serves as the music director of the 200-member Rhode Island Philharmonic Youth Orchestra program.

Recognized as one of the most exciting young violinists of his generation, Kim has appeared with many renowned orchestras, including the Pittsburgh Symphony, the Dallas Symphony and the Seoul Philharmonic. In addition to recitals in

New York, Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Los Angeles and Washington, D.C., Kim is a frequent guest artist at international music festivals.

Kim has made several television appearances, including a PBS documentary of the prestigious 1986 International Tchaikovsky Competition where he was the only American to win a top prize. Kim's international reputation follows him to Rhode Island, where he is the founder and music director of the Summer Chamber Music Festival at the University of Rhode Island in Kingston.

Ticket prices for the concert are \$18, \$28 and \$32 for adults, with discounts for students, seniors and groups of 10 or more. Tickets may be purchased at the Philharmonic office, 222 Richmond St., Providence, by phone (831-3123) or fax (831-4577) using Mastercard or Visa, or in person during business hours Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tickets are also available for purchase at the Veterans Memorial Auditorium box office beginning March 2 by phone (272-4862) and in person Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

## Sephardic Rabbinical Conference Coming in March

The American Sephardi Federation in conjunction with the Association of Sephardic Rabbis announces an historic gathering of Sephardic rabbis from throughout the United States on March 19 and 20.

This first national conference of Sephardic rabbis, conveyed by both the recognized national Sephardic rabbinic and lay organizations, is a direct outcome of the progress achieved at the American Sephardi Federation National Conference in Miami in January, 1995.

The conference will address the issues facing the rapidly expanding American Sephardi community, and its increasing influence on American Jewish life. Organizers are confident that the major new ideas, cre-

ative proposals, and various innovative avenues of action which will come from this historic gathering will provide positive guidance for Sephardic congregations and communities, and greatly aid the religious and spiritual growth of Sephardim in the United States.

Several rabbinic luminaries will participate in this conference, among them the Av Bet Din of the Queens rabbinic community, Rabbi Eliahu Ben Haim, shlita.

Further information regarding other participants will be available shortly.

For registration, hotel and travel information, or more details, contact Rabbi Haim Alcabes (718) 896-6417 or the ASF office at (212) 366-7223.

## Security Services

(Continued from Page 1)

ministers, security around them had been stepped up and specific instructions for their protection had been given.

A security official was quoted as saying that protection units of the Shin Bet, Israel's domestic security service, had been given explicit instructions to keep "hot-headed youths" away from ministers during rallies and tours across the country in the election campaign.

Security and intelligence sources have in recent days collected extensive material — including pamphlets and graffiti — denouncing Peres, Shahal and Sarid.

Some of the graffiti had been found scrawled on walls in Bnei Brak, Ashkelon and Safed.

In addition to the planned attacks on ministers, security and intelligence officials have also been alerted to plans by extreme right-wing groups to attack Arabs in an attempt to sabotage the elections.

In another development, one of the Israelis charged with conspiracy to assassinate Rabin wrote in a letter that Peres had been marked for death because he was endangering Jewish lives with his peace policies.

The letter by Dror Adani was published Feb. 19 by the Israeli daily *Ma'ariv*.

The letter was seized by a prison guard during a search of Adani's cell, according to the newspaper.

"Any person who endangers the lives of Jews must know that he is putting his own life in danger," Adani wrote.

Similar reasoning was expressed by Yigal Amir, the 25-year-old law student who confessed to the Rabin assassination.

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R.I. Jewish Herald classified ads cost \$3 for 15 words or less. Additional words cost 12 cents each. Payment must be received by Monday at 4 p.m., prior to the Thursday when the ad is scheduled to appear.

This newspaper will not, knowingly, accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the R.I. Fair Housing Act and Section 804 (C) of Title VIII of the 1968 Civil Rights Act. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwelling/housing accommodations advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

## Bill Glass Artwork Displayed

Rhode Island artist Bill Glass will be exhibiting his artwork from March 4 through 28 in the Cranston Public Library Meeting Room, 140 Sockanosset Cross Road, Cranston.

His work in charcoal, pastels, acrylics and oils, is influenced by the post-impressionists, and reflects a nightlife atmosphere. Glass has exhibited

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An opening reception will be held at the Central Library on March 10, from 2 to 4 p.m. The exhibit is free and open to the public during library hours.

## Poet to Read From His Works

Poet Charles Simic, author of 12 books, including in 1989 *The World Doesn't End*, which won the Pulitzer Prize, will give a reading from his work at the Rhode Island College faculty center at 8 p.m. on March 6, as part of the college's Reading Series this spring.

Simic, born in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, is considered one of this country's most prolific and celebrated poets. In addition to the Pulitzer Prize, he has won a

PEN International Award, an Edgar Allan Poe Award, and a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship.

Poet Laureate Mark Strand described Simic's poetry as "irresistible and horrifying," where the "universal and domestic often changes places so that they each can be seen with greater clarity and experienced with greater force."

This event is free and open to the public

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## Brown-RISD Hillel to Host Jewish Women's Week '96

From March 1 to 7, Brown University-Rhode Island School of Design Hillel will host the third annual Jewish Women's Week.

There will be a week of programming celebrating Jewish women's history, culture and spirituality. The week's events are sponsored by Kol Isha, the Jewish Student Union and Brown-RISD Hillel's Jewish Women's Group.

• March 1, 6:30 p.m. at Hillel. **Feminist Service and Oneg Discussion.** There will be an experimental Feminist Shabbat Service. A discussion, led by Professor Lynn Davidman about Jewish mother-daughter relationships, will follow dinner. To make reservations for dinner, call 863-2805.

• March 2, 8 p.m. at Andrews Dining Hall. **Acts of Power.** The third annual Jewish Women's Cultural Celebration, Acts of Power, is an evening of creative performances by Jewish women. Watch them express some of their thoughts and feelings about being Jewish and about being women. (\$2 per person Hillel member, \$5 non-member)

• March 3, 11 a.m. at Memorial Room (2nd floor, Faunce). **Interfaith Women's Community Service Project.** Brunch and discussion, followed by volunteer work at a battered women's shelter. Co-sponsored with the Coalition on Jewish Domestic Abuse.

• March 3, 8 p.m. at Hillel. **Unmasking Desire — Queer Women's Purim Party.** A creative space to make masks and talk about Jewish women's queer identity. Allies are welcome to join this discussion, but please respect this women's only space.

• March 4, 4 p.m. at Sarah Doyle Women's Center. **Women's Internalization of Speech Patterns.** Come to hear renown professor Barbara Tannenbaum discuss the impact of socialization on Jewish women's speech patterns.

• March 4, 10:30 p.m. at Hillel. **Purim Party.** Come dance the night away at a party in honor of Purim. Hear the story of Purim and then forget your woes by dancing the night away with the help of a fabulous klezmer band.

• March 5, 8 p.m. at Hillel. **Creating New Rituals for Jewish Women's Lives.** Rabbi Gail Diamond, of Congregation Agudas Achim, in Attleboro, will be leading a discussion about new rituals that Jewish women are creating to mark significant life passages and accomplishments. All are welcome to come learn about new rituals and to create your own.

• March 6, noon, at Hillel. **Are Women Jews? If they are why aren't they circumcised?** Professor Shaye Cohen will lead this provocative discussion over lunch.

• March 7, noon, at Hillel. **Text Study.** Rabbi Alan Flam will lead a text study over lunch.

• March 7, 5 to 7 p.m. at 58 Keene St., **Yemenite Jewish Women.** Join Interfaith dinner and discussion, featuring Rutie Adler. A personal history of being a Jewish woman in Yemen. Co-sponsored by the Chaplains Office.

• March 7, 7 p.m. at Hillel. **Decorate for the Future.** Nancy Katz will be facilitating an interactive silk painting workshop. Learn how to work with silk and help create a wall hanging for the new Hillel house, in addition to individual projects. Katz is a nationally recognized artist and arts educator committed to creative ritual objects that are both relevant and accessible.

For more information about any of these events, call 863-2805.

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## 'Turning Point '95' to Visit Providence

The Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum will host representatives of the Paris-based organization, Au Coeur de la Communication Internationale (the Heart of Communication), on March 7 at 7:30 p.m. at the Social Hall of the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, 401 Elm Grove Ave. in Providence.

The institute's documentary, "Turning Point Project," will be presented along with commentary by Claire Nuer, the co-founder of the institute and Zetzette Larson, a survivor of Auschwitz who was a participant in the project. A \$4 donation is suggested.

The film documents "Turning Point '95," a dialogue-intensive program which took place at Auschwitz this past August, 50 years after the concentration camp's liberation. The program brought together 367 people from 33 countries and diverse professional, religious and cultural backgrounds, including survivors and present-day witnesses of communities in conflict, to confront history and examine their responsibility in actively ensuring a humane future.

Nuer, the co-founder of the institute, was born Jewish in Paris and survived the Holocaust hiding with a Catholic family. She and her mother were two of the few remaining members of her post-war family, giving her a sense of life's preciousness at an early age.

A later brush with cancer fur-

ther impelled her commitment to promoting intercultural communication. Her goal of fostering communication in order to create and ensure a humane world developed into the formation of the institute in 1989. The organization is dedicated to education and intercultural dialogue which fosters reconciliation among individuals, communities and countries.

Larsen, an Auschwitz-Birkenau survivor and participant in the "Turning Point '95" program, is a Boston-based social worker who holds an active position with the Facing History and Ourselves organization. Dedicated to moving beyond the Holocaust, to utilizing its example as a means of preventing recurrences, Facing History and Ourselves provides Holocaust education.

The mission of the Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum is to provide the schools and the community with information about the Holocaust so that such an event might never happen again. The museum is also a vital link for Holocaust survivors and their families with its exhibits, commemorations and programming. The museum keeps audio and video records of local survivors, a *Book of Remembrance* of those who perished, as well as photographs, books and artifacts connected to the Holocaust.

Contact Beth Cohen, director of education at the Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum for details at 453-7860.

## Searching for Plus Size Models

Big, beautiful women are big business today, and top model and talent agencies throughout the country are constantly seeking new faces for their plus size departments.

One of the area's top plus size models, Marialana Cook, will be visiting Boston to scout for new faces for the plus size modeling industry.

Cook will be conducting a model search for plus size women at the internationally affiliated Barbizon Modeling Agency, 607 Boylston St.,

Boston, on March 6 from 1 to 8 p.m.

A free personal interview and model's consultation will be given by Cook for all women sizes 12 to 24 who are interested in pursuing modeling careers. Interviews are by appointment only.

Women interested should call the Barbizon Agency at (617) 266-6980 to reserve their appointment so long as they have the crucial three Ps: pretty face, proper proportions and pleasant personality.



### Queen and King For a Day

The Fall River Jewish Home held its yearly Sweetheart Ball on Feb. 11. Frank Moniz was crowned king and the queen was Florence Hawarth.

Photo courtesy of Lori A. Viveiros

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