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**Jewish
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'Righteous Gentile' Opdyke to Speak at Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum

Irene Opdyke, who risked her life many times to save Jews during World War II and has been honored with the title of Righteous Gentile, will speak at the Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum during a Holocaust Remembrance Program on April 29 at 8 p.m. Opdyke was born in Poland. During the war, she hid 12 Jews in the basement of a villa belonging to a German major for whom she did housekeeping. During those years, when she was a prisoner of the Germans, she risked her life on many occasions to aid Jews, even though it was considered a capital crime, punishable by death.

The war's end found her in a camp for displaced persons in Germany. In 1949 she came to New York City, arriving with no skills, friends, family or money — and without knowing a word of English. She became a United States citizen and settled in Orange County, Calif., where she is prominent in civic and community affairs. Opdyke is one of 5,000 in the world recognized for bravery during the Holocaust. She was

awarded the Medal of Honor by Yad Vashem in Jerusalem in 1982 and was given international acclaim through the Commission for the Designation of the Righteous. She was awarded the title of "Righteous," given to gentiles who risked their lives to aid and save Jews. For details or to reserve space, contact Beth Cohen, director of education at the Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum at 453-7860. The museum is located at 401 Elm Grove Ave. in Providence.



Making Falafel

Sharon Silverman of Perspectives helped make falafel at the Israel Independence Day celebration held in Newport on April 21. Cantor Peri Smilow, a singer and songwriter of popular Jewish music, provided the entertainment. Several local Jewish groups were represented. *Herald photo by Neil Nachbar*

Hoffman and Swartz Have Served Long and Well

by Alison Smith
Herald Editor

The Rhode Island section of the National Council of Jewish Women met on April 17 to pay tribute to two of the Jewish community's biggest assets — Herta Hoffman and Esther Swartz. For 35 years, these women have been rounding up and providing household goods for new immigrant families. Immigrants

frequently need everything — all the small but essential items that make an apartment or a house a home, that make life in a strange land more bearable — things like sheets and towels, pots and pans, and advice. To continue their service for 35 years means these ladies staunchly refused to succumb to burn-out, or the demands of more glamorous projects, or even some of the enticements of

their personal lives. The good they have done is incalculable. Also to be honored at the meeting was Arthur Robbins, of the Marriott Hotel, for his work and leadership with the Chamber Academy. A death in Robbins' family prevented him from attending the meeting and accepting his award from NCJW. The Chamber Academy is a *(Continued on Page 15)*

Jews Wary of Local Militia Groups

by Daniel Kurtzman
WASHINGTON (JTA) — One year after the Oklahoma City bombing, American Jews continue to eye the militias with trepidation.

But as Jewish defense organizations monitor and expose the armed white dissidents who make up the militias, Jews in the area say they do not feel threatened.

"I'm not very concerned about the militia movement at the present time, but that's probably what they want us to think," said Al Lerner, a Jewish attorney who lives in Kalispell, Mont. To date, there have been no reports of attacks perpetrated by militia groups specifically against Jews.

"These groups by and large do not target Jews or blacks as their prime organizing prin-

ciple," said Kenneth Stern of the American Jewish Committee, a specialist on anti-Semitism and extremism.

The movement, however, revolves around a virulently anti-government ideology that borrows from age-old anti-Semitic conspiracy theories. An estimated 800 militia and militia support groups are active in at least 40 states, with between 10,000 and 40,000 members. Not all subscribe to extremist views.

The movement's main breeding ground stretches from eastern Washington across the Idaho panhandle into Montana — an area of the country where fewer than 1,500 Jews account for less than 1 percent of the region's population. Jews in the area feel they have *(Continued on Page 15)*



PREPARING TO HONOR THEIR VOLUNTEERS, officers of the Rhode Island section of the National Council of Jewish Women meet on April 17 at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island. From the left are: Paulla Lipsey, vice president for community service; Judith Litchman, vice president for programming; Carol Brooklyn, president of the section; Herta Hoffman and Esther Swartz, the volunteers to be honored; and Eunice Greenfield, hospitality chairman. *Herald photo by Alison Smith*

INSIDE THE OCEAN STATE

Children's Museum is Thinking Cuddly

On April 26 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., preschoolers may visit with one-day old chicks at the Children's Museum of Rhode Island. They'll see how baby chicks hatch, and hear the tale, *The Chick and the Duckling*, by Mirra Ginsburg. Same day registration is required. Call 726-2591, beginning at 8:30 a.m. to register. There is a fee of \$1.50 beyond the normal price of admission.

On April 28, from 1 to 3 p.m., children 3 and older are invited to visit with a little lamb and a ewe. Children may cuddle with nature's fuzziest babies: bunnies, kittens, and chicks, and create colorful paper flowers, and plant some real flowers to take home and watch grow. There is no additional fee beyond the \$3.50 price of admission.

Women & Infants' Center Schedules More Programs

On April 27, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., Rosanne Lavergne, certified massage therapist, will lead mothers, fathers, caretakers, and grandparents through massage techniques for a fussy baby, or to please the happy one.

The cost of the workshop is \$15 per family.

Students can receive continuing education credits for participation. Call the center at 767-2344 to register.

Beauty secrets, makeup application tips and color analysis will be discussed at the Image

Update Workshop at the center on May 6, from 7 to 9 p.m. The cost will be \$15. The Image Update Workshop will be taught by Olga Hawwa at 101 Dudley St. in Providence. The center has a beginners yoga class starting on May 3, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. The cost will be \$60 for a six-week series. There is an intermediate yoga class beginning on April 29, which runs from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Call the center for information on childbirth and parenting classes, also.

'Swing Into Spring' to Benefit Domestic Violence Shelter

The Women's Center of Rhode Island's fund-raiser, "Swing Into Spring," will be an evening of dining and dancing in the elegant atmosphere of the Narragansett Room at the Westin Hotel. It will benefit victims of domestic violence and their children.

On April 27 guests will enjoy cocktails, dinner, and dancing in the company of honorary

chairpersons Karen Adams from WPRI Channel 12, Ginger Casey from WJAR Channel 10, Tara Granahan from WLNE Channel 6, and Linda Liese from Lite 105.

The big band sound of the Mac Chrupcala Orchestras will be featured. Tickets are \$125 and \$250 (patron).

For tickets, call 861-2761.

H. Daniel Hassenfeld to Read From *Call of the Shofar*

Books on the Square will present a reading and book signing by H. Daniel Hassenfeld, former Providence native and author of *Call of the Shofar*, which is a collection of thoughtful essays on the path one person has taken as he studied Jewish tradition and worked to incorporate it into a contemporary life. His book would be particularly appreciated by someone who recently experienced the loss of a loved one.

Hassenfeld, a lawyer who specializes in immigration law, has taught classes and lectured on Jewish subjects in his current hometown of Newton, Mass. He wrote several of the essays in this book during a period of mourning for his father.

He will be at the bookstore at 471 Angell St., Providence, on April 29 at 7:30 p.m.

The program is free and open to the public. Call 331-9097 for more details.



H. DANIEL HASSENFELD will read from, and sign, his book, *Call of the Shofar*, on April 29 at Books on the Square.

Talk on Rare Books Rescheduled

An illustrated talk on "What Makes a Book Valuable" by Professor Bernard Gordon of Northeastern University originally scheduled for April 10 at the Pawtucket Public Library has been rescheduled to May 1 at 7 p.m. at the library.

Gordon, a bookseller, author, photographer, and professor for more than 40 years, is a native of Westerly and has a summer bookshop in Watch Hill.

Taste the Best of the Best

The 9th annual Share Our Strength's "Taste of the Nation" will be held on May 8, from 7 to 11 p.m. at the Rhode Island Convention Center.

Seventy area restaurants, wineries, and beverage companies will provide complimentary samples to guests. Participants include the Red Rooster Tavern, pastry Art, Atomic Grill, Catering Collaborative, Diamond Hill Vineyards, The Schoolhouse Cafe, Bluepoint Oyster Bar & Restaurant, Spain Restaurant, The Coffee Bean, and Sakonnet Vineyards.

Ticket prices for the event are \$35 for general admission and \$100 for patron tickets. Call (800) 955-8278 (24-hour connection). Visa, MasterCard, Amex and Discover are accepted.

For more information, call the Food Bank at 826-3073.

Arbor Day at Blithewold

On April 28, from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m., Blithewold Mansion & Gardens, 101 Ferry Road (Route 114), Bristol, will hold its seventh annual Arbor Day celebration.

Individuals and families are invited to visit the estate, with its more than 2,000 trees and shrubs on 33 landscaped acres, for an Arbor Day of fun and learning.

Adults and children may bring kites to fly from Blithewold's 10-acre Great Lawn overlooking Narragansett Bay. From 12:30 until 3 p.m., nature-oriented activities are offered for children at the Tea House. Blithewold's wooden pandas Ping and Pong will be available for picture-taking near the Bamboo Grove.

At 1:30 p.m. Burt the Raccoon Puppet Show will offer a fast-paced, humorous and exciting program for children preschool through sixth grade. A special Arbor Day story time will be offered at 3 p.m.

Refreshments will be available for purchase in the Blithewold Mansion from 1 to 4 p.m., and the gift shop will be open from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Adult admission is \$5 for the outdoor grounds or \$7.50 for a guided mansion/grounds tour. Children under 18 are admitted free for Arbor Day.

Call 253-2707 for more information.

Twice Told Tales Hosts Author Lloyd Kaplan

Lloyd Kaplan, Providence author, musician (the Aristocrats) and CCRI music teacher, will be signing copies of his book, *Selected Lessons by Professor Didymous*, at Twice Told Tales, in Historic Pawtuxet Village, Cranston, R.I. on April 27 from 1 to 4 p.m.

The book features a collection of Kaplan's puns and play on words, with cartoon illustrations by William K. Bottorff. The book is available for \$9.00 at Twice Told Tales, 2210 Broad St., Cranston. For more information, call 785-9599.

Camera Werks Will Make Your Camera Work

The Camera Werks, a full-service camera store at 764 Hope St., will hold its annual camera repair clinic on April 27 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in celebration of National Photography Month in May.

The event kicks off the store's spring monthlong clearance sale (a 20 percent discount on: used cameras, lenses, enlargers; film; a wide variety of picture frames; and hundreds of photo accessories).

Pat, the proprietor of The Camera Werks, said, "Trained technicians will be on site dur-

ing the camera clinic to clean and check your cameras and answer questions — at no charge." She added that free estimates will be given if repairs are necessary.

Meditation Lecture Offered

There will be a free introductory lecture on Transcendental Meditation every Wednesday, at noon and 8 p.m. at 141 Waterman St. in Providence.

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FEATURE



Of Human Misery

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

The films of Claude Lelouch have always struck me as a bit heavy, obvious, wrong. I went to "Les Misérables" with doubt, not hope.

But you must see it and judge for yourself. It may take you as much by surprise as Spielberg's moral turnaround in "Schindler's List."

"Les Mis" holds a complex design quality, mixing personal memory with literary and cinematic reference, and moving along through three hours of melodrama.

Born in 1937, Claude was the son of a Jewish father and a convert mother. Travelling by train, she had to offer her jeweled watch for the proper papers. To soothe him, she read pages from the inevitable *Jean Valjean*. The director disguises his own story through the endlessly popular legend of Victor Hugo.

Some of the scenes in this mammoth undertaking have a remarkable poignancy and enthusiastic power.

In the massive movie, the feeling against the century of

gadgetry and advertisement, a century indeed of misery, starts with a cynical 1900 New Year's Eve waltz.

It closes more optimistically with a wedding dance celebrating the union of a Jewish survivor, a Resistance hero, and the American presence in France.

You could, with justice, mock the movie for its super-kitsch version of French Jewish wartime experience. Not all Americans rescued with panache. Good does not always conquer evil. French critics are not always wrong to criticize easy answers.

Even so, perhaps in spite of itself, "Les Misérables" rises to a level of art as well as entertainment.

Partly, it is the sheer complexity of the face of Jean Paul Belmondo, who plays the good man, the Resistance hero, the loner Jean Valjean who chooses *menschlichkeit* over corruption, the nobility of making such a choice.

Partly, it is the performance of Annie Girardot as the equally

soulful peasant who hides her secret Jew, wounded and isolated, in a hayloft. Typecast as the loving but unloved lady from nowhere, she cures him and saves him, in a soap-opera conflict that holds the film in its tight embrace of dilemma.

There is a certain defiance in Claude Lelouch's screen story, both borrowing and rejecting other films about French collaboration.

There are so many stories stirred together in this undertaking, that all a brief review can do is sum up the results. An absurdist, but moving, account, that shows one element never before presented. That is, now, 50 years later, the enormous victory of the Americans over vile forces.

Black and white American troops open the convents and the camps, releasing Jewish children (like Lelouch himself) and permitting the postwar promises to begin.

Go and give this movie a chance to grab you. Don't surrender altogether to its cheerfulness. Hold on tight. In the end, it is steeped in its own brand of existential irony.

It is all about injustice and deceit, with a window wide open to Elijah—to the endless prayer for rescue and renewal.

Keep in mind that the little girl who plays the Cosette role is in fact the daughter of the director, playing the position of

her own father. And that the part of the mother is taken indeed by the girlfriend of the director. This is a sort of home movie made for grand audiences, an entertainer-survivor

finally able to get out of his own camp and tell his own story in the only way that he can.

It gave me an evening filled with thought and emotion. It will do the same for you.

What Does it Take to Create Peace?

Geraldine Gamburd, professor of anthropology and sociology at UMass Dartmouth, has identified two different, seemingly paradoxical, origins of peace in a preliminary study of peaceful societies. Gamburd is a Dartmouth resident.

Peace in a society stems from either positive or negative circumstances, said Gamburd.

The positive source is security, based on love and nurturance that generates confidence and creativity in a setting of freedom and equality.

The negative sources of peace are fear and insecurity, based on the perception of pervasive danger.

Gamburd uses two peaceful band-level societies, the Mbuti Pygmies and Semai, to illustrate the extremes of love and fear as origins of peace.

"I search out the conditions and processes that generate peace within both the positive setting of love and the negative setting of fear," said Gamburd.

"Combining findings from such a broad scope of societies and perspectives leads to insights about necessary prerequisites to peace and some ways to assure that these prerequisites can be met."

Gamburd lists some of the necessary prerequisites as the human right to have our needs for love, work and play met.

"Some ways these prerequisites might be assured would be a condition of society where exploitation, overt violence and structural violence are minimized or eliminated," Gamburd said. "To achieve these conditions of peace, societies will need to build relationships based on processes of reciprocity and cooperation within which harmony, freedom and equality can flourish."

She will present her work, "Conditions and Processes of Peace" at the Alliance for a Responsible World United in Solidarity conference to be held in June in Montreal.

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EDITORIAL

Renew Your Subscription

Recently a movie was made from a popular novel called *A Walk in the Clouds*. It was, in Hollywood terms, a "small" movie, meaning that it didn't require special effects, car chases, far-flung locations or elaborate sets costing more than the gross national product of Paraguay.

Yet it was a well-liked tale, because it portrayed a touching human drama: a man becomes involved with a family in an unusual way. The family's business is a vineyard, which burns down, and is saved only by the man's discovery of the "seed" vine which has been miraculously preserved.

We mention this story because it reminds us of the timelessness of themes brought up in this week's portion, Tazria. Coming at the beginning of spring, Tazria felicitously covers two implications of the concept "giving seed."

The first is embodied in the Sefira, or counting of the Omer, a special offering of new barley brought into the Temple. This begins on the second day of Passover, and culminates in the harvest festival of Shavuot, celebrating both the bounty of the earth and the bounty of the Torah.

The second implication (like all portions, this unfolds like a spring bloom) is celebration of the miracle of human conception.

At the end of the previous portion, Shemini, the Torah says, "And you shall sanctify yourselves and you shall be holy." A few sentences later, in Tazria,

we read, "If a woman becomes pregnant..." This juxtaposition is explained by the sages as meaning that a couple should be sanctified, and realize the holiness of the act, before conceiving a child. This properly prepares them for the birth.

And, like the bounty of the earth, which must be tended carefully if it is to be renewed each year, the commitment to the child has to be lovingly tended — before the child is conceived — if the child's character is to be molded properly.

So, what have we learned from this that we didn't know before?

Not a thing. Aside from the poetic beauty of the seed analogy, why recount these simple, everyday truths?

For the same reason that it's necessary to spread *Miracle-Gro* on your garden every year or to remind your child for the 50th time to write a thank-you note for *Bubby's Chanukah* present.

Because we are human. Because we are in the material world. Because we get distracted and befuddled by a sea of detail.

We have to remind ourselves daily of the greatness of our blessings, and of our duty to make the world better for everyone through mitzvot.

If we want to take that walk in the clouds, above the earthly sphere, we have to renew our subscription to Torah all the time... or we'll forget.

Reprinted with permission. Submitted by Rabbi Levy, Chabad of West Bay CHAI Center.

Pell Speaks on the Tragedy in Lebanon

(April 18) — Sen. Claiborne Pell (D-R.I.), former chairman and current ranking minority member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, has joined President Clinton "in calling for an immediate cease-fire." He has also urged Israel "to show greater restraint."

The full text of Pell's statement, prepared for delivery to the Senate, follows:

"I am deeply upset by this morning's news from Lebanon. As many of my colleagues have heard, Israeli shells hit a U.N. base in the village of Cana near the city of Tyre, within which approximately 500 Lebanese civilians had taken refuge from the recent fighting between Israel and Hezbollah.

"According to early press reports, the shelling caused the death of at least 75 Lebanese refugees — and perhaps many more than that — including men, women, children, and the elderly. At least 120 have been wounded, and two Fijian peacekeepers were killed.

"Both the United Nations and Israel agree that minutes before the Israeli attack, Hezbollah guerrillas had fired Katyusha rockets at Israel from a position roughly 300 meters from the refugee camp. Clearly the Israelis were responding to the Katyusha attack, and unintentionally hit the refugee camp. Israeli officials, including Foreign Minister Barak, have issued assurances that Israel is not targeting civilians and would not have fired intentionally on a U.N. base.

"If today's early news reports are correct, then we have witnessed a tragedy in the classic sense of the word — the deaths of these innocent civilians need not have occurred. Hezbollah has no right to launch rockets in such proximity to a refugee camp, apparently hoping to use the refugees as a shield against Israeli retribution. Israel, by the same token, has no right to respond as it did if it had any inkling that civilians would be harmed.

"If either party had put the

best interests of the refugees first, then some 75 innocent non-combatants would be alive right now.

"I do not dispute that Israel has a right to its own self-defense. I have taken care not to criticize Israel for its actions in Lebanon for the past eight days because I understand well the threat that Hezbollah poses to Israel's security. I am keenly aware of — and condemn — Hezbollah's actions and intentions towards Israel.

"There can be no doubt that Hezbollah aims squarely to undermine the Middle East peace process, and I in fact agree with the widely held public sentiment that Israel was prodded into this latest operation in Lebanon.

"The overwhelming carnage of the past eight days, however, compels me to call attention to what increasingly looks to be a disproportionate Israeli response. We cannot wring our hands about Hezbollah attacks against civilians and say nothing of Israeli excesses, whether or not they were intentional. Human life, after all, means as much on one side of the border as the other.

"In the effort to root out Hezbollah, the Israelis appear to be attempting to cripple Lebanon's civilian economy and infrastructure. But as it tries to turn Lebanon against Hezbollah, Israel is running the risk that Lebanese government and people will lose any stake in

settling their differences with Israel peacefully. I fail to see how such an outcome serves Israel's long-term interests.

"In being critical of Israel, I do not wish to absolve the Lebanese government or Syria of their own responsibilities. Lebanon does not have the luxury of throwing up its hands and saying that it has no control over Hezbollah, and then complaining when Israel takes matters into its own hands. That is having it both ways. And I reserve special criticism for Syria. Syria has both the power and the means to shut down Hezbollah, but cynically lacks the will and has allowed Hezbollah's terrorism to go unchecked.

"President Clinton has just announced that U.S. Special Middle East Coordinator Dennis Ross — and subsequently Secretary of State Christopher — will go to the region to try to end the violence. I join the President in calling for an immediate cease-fire.

"After today's tragedy, I would urge Israel — our friend, ally, and presumably the most advanced democracy in the region, to show greater restraint. As the stronger and more enlightened party, Israel even should contemplate a unilateral cease-fire. I understand fully that Israel faces enormous security risks, but its obligations to avoid miscues such as today are equally great."

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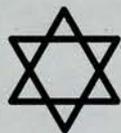
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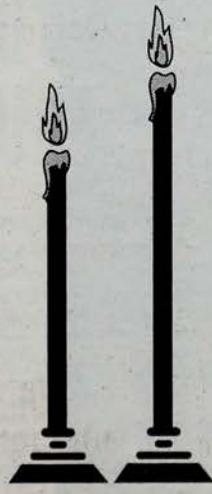
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Candlelighting

April 26, 1996
7:20 p.m.



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

AJCongress Commends Clinton's Veto of Bill Restricting Late-Term Abortions

Declaring that "we share the president's view that concern for the living cannot be legislatively determined to be less important than concern for the unborn," the American Jewish Congress has strongly supported President Clinton's "courageous" veto of a bill outlawing a particular form of late-term abortion.

In a statement issued by Lois Waldman, director of the organization's Commission on Women's Equality, the AJC declared that "as the president quite correctly pointed out, the bill makes only narrow and cumbersome exceptions for the life of the mother and none at all for her health. This is why the veto was necessary, no matter how troubling the procedure may be, as it clearly is to the president."

'...Because We Are Jewish?'

Excerpts From a Letter to the Postmaster General

Hon. Marvin Runyon
United States
Postmaster General
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Runyon:

Your issuance of the Hanukkah stamp compels our renewed call that you satisfy your pledge and the wishes of the U.S. Congress by immediately authorizing the issuance of a stamp commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Jewish War Veterans of the USA (JWV).

You and your ...citizens advisory committee rejected, out of hand, our request for a commemorative stamp using the specious rationalization that JWV is a religious organization and thus you were precluded by constitutional considerations of church-state separation from authorizing such an issuance.

You and they were advised and knew full well that JWV was a veterans organization having a membership made up of Jewish veterans of all types, religious and non-religious.

So the relevant question becomes, "was the true basis for your rejection solely related to the fact that we are Jews and that we are veterans?"

You have authorized the issuance of Madonna stamps for sale at Christmas and, low and behold, you have now unauthorized the sale of Hanukkah stamps to be marketed at the same time of year. Thus, the magnitude of your actions demonstrates that were there ever any legitimate constitutional considerations involved in the determination of a stamp issuance, they would have been more than outweighed and set aside for crass commercial considerations. Your reverence for dollars coming into Postal coffers from stamp sales devalues your words as pretentious ex-

cuses, unrelated to the causes involved.

It was on July 6, 1994, when our National Executive Director and our National Centennial Chairman met with you at your office in Washington, D.C., that you agreed that if our Resolutions which were then pending before the U.S. Congress passed, you would accept the will of the U.S. Congress and authorize the issuance of a commemorative stamp honoring the Centennial of the Jewish War Veterans.

An appraisal of the circumstances to date makes your actions even more incomprehensible when viewed from our many factual presentations to you and your ...committee. The realization emerges that you, with your absolute, final and unappealable control over the issuance of such stamps, never had any present or future intention to grant the issuance of JWV's Centennial stamp.

On reflection, we note that
(Continued on Page 9)

FEATURE

And the Band Played On

by Eleanor F. Horvitz
Librarian/Archivist, Rhode Island
Jewish Historical Association

Among the many advantages to working at the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association is the fun of seeing what memorabilia pertaining to the donor's past will be brought in to the office.

On April 12, Jack Cokin walked in with a yellowed newspaper dated Jan. 3, 1935. "Would you like to have this?" he asked. "It is an account of the sinking of the Lexington (one of the Colonial Line ships) in the East River between the Manhattan and Brooklyn Bridges. My parents were on board."

Anne Sherman (our office manager) and I unfolded this newspaper with great anticipation — we were not disappointed. It was a good story, although it has not (to my knowledge) been cited in subsequent articles on ship accidents as has the more famous sinking of the Titanic or the Larchmont.

According to the newspaper

account first reports indicated that a confusion of signals as to whether a boat in the vicinity would pass on the starboard or port side of the Lexington was the cause of the accident.

The ships involved were the vessel Lexington and the Janes Christenson, a freighter, which rammed into the other vessel amidship and split her into two.

Quick action on the part of the captain of the Lexington, and his crew, about whom he said, "Were it not for their bravery, there would have been loss of life," and the almost immediate arrival of tugs and a police launch to rescue the passengers, were responsible for a remarkable rescue. Not one life was lost.

Reading the account of the accident, it is difficult to comprehend the orderly way in which all the passengers reacted. The band kept playing which gave the passengers the feeling of assurance that if they could still hear the music, the ship was not sinking.

Among the 130 passengers aboard from Rhode Island and Massachusetts were many students and professors from Brown University returning for the resumption of classes after the holidays.

Also on board were honeymooners and traveling salesmen.

Several of the crew and passengers gave reporters their version of the crash. Jack Cokin's father, Samuel, was the proprietor of a downtown Pawtucket furniture store. This, in part, is his own account of the accident:

"I was standing on the top deck on the port side in the forward part of the ship. I noticed a dark object looming just ahead and to the right. I paid no particular attention. Someone shouted. 'They can't miss us now!'"

"Almost at once there was a crash and I lurched forward. Thinking first of all of my wife, who was on the first deck, I rushed downstairs, meeting her at the door of the salon.

"We were somewhat excited but not alarmed, and went to our stateroom. I had some trouble opening the door to my room, No. 80 on the upper deck, but finally got inside, threw some clothes and other things into a suitcase and left with my wife, entirely unaware of the danger we were in.

"We went to the top deck again and were joined by about 30 passengers. Some were crying, but there was no panic.... Then a tugboat pulled alongside the Lexington which had sunk so low we had to step up to the tugboat. The other passengers helped us. Their behavior was great. I never saw anything like it. Everybody was courteous.

"In a few minutes we were at the Colonial Line pier. There were about 50 policemen there, and ambulances, and a fire truck. I pay tribute to the New York police for the way they functioned."

Mr. and Mrs. Cokin took a train out of Grand Central and returned

to their home in Pawtucket early the next morning. Mr. Cokin remarked that then the shock seems to have set in.

He added, "Even now I am confused about what happened exactly. I dimly remember seeing the steamer turn around and plunge downward as I looked over the rail of the tugboat. From beginning to end, I heard no whistles or gong, just a few shouts and screams. We feel worse now than while it was all going on."

The Cokins were deluged with telephone calls from relatives and friends. The reporter made the comment that they left the following Sunday to attend a wedding in New York and to spend New Year's Day with their daughter. Evidently their terrifying experience in the New York harbor did not deter them from returning to that city.

The newspaper containing this interesting story about a Rhode Island Jewish couple is included in the archives of the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association.

Privileged to Help

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

Jim calls from Jamestown to let me know when he'll be passing through Providence on his filmmaker business errands. We meet for coffee and catch up on each other's news and stories. This time, Jim gave me some details of his father's passage from a house to a retirement community.

"I went through the basement with its piles of papers and records. This packet might interest you," said my friend, as he handed me a stapled copy of his physician dad's wartime journal. Dr. Ralph Wolpaw had entered Buchenwald in April, 1945, helped to treat the inmates, and gone home to the states to give lectures at the Lions Club on his experiences.

At the close of the typed, seven-page document of his report, he signs it, "Written Spring, 1945. Signed April 15, 1996. R. W. M.D." The hand is now a bit wobbly, but the words remain as strong as love and death.

From his first impression, he wrote, "Prisoners still alive had been without water for two days. With wanton brutality, the Germans had chosen the easiest and most efficient method of creating the greatest misery upon their departure. They had blown up the water main.

"The devilish cruelty of this action can be more readily understood if you realize that the inmates were seriously sick, at the point of death. The lack of water was equivalent to the death sentence.

"Everywhere on the grounds, in the compound and around it, there were the bodies pitifully clothed, lying in grotesque positions and even in death not achieving the dignity that should have been theirs. The crematorium was the acme of horror. Men became sick upon

seeing it.

"Inside the building was a hall-like room with hooks. Men were hung from these hooks while the guards practiced little refinements of torture upon them. Also on the walls were wicked whips and bludgeons, still caked with blood, used to hasten the demise of stubborn prisoners who persisted in clinging to life in a way which was obnoxious to them."



Major Wolpaw read these notes and thoughts to his audience with words of shame to be members of the human race that was capable of such acts.

But the disgrace was not his or the victims' or the Americans, but that of the Weimar citizens who lied about their own participation in the savagery.

"The good folk had been quite delighted to heap abuse, both material and verbal, upon the inmates as they arrived in crowded box cars just prior to entering the camp. They spat on them. At the time of entrance, the Jews were taken before the wife of the commandant for cultural and artistic purposes. She

would have their skins tanned, mounted on plaques, made into lamp shades for her use."

When a liberator, in U.S. uniform, and a kindly doctor, enters hell and opens its gates, he is greeted with tears of joy. "We went to work bringing to bear all the equipment we could get. Blood, plasma, glucose and saline solutions, drugs and nursing care by our corpsmen, managed to cut down the terrific death rate.

"The degeneration of years could not be undone in a few days. But an effort was made, and the improvement was gratifying. We were privileged to have helped just a little."

I gasped as I read the painful words of Jim's father, now leaving this testimony below and behind him as he moves on with his life. His diary is not upbeat, but it has a moral passion and a pride that merit our endless attention. "One last thing, perhaps the most degrading. Large numbers of the prisoners had been emaciated, cold-bloodedly, ruthlessly, and with malice aforethought. It was done brutally also, the ultimate in savagery.

"Buchenwald was a hell hole. The S.S. were sadistic children in mental age with the physiques of adults. They had to be amused constantly, played up to. The reason, pure madness. Yet their headquarters were beautiful buildings with the finest appointments."

Survivor organizations hunt for the eyewitness records of the troops who first swung open the barbed wire fences. My colleague and companion Jim Wolpaw, who is currently casting for a movie he is making about the gentle poet Emily Dickinson, came upon just such evidence, in the basement of his own boyhood homestead. I share the appalling description for the sake of historic truth, in a time of disguise and compromise.

Open House Planned at Weather Facility

The staff at the modernized weather forecast office and Northeast River Forecast Center in Taunton, Mass., invites the public to an open house at the facility on May 4 and 5.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, and non to 5 p.m. Sunday. The office is located at 445 Myles Standish Boulevard in Taunton.

For more information, contact the office at (508) 823-1900.

The event, which attracted 3,500 people two years ago, will feature special displays on Doppler weather radar, marine forecasting, amateur radio, Boston's American Meteorology Society Chapter and the Blue Hill Weather Club.

Also scheduled to appear is Dick Porter, the "Thermometer

Man of Cape Cod," with an impressive display of collector-item thermometers, and Owly Skywarn, mascot of the Weather Service's severe weather spotter network.

On tap are tours of the state-of-the-art facility and, weather permitting, a weather balloon launch.

The Taunton facility was constructed as part of the Weather Service's nationwide modernization effort and includes a WSR-88D Doppler weather radar unit.

Directions — From I-495, take Exit 9 (Bay Road-southbound) to traffic light. Turn right into the Myles Standish Industrial Park, past the Holiday Inn. Follow the posted signs for parking.

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SCHOOLBEAT

Writing as One Parent to Another...

In bookstores all over the country, there are shelves of books on how to prepare baby food at home, books to get toddlers to sleep at night, books to teach children to read — there are even books to make little ones grow up responsible and ethical. "But late at night, alone with the baby, you sometimes wonder," muses Nancy Fuchs, a rabbi and mother of two, "How am I going to raise this child's soul?"

Written for parents of all faiths and walks of life, by Nancy Fuchs, Ph.D., *Our Share of Night, Our Share of Morning: Parenting as a Spiritual Journey* (Hardcover: \$18, May 1996), take you through a typical "day in the life" of a parent to illuminate ways to raise the souls of parent and child.

Illustrated with anecdotes from more than 100 mothers and fathers she interviewed, and her experiences raising her own children, Fuchs follows the routines of an ordinary day for a parent and points out that while religion is passed down through the generations, spirituality is often passed upward. She argues that we don't need more time, money or adult education classes to have a spiritual life — just traditions, rituals, and open eyes.

"All the theology I studied would not help me raise my children. But it might work the other way," Fuchs explained. "Raising children might help me learn something about G-d."

"Theologians spend most of their time in their studies. But the best ones, I noticed, had done some field work in living. I would do mine in play groups."

Fuchs is the mother of two, a rabbi, and the director of the religious studies program at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Philadelphia.

High School Artists on Exhibit

An exhibition of artwork by Rhode Island high school students will be on display at the Wickford Art Association Gallery from April 26 to May 8.

The reception for the show is May 3, 6 to 8 p.m. Reed is scheduled to attend to greet the participants.

The Wickford Art Association Gallery is located at 36 Beach St., Wickford. Hours are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, and noon to 3 p.m. Sundays.

'The Sea Gull' Takes Flight

Bridgewater State College Theatre Arts will be presenting a play which helped to define what theater is today. The play is Anton Chekhov's "The Sea Gull."

The play is a story about young love, and what happens when a greedy and selfish older generation interferes with it.

Dr. Stephen Levine is the director. His last play, "Women of Troy," was his own adaptation of the classic play, "Trojan Women."

Jane Stein joins the artistic staff as costume designer. Stein has designed for several profes-

sional theaters, including The Merrimack Repertory Theatre and The New Repertory Theatre.

Lighting designer Jennifer Simon has designed for the Lyric Stage Company of Boston and the Boston Children's Theatre. And Boston designer, Janie Fliegel will design the set.

Performances will be held in The Rondileau Campus Center Auditorium on April 26, 27, May 2, 3 and 4 at 8 p.m. For ticket reservations or other information, call the box office at (508) 697-1321.

Yom HaShoah Observed at PHDS

The auditorium of Providence Hebrew Day School was the somber setting of the Holocaust memorial program on April 17. To underscore the mood, the walls were decorated with photos, drawings and pictures and other grim reminders of that terrible era.

The students heard the story recited in the words of Anne Frank and in the words of "The Last Butterfly." They lit six memorial candles, they chanted the Kaddish and the Yizkor prayer. They learned why each new generation must learn the story and must remain eternally vigilant so it may never ever happen again.

Among anti-Semites of our time it has become fashionable to deny the Holocaust as mere propaganda by the Jewish controlled media. To give the students evidence to counter this argument they listened to ex-



Margo Klein

cerpts from the writings of General Dwight Eisenhower describing his visit to the Dachau concentration camp, in which he stated that he made this visit in order to be able to testify to the atrocities if anyone ever attempted to deny that they had occurred.

The students also met a survivor, Margo Klein, who related her experience, where she was held and how she survived those years. Klein showed the students the tattooed numbers on her arm. The Nazis used numbers instead of names to identify prisoners and thus further dehumanize their victims.

The program was coordinated by a Elana Vogel, a member of the Hebrew faculty.

Scholarships For Women

The Rhode Island Commission on Women will award \$500 educational scholarships to women who have demonstrated a need for financial assistance to supplement existing tuition grants.

The program helps with transportation, child care, textbook, materials and other expenses particularly affecting women students.

The commission is most interested in helping Rhode Island residents who are seeking a non-traditional education,

URI Foundation to Hold 17th Annual Ball

The University of Rhode Island Foundation's 17th annual ball will be held on May 4 at the Westin Hotel in Providence.

The ball, whose theme is "The Best and the Brightest," will raise money for centennial scholarships at URI. The scholarships go to students with top academic records.

The ball is black tie optional, and will begin at 7 p.m. with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. A dinner will follow, and there will be dancing until midnight, to the music of the Brass Attack.

The door prize will be two round-trip airline tickets to any destination in the United States, donated by USAir.

Tickets are \$100 per person. For more information, contact the foundation at 21 Davis Hall, 10 Lippitt Road, Kingston, R.I. 02881 (874-5836).

Feinstein Scholarship Fund Grows to \$3 Million

Donations by readers of Alan Shawn Feinstein's newsletter and investment gains have increased the Feinstein Scholarship Fund assets from \$2 million to \$3 million.

The fund, administered by the Public Education Fund, awards 15 to 25 \$10,000 scholarships each year to entering college freshmen attending Rhode Island colleges.

Youngsters who are members of the Feinstein "\$33 Plus" Good Deeds Club in their early school years, who continue their community service in later years, will be given special consideration when they apply for scholarships.

Anyone wishing to contribute to the scholarship fund can contact The Public Education Fund at 454-1050.

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Ms. Dana Varrecchione from Dean Witter Reynolds on Future College Cost

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University Chorus to Perform

University Chorus of UMass Dartmouth will be singing in Broadway rhythm for its concert on April 30.

The chorus will present "Broadway's Best of the '80s" at 8 p.m. in Room 153 of the College of Visual and Performing Arts. Songs from such hits as "Cats," "Les Miserables," and

"Sunday in the Park with George" will be part of the program.

The University Chorus is open to students, faculty and staff of the university and the community at large. The concert is free and open to the public. For further information, call (508) 999-8568.

THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Temple Torat Yisrael Brings Klezmer to East Greenwich

Klezmer music will come to the Greenwich Odeum on May 5 at 3 p.m., when Klezmir, a Massachusetts-based band, brings its concert performance to the East Greenwich theater. Klezmir bassist Joe Blumenthal describes Klezmer as "roots music. It's a music that isn't intellectual. It comes from the heart. It comes from feeling." Klezmer music has also been described as growing "from

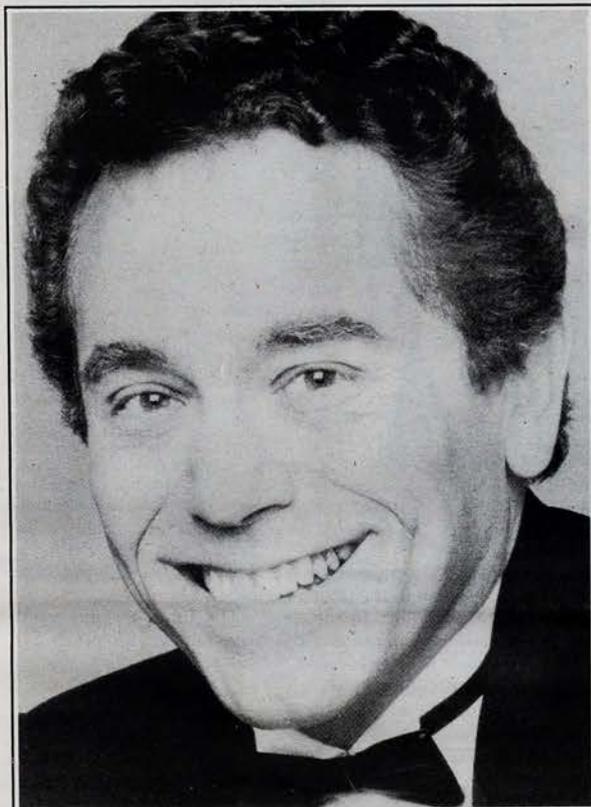
adaptation and variety." Developed initially in medieval Europe where Jewish musicians traveled from town to town playing at festivals and on special events, it later absorbed folk music from Eastern Europe, and, eventually, added jazz. Klezmir incorporates jazz tunes, some of which were written with Yiddish words. The five members of Klezmir bring varied backgrounds to the group, provid-

ing proof that "adaptation and variety" do make for exceptional Klezmer music. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$8 for children, purchased in advance, or \$18 for adults and \$10 for children at the door. The performance is being sponsored by Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston, R.I. (785-1800) from which advance tickets may be purchased.

Arab Novelist to Examine 'An Exercise in Wishful Thinking'

Arab novelist Anton Shammas will discuss "Israel, Palestine and the Two-Language Solution: An Exercise in Wishful Thinking" at 8 p.m. on May 2, in Room 166 of the Barus and Holley Building at Brown University, 184 Hope St., Providence. Shammas was born to a Christian Arab family in the village of Fassuta in Galilee in 1950. He is a faculty member at the University of Michigan and is

the author of the novel *Arabesques*. His lecture is part of the series "The Future of Israel/Palestine: Lectures by Jewish and Arab Novelists," sponsored by the department of comparative literature, the Program in Judaic Studies, the Watson Institute of International Studies and the Brown University Faculty Lectureship Fund. The lecture is free and open to the public.

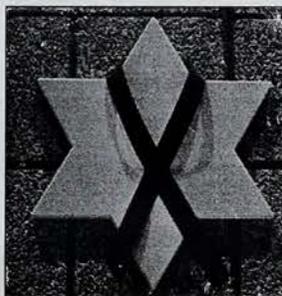


Bernie Dean and Company

Bernie Dean, a show-stopper all by himself, will bring the Rothschilds to life for his audience on May 5, at 7 p.m., at Congregation B'nai Israel in Woonsocket. Call 762-3651 for reservations for performance and dessert buffet.

Leisure Club to Hold Annual Meeting

The Temple Emanu-El Leisure Club will hold its annual meeting on April 28 at 3 p.m. (Please note the change in time.) This is the final meeting for the season. Members are urged to come and enjoy the program. A social hour will follow.



Sign the Star

Those at the recent Seder of Hope could write the names of lost loved ones on the Stars of David. Herald photo by Neil Nachbar

Advertising in *The Herald* gets results. Call 724-0200 for details.

The Second Temple Discussed

Temple Beth-El in Providence will host a talk on May 1 at 7:30 p.m. by Joan Branham, Ph.D., assistant professor of art and art history at Providence College. Branham will speak on "The Second Temple in Jerusalem: A Model of Sacred Space for Jews and Christians." The lecture will describe the Temple of Herod, based upon recent excavations and Branham's own study. Listeners will journey back in time to the first century and arrive at the Temple of Herod in

Jerusalem on the High Holy Days. Branham, with the assistance of slides, will reconstruct the Second Temple in Jerusalem. Branham will explain how the sacred experience in the Second Temple went on to influence both Jewish and Christian liturgical practices in the most fundamental ways. The program is open to all and is free of charge. For further information, call the temple office at 331-6070.

Braille Stories Available

A new series of braille children/adult short stories selected from Agudath Israel, Artscroll, Chabad, Feldheim, Hebrew Publishing, Torah Umesorah, etc., is available free of charge to the blind.

For an updated list, contact the office of The Jewish Heritage for the Blind at 1655 East 24th St., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11229 or call (718) 338-2000 or fax (718) 338-0653.

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Correction

Under the picture of Jon Simon, who will be appearing at Temple Beth-El on May 9, the caption said he would be performing there on May 5. The *Herald* regrets the error.

ATTENTION TOURO FRATERNAL ASSOCIATION MEMBERS VOTE ALAN HOCHMAN FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1996-1999

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THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Jewish Family Service Expands Adoption Services

Jewish Family Service has expanded its adoption program. Now called Adoption Options, the program offers comprehensive adoption services to birth parents, adoptive parents and children, and is open to the general community.

The agency has dedicated a phone line, 331-5437, to the program.

The enlargement of Adoption Options is a sign of the times in the adoption field.

In recent years, many new types of adoptions have been

developed, several countries overseas have become more receptive toward placing children with families in the United States, and people have become more comfortable with a wide variety of levels of involvement in the adoption process.

Adoption Options offers a broad range of choices for anyone considering adoption, including services for birth parents, adoptive parents and children: information, referrals, home studies, pre-adoption counseling, post-adoption coun-

seling and supportive counseling with parenting concerns. Services are available regardless of religious affiliation.

In addition, Adoption Options has a resource library of current information pertaining to adoption, which is updated continuously. One goal for the near future is to have a computer available with on-line connections to additional sources of information as well.

For more information, contact Toby Zaitchik, Adoption Options coordinator at 331-5437.

Temple Am David, Warwick to Host Open House

Temple Am David, located in Warwick, near Hoxie Four Corners, will host an open house on April 28 from 10 a.m. until noon.

The community is invited to meet and talk with Rabbi Nechama Goldberg, as well as the temple's new cantor, Stanley Rosenfeld, who will also be school director next season. Those attending the open house will also be able to visit the school and meet with various members of the congregation.

Refreshments will be served and children are welcome to participate in the school. A Stop & Shop gift certificate will be raffled during the open house.

Temple Am David is a Conservative temple with members from Kent County, as well as North and South Kingstown, Providence and South County.

The temple is located at 40 Gardiner St., in Warwick. For more information about the open house, call Beverly Sklaroff or Joyce Kelly at 463-7944.

Dance Party for Singles

Chai's Jewish Singles will present Spring into Dancin', a dance party for Jewish singles 21 to 40, at Circuits Nightclub at the Westin Hotel Waltham on April 28 from 7 to 12:30 a.m.

The cost is \$8 in advance, at door \$9 for members and \$10 non-members. Advance tickets are available at B&D Deli, Brookline, or by phone, (508) 443-7834.

There will be free parking, food, gifts and billiards.

Striar JCC Presents Concert

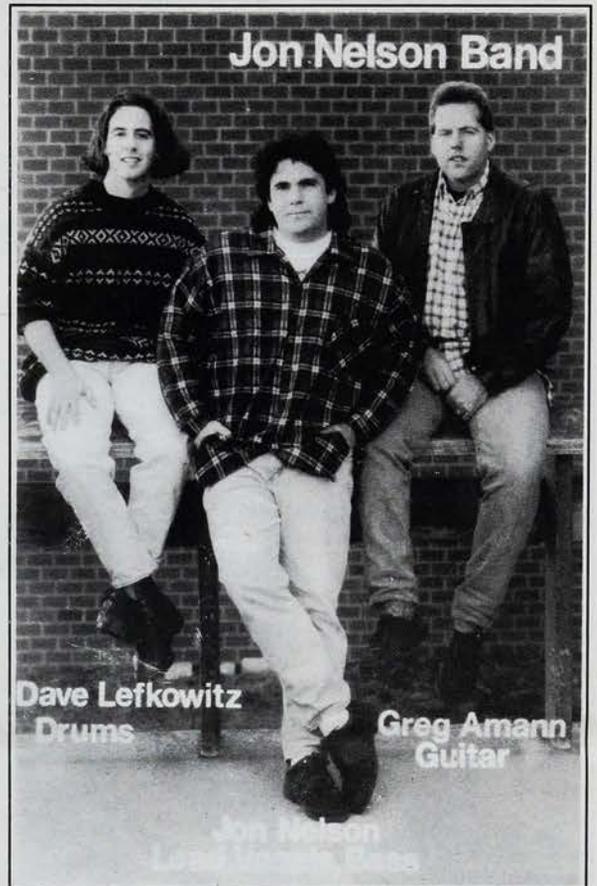
The Striar Jewish Community Center on the Fireman campus will present Stoughton's own Punch Monkey opening for the Jon Nelson Band on April 27 at 8:30 p.m.

Enjoy original pop/rock music in the best tradition of the Beatles and cover versions of

classic rock hits.

The cost is \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members. Tickets are available at the Striar reception desk, or call (617) 341-2016, ext. 294. Ask about group rates.

The Striar JCC is located at 445 Central St. in Stoughton.



ROCK ON! — The Jon Nelson Band will perform at the Striar Jewish Community Center on April 27. Photo courtesy of the Striar JCC

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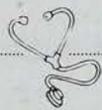
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Yiddish Book Drive Begins

A local drive to collect old Yiddish books began recently.

Spokespeople for the National Yiddish Book Center announced plans to round up discarded and unused Yiddish books from cellars and attics throughout the local area.

Collected volumes will be sent to a central repository in South Hadley, Mass., where they will be catalogued and made available to teachers, students and university libraries throughout the world.

Yiddish literature once enjoyed enormous popularity among the area's immigrant Jewish population. Sets of Sholom Aleichem, Y.L. Peretz and other Yiddish classics were to be found in almost every Jewish home.

In later years, however, assimilation took its toll. Books which had been treasured by

parents and grandparents were often packed away and forgotten by a new generation of American-born Jews, who read no Yiddish.

Today, after a gap of almost 50 years, interest in Yiddish language and literature is experiencing a resurgence. Academic courses in Yiddish language and literature have been introduced at many North American universities.

Efforts to collect Yiddish books began nationally in June of 1980 with the founding of the National Yiddish Book Center—a non-profit agency dedicated to the preservation and revitalization of Yiddish culture. To date the center has recovered more than 1 million Yiddish books.

For more information, call Jane Civins at 941-1049.

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THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Runyon

(Continued from Page 4)

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It was, however, with confidence in your promise that our members and supporters went out to seek the necessary signatures for a Congressional approval of the Resolutions and to attain the resultant stamp issuance based on what we accepted to be your honor in the keeping of your pledge.

The United States Senate unanimously passed the U.S. Concurrent Resolution 60 calling for the issuance by the U.S. Postal Service of the JWV 100th Anniversary stamp.

U.S. House Concurrent Resolution 199 was signed by 232 U.S. Representatives co-sponsoring the Resolution (again being more than a majority of the signatures required at the time of its submission and for its passage).

As the Postmaster General, you, of course, knew that for more than twenty years the House Post Office Committee had adhered to a Rule which required that the "matter of commemorative stamps properly is for consideration by the Postmaster General and that the Committee will not give any consideration to legislative proposals for the issuance of commemorative stamps."

Your failure to advise made the efforts of the Members of Congress and their staffs who supported us a waste of their valuable time and efforts. Good faith on your part required that your promise be kept and the stamp issued.

Was your refusal a subjective one based on the fact that we are Jewish and are a veterans organization?

The Post Office has issued stamps for other veterans groups; do you deny such issuance to us because we are Jewish?

You have issued stamps for the Buffalo soldiers; do you deny such issuance to us because we are Jewish and veterans?

You have issued stamps for Hispanic Americans; do you deny such issuance to us because we are Jewish and veterans?

You have issued stamps in a series for Black Heritage; do you deny such issuance to us because we are Jewish and veterans?

You have issued stamps honoring Love for Valentine's Day, the Madonna for Christmas and now one for Hanukkah; why do you continue to deny such issuance to us, is it because we are Jewish and veterans?

You have issued stamps honoring the Year of the Rat, will

you now issue a stamp for the Jewish New Year? And, still the continuing question remains as to why you deny issuance to us; is it because we are Jewish and veterans?

Your inconsistency in the exercise of your authority leads us to question your motives in rejecting a JWV stamp and leaves us with the defined possibility that rejection was based on the fact that we are Jewish and veterans.

Possibly the superficiality of your philosophy and of your understanding of what America is all about can best be summed up in your stirring and memorable words on issuing a stamp for the actor James Dean:

"Even today, his very name stirs powerful memories of leather jackets, diners and drive-ins, and living on the edge."

Those words are probably the same revelations which prompted you to issue the commercially inviting Elvis and Marilyn stamps.

The movies with all their portrayal of fiction and fantasy can provide you with a confused recognition of greatness. But, they cannot provide a true appreciation of the greatness which arises out of service in the defense of our Nation and a recognition of the men and the women who personally gave of their lives in that defense.

Yours for the recognition of service to the United States.

Neil Goldman
National Commander
Jewish War Veterans USA
Robert M. Zweiman, PNC
National Centennial
Chairman
Jewish War Veterans USA

RIJHA Meeting Set for May 5

The annual meeting of the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association, open to the public, will be held on May 5 at 2 p.m. in the social hall of the Jewish Community Center, 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence.



PROFESSOR SYLVIA BARACK FISHMAN will speak at the annual meeting of the Jewish Historical Association of Rhode Island.

The 26th annual David Charak Adelman Lecture will be delivered by Professor Sylvia Barack Fishman of the Near Eastern and Judaic Studies department of Brandeis University.

She will speak on "Portrait of a Century: Jews in Fiction and Film."

Fishman received a doctorate in English literature from Washington University, St. Louis. She did her undergraduate work at Stern College, Yeshiva University, which recently awarded her the Samuel Belkin Memorial Award in Professional Achievement.

She has written widely on such topics as social issues of Jewish leadership and published numerous articles and three books.

The annual meeting, chaired by George Goodwin, will include the election of officers.

A social hour will follow the meeting.

There will also be an exhibition pertaining to Rhode Island Jews in fiction and in film.

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Institute Hosts Lecture

The Jewish Music Institute at Hebrew College announces "Song and Remembrance: Musical Traditions of the Syrian Jews," with Professor Kay Shelemay.

The illustrated lecture will take place on May 2 at 7:30 p.m. at the Hebrew College Usen Auditorium, 43 Hawes St., Brookline, Mass. Shelemay will trace a musical tradition that began in the Middle East and flourishes in the American community today.

She is chairwoman of the department of music at Harvard University and a noted ethnomusicologist who has completed extensive research on the music of Syrian and Ethiopian Jewry.

Suggested donation is \$5. For more information, call Janet Penn at (617) 278-4958.

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MILESTONES

Rhode Island Hadassah Nurses to Honor Betty Levitt

The Rhode Island Hadassah Nurses' Council has announced that it will pay tribute to Betty Levitt, R.N., of Lincoln, as "Woman of the Year," at a reception during the annual conference of the Western New England Region of Hadassah on May 5 at the Ramada Inn in West Springfield, Mass.

Levitt is a Life Member of Hadassah and has held numer-

ous positions over the years, the most recent being Nurses' Council Advisor.

She has also been treasurer of the Rhode Island State League of Women Voters and a member of the Cabinet of Nursing Practice for the Rhode Island State Nurses Association.

An active member of Temple Emanu-El, Levitt has also been a member of the board of direc-

tors of its Sisterhood.

She is a mother and grandmother, recently retired from her position as supervisor at the Providence Visiting Nurse Association.

Those interested in attending the conference should contact Nancy Cole at (413) 567-8888.

Miriam Psychologist Briefs NIH Director

David B. Abrams, Ph.D., director of the Center for Behavioral and Preventive Medicine at The Miriam Hospital, was one of a handful of scientists and researchers to brief the National Institutes of Health director, Dr. Harold Varmus, on recommendations for behavioral and social science research, using tobacco prevention and control research as a model.

Abrams is also a professor of

psychiatry and human behavior at Brown University School of Medicine.

The briefing with Varmus is the latest example of Abram's growing celebrity as a leader in research in this field. He is emerging as a national and international figure in the study of tobacco control as a way of improving the health status of populations.

Preparing for Aliyah

On April 29 at 7:30 p.m. Chug Aliyah will speak on purchasing 220 appliances for Israel with Aryeh Herzog at the Hebrew College, 43 Hawes St., Brookline.

For more information, call the Israel Aliyah Center at (617) 457-8750.

Linda Feldman to Marry Marc Solomon

Joan P. Feldman of Cranston and Philip Feldman of Warwick announce the engagement of their daughter, Linda Susan Feldman of Boca Raton, Fla., to Marc Ira Solomon of Boca Raton, Fla., son of Alan and Esta Solomon of Boca Raton, Fla.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of the University of Hartford, Conn. The bridegroom is a graduate of Dickenson College, Pa., and Nation Law Center, George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

The wedding will be held in October.

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Jacob Ross Abrams

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Abrams, Providence, announce the birth of their second child and son, Jacob Ross Abrams, on April 6.

Maternal grandparents are Herbert Singer of Warwick, and the late Marcia Singer. Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Abrams of Providence. Great-grandparents are the late Frank and Pauline Abrams and the late Harry and Eva Finklestein, the late Lawrence and Rose Singer, and the late Morris Alpert and Rose Fruit.

Jacob was welcomed home by his big brother, Dylan, who is 2 years old.

Pawtucket Hadassah Honors Eve Zucker

The Pawtucket Group of the Rhode Island Chapter of Hadassah has announced that it will designate Eve Zucker as "Woman of the Year."

She will receive the award at a special reception during the annual conference of the Western New England Region of Hadassah on May 5, at the Ramada Inn in West Springfield, Mass.

A longtime Hebrew teacher at several area synagogues, Zucker grew up in Hadassah, serving first as an officer of the Young Judea youth club, then with Junior Hadassah.

Chapter President Roslyn Bolusky calls Zucker "the backbone" of her Hadassah group.

Zucker has also served as member of the board of trustees of Temple Emanu-El, Providence, and of its Sisterhood.

She was also a board member of the Women's Association of the Jewish Home, and the Emanu-El Garden Club.

She has served as a volunteer at the Miriam Hospital for many years, and through her membership in the American Veterans Auxiliary, worked as a volunteer in many other hospitals.

People interested in attending the conference should contact Nancy Cole at (413) 567-8888.

Fein Named to Social Justice Position in Reform Movement

Leonard Fein, the founder of *Moment* magazine and of MAZON; A Jewish Response to Hunger and a noted writer and teacher, will join the Union of American Hebrew Congregations as director of the Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism, on July 1.

Rabbi Eric Yoffie, president-elect of the UAHC and the director of the commission through July 1, named his successor at the close of the commission's meeting recently.

Yoffie praised Fein as one of the most creative and influential voices for social justice in North America. "His insight into the Jewish imperatives for social and political action will be particularly important in his work with Reform synagogues,"

Yoffie said.

The Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism, a joint body of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, the UAHC and its affiliates, applies Jewish insights to issues such as civil liberties, human rights, religious freedom and other societal concerns. In addition to directing the work of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism in Washington, the Commission assists congregations in integrating issues of social justice into their programs and provides resources to be used in local communities.

Fein, the senior visiting scholar of the commission's religious action center since 1987, will work in the UAHC's headquarters in New York City.

Hunger Awards Presented

The 10th annual World Hunger Awards honor Gram Vikas, which works in India's poorest villages; José Elias Sánchez, who works with farmers in Central America; and Dr. Cutberto Garza, a nutritionist at Cornell University.

The awards ceremony, which is free and open to the public, is April 25, at 8 p.m., in Brown University's Salomon Center for Teaching. The honorary chairman and keynote speaker for

the awards ceremony is Dr. Bol Arnot, health correspondent for CBS News.

The Alan Shawn Feinstein World Hunger Program was established at Brown University in 1985 to address the long-term persistence of hunger in the world through research, the development of unique resources, through public recognition. It is named for its founder, a philanthropist from Cranston.

Dr. Rakatansky Receives Beck Award

Herbert Rakatansky, M.D., is the 1996 recipient of the Irving A. Beck Award, presented by the Rhode Island Chapter of the American College of Physicians in recognition of a physician's dedication to patients and contributions to scholarship in internal medicine.

The award was presented during the organization's Rhode Island regional meeting.

Rakatansky is a Providence gastroenterologist who currently serves as president of the Medical Staff Association of The Miriam Hospital in Providence. He is currently clinical professor of medicine at Brown University.

Active on numerous committees of the medical school, The Miriam Hospital, and Roger Williams Medical Center, he has served as president of the Providence Medical Association, president of the Rhode Island Medical Society, and Rhode Island delegate to the American Medical Association.

He has been devoted to activities concerning impaired health professionals, chairing committees at the local and national levels and is a prolific writer in his fields, with more than 60 published articles to his credit.

Cranston Senior Guild Holding Election

The Cranston Senior Guild will hold its next general meeting on May 8.

Election of officers and board members, as proposed by the nominating committee, Li Gilstein, chairperson, will be held at this time.

For president, Judah Rosen; first vice president in charge of trips, Dorothy Rosen; secretary, Lil Mushnick; treasurer, Clair Ernstof; financial secretary, Helen Forman; chaplain, Mel Levin.

For the board: Evelyn Brodsky, Lillian Gilstein, Beverly Gilstein, Goldie Green, Beverly Jacobson, Hy Jacobson, Lillian Lewis, Selma Price, Sam Price, Malvern Ross, Trudy Rotenberg, Herbert Rothschild, Sylvia Tippe, Evelyn Wolff, Irwi Yarnel, Marjorie Yarnel.

On May 1, the club will take trip to the Venus de Milo to see and hear Florence Henderso accompanied by comedian Gle Anthony.

On May 21, members are to The Delaney House for a day of good food, and a performance of "Anchors Away" by Caban Strut. Make a reservation by calling Lil Gilstein at 941-4298.



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WORLD AND NATIONAL NEWS

Religiously Traditional Jews Divide on Pluralism

by Debra Nussbaum Cohen

Israel's Supreme Court ruled recently that non-Orthodox Jews must be allowed to serve on religious councils, and the Ministry of Education in September began to implement curricula about non-Orthodox views of Judaism.

Despite the court ruling, no Reform or Conservative representatives sit on any of Israel's 140 municipal religious councils because "the decision is being ignored by the politicians who control" the councils, said Rabbi Amiel Hirsch, executive director of the Association of Reform Zionists of America.

But the Orthodox rabbinate retains control over matters of personal status—marriage, conversion and divorce—as it has since the founding of the state.

Political wrangling over the issues has already played a part in the campaigns leading up to the May 29 national elections.

In Israel, people generally define themselves as haredi (fervently Orthodox), dati (Orthodox), masorti (somewhat traditionally observant but not dogmatic) or hiloni (secular).

More than half of Israelis define themselves as secular, some 15 percent to 20 percent as Orthodox or fervently Orthodox, and the rest as traditional, Hirsch said.

But definitions of religious identification in Israel are quite different than they are in North America.

Many Israelis who define themselves as secular observe some religious traditions, such as lighting Shabbat candles. Even those relatively few Israelis who identify as Reform or Conservative Jews tend to be more observant than most of their American counterparts.

On the matter of equal status for the non-Orthodox movements, 54 percent of those surveyed recently, who identify themselves as masorti or traditional, support it and 39 percent oppose it.

Fifty-four percent of those identifying themselves as traditional support breaking the Orthodox monopoly on Jewish marriages.

When asked whether "all streams" of Judaism should be taught in the public schools, 48 percent of the traditional said yes, but almost as many—44 percent—said no.

Only 50 percent of traditional respondents said Reform and Conservative Jewish representatives should be included on

religious councils.

The close vote among the masorti respondents is interesting because they, as religious but not Orthodox people, would ostensibly stand to benefit the most from official recognition of the Reform and Conservative movements.

Hirsch said the division within the masorti population was expected because "that population often comes from Eastern countries as opposed to Western, where people have firsthand knowledge of non-Orthodox Jews and institutions and thinking."

More than half of Israelis define themselves as secular, some 15 percent to 20 percent as Orthodox or fervently Orthodox, and the rest as traditional.

Although "non-Orthodox values are viciously attacked" in Israel and "every effort is made on the political level to shut out the Jewish authenticity of these movements, there still is a majority" of traditional Jews favoring inclusion of the non-Orthodox movements, Hirsch said.

According to an American Orthodox leader, "the masorti equivocation" is the most important finding of the two surveys.

"It really is a defining moment for the Jewish community. The ones who may gain with additional representation [on religious councils] realize there is something of greater value than dollars and cents, and that is tradition from Sinai," said Rabbi Raphael Butler, executive vice president of Orthodox Union.

Diplomat Foils Relations

by Naomi Segal

JERUSALEM (JTA)—Israel's ambassador to London made headlines in British tabloids recently after exposing two undercover police officers who were having sexual relations behind a screen in a VIP lounge at London's Heathrow Airport.

Ambassador Moshe Raviv had asked his bodyguards to remove the screen after he heard strange sounds coming from behind it.

Ukrainian President Meets With Chabad

Recently, the president of the Ukraine, Leonid Kuchma held the first official protocol meeting with an official delegation of leading Chabad-Lubavitch representatives from the Ukraine, Europe and Israel to discuss the living conditions of Jews in Ukraine.

The meeting, lasting close to an hour, marks the first time in the past 80 years that a president of a republic of the former Soviet Union has received an official Chabad delegation for high level talks.

According to Rabbi Yosef Yitzchok Aronov, head of the Chabad delegation, "The purpose of the meeting was to bring before President Kuchma the concerns of Ukraine's Jewish community. We emphasized not only the material hardships, but also the feelings of isolation and vulnerability felt by the Jewish population following the many difficult years and anti-Semitism of communist rule."

According to Aronov,

Kuchma expressed a strong commitment "to transforming Ukraine into a place where all ethnic and religious groups could practice their faith in freedom and where all people could live openly and without fear according to their conscience."

Kuchma pledged to provide resources to encourage Jewish revival through the return of Jewish properties that had been confiscated under communist rule.

The Chabad delegation brought to Kuchma's attention the plight of the Jewish community of Kiev, one of the largest in the former Soviet Union.

"We told the president that this once thriving Jewish community of over 200,000 Jews is now served by one synagogue," explained Rabbi Yonah Pruss.

Pruss compared this to the Jewish community of London, which has the same number of Jews and is served by 183 synagogues and dozens of Jewish organizations.

"We urged him to bring his commitment into action by returning the Brodski Synagogue, a magnificent edifice located in the heart of Kiev, to Jewish hands," said Pruss.

The Brodski Synagogue was built in 1888 by the late industrialist and philanthropist Lazer Brodski. Confiscated by the Soviet government, this once center of Jewish life was transformed into a puppet theater.

In 1992, after the collapse of the Soviet Union, the Ukrainian government issued orders that the building should be returned to the organization called The Kiev Jewish Community, which is run by Chabad. Despite this order, Chabad has been limited to four rooms on the fourth floor, while the puppet theater continues to occupy the remainder of the building.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the delegation presented Kuchma with a beautiful silver menorah as a symbol of spiritual freedom.

Knesset Says Employers Must Pay Women Same as Men

by Michele Chabin

JERUSALEM (JTA)—As a result of legislation just passed by the Knesset, many Israeli women will receive the same salaries and benefits as their male counterparts for the first time.

The "Equal Pay for Equal Work" law mandates that men and women who work for the same employer at the same place of work be paid equal salaries for essentially similar or equivalent work.

The law also stipulates that men and women in comparable jobs must receive the same benefits, which is an extremely important stipulation.

The salary differential between men and women in Israel has risen steadily over the years. At the beginning of the 1980s, the salary gap in the public sector stood at 22 percent; by the end of the decade, that number had climbed to 28 percent. By the early 1990s the gap had risen to 32 percent. Much of this discrepancy, the surveys found, was because employers gave valuable benefits to male employees, but not to their female counterparts.

In Israel, it is commonplace to supplement a worker's salary with telephone, car and

clothing allowances, as well as with other benefits worth thousands of shekels.

But even when women earned the same base pay as their male counterparts, they were often forced to provide their own work clothes, gasoline and car insurance.

Praising the new legislation, Orit Sulitzeanu, spokeswoman for the Israel Women's Network, said, "By acknowledging that benefits like telephone and car allowances constitute a compo-

ment of a worker's salary, it will help prohibit employers from favoring one employee over another."

Some are concerned about the law's loopholes.

Sulitzeanu says, "It allows for too many 'special cases' by permitting an employer to set salaries on the basis of seniority, education and other criteria."

"Seniority can be affected when women go out on maternity leave, giving an employer an excuse to pay her an unequal salary."

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Israeli Air Force Trains in Turkey

by Naomi Segal

JERUSALEM (JTA)—Israeli jets have arrived in Turkey to begin training flights there under the terms of a military exchange accord signed in February by the two countries. Sources said eight Israeli F-16 training jets and their crews arrived last week in Turkey, adding that the planes were unarmed and lacked any surveillance equipment.



ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

West Side, East Side — Old Story, New Treatment

by Alison Smith
Herald Editor

West Side Story opened to a packed house last night, and closed to a standing ovation. (It will be at Providence Performing Arts Center through April 28.)

In a nutshell, the male lead, Tony (Scott Carollo) is a marvelous singer, a good dancer, and has plenty of stage presence.

Maria, the female lead, (Marcy Harriell) was also in excellent voice. She was a little stiff in motion, but when she opened her mouth, that ceased to matter.

Anita, top supporting actress, (Natasia A. Diaz) danced and acted with fire and panache. She projected personality to the last row in the balcony.

There were some stunning moments in this production — the instant when their doom caught up with the star-crossed lovers was so well set up that

the whole audience jumped and gasped, as one. Myself — I thought that another moment like that would have them calling 911 for me.

In general, the dancing was excellent. (Oh, to be young, and thin, and Olympian!) The choreographed gang scenes were full of energy and menace, but even menace can diminish if maintained for too long. A few of those gang scenes could have been shortened. (Also, if PPAC could amplify the thumb-snapping, it might create a greater feeling of barely contained violence.)

The delivery of the lyrics of some of the songs was not crystal clear to people in the orchestra seats. Fortunately, with West Side Story, much of the audience already either knows the lyrics or is at least cozily familiar with them, so diction is not crucial. It must be demanding to dance one's heart out like that, and then have to sing or speak.

Of special note was the painted backdrop of the old, dark heart of a city, which added a lot to every scene it was part of.

Although everyone knows how Romeo and Juliet turned out, this reprise of the old story held its audience's attention, and felt fresh, due largely to the strength of its talented company.

Weinberg to Exhibit

Recent watercolor and oil pastels by Lori Surdut Weinberg will be on display at Gallery 401 (Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island) from May 5 through 22. There will be an artist's reception on May 5 from 2 to 4:30 p.m.

Weinberg teaches at Rhode Island School of Design. Her work is already familiar to most members of the art community in this state.

Trinity Rep Conservatory Puts on Two Performances

The Trinity Rep Conservatory is offering two classic plays to the public. "Macbeth," by William Shakespeare, is directed by second-year conservatory student Amanda Dehnert; "The Trojan Women," by Euripides, is directed by guest director Scott Edmiston.

Both productions will feature Trinity Rep Conservatory students.

The Trinity Rep Conservatory provides a three-year professional training program for two dozen students under the auspices of the Trinity Repertory Company.

Concentrations are available in acting, directing and playwriting, or students may combine their interests in any of these three areas.

Classes are held in acting, voice, dance, singing, improvisation, mask, Alexander Technique, video work, playwriting and directing, with technical training taught by a resident faculty. The program is open to

all students preparing for the professional theater.

Performance times and locations are as follows:

- "Macbeth," May 1 through 4 at 8 p.m. at the Shepard Building, 80 Washington St., approximately three blocks from Trinity Rep.

- "The Trojan Women," May 9 through 12 at 8 p.m., at Perishable Theatre, Empire Street, around the corner from Trinity Rep.

Tickets for all performances are \$6; reservations may be made through the conservatory office at 521-1100, ext. 271, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Theater Tour Scheduled

Trinity Repertory Company continues its tradition of theater tours with the upcoming Trinity Rep London Arts Tour to the United Kingdom, a 10-day trip to London, Cambridge and Bath, from November 1 to 10. Artistic director Oskar Eustis plans to join the tour, which is being managed by Pearson Travel and London Arts Discovery Tours.

Six theater performances, featuring some of England's most renowned plays and actors, will be on the tour, at theaters in London's West End and the Royal Court Theatre or the Almeida Theatre. Plays now under consideration are "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?," "A Streetcar Named Desire," and "Master Class"; possible musicals are "Martin Guerre," "Passion," and "Jeeves."

Other tour highlights will include deluxe accommodations at the Waldorf, an Edwardian hotel in the heart of London; countryside tours of the university town of Cambridge and the 18th-century hamlet of Bath; meeting well-known actors and theater experts; participating in discussions with theater critics and journalists; and an opportunity to visit popular cultural and shopping attractions including the National Portrait Gallery, Harrods, Piccadilly Square, and St. Paul's Cathedral.

Trinity Rep will host a special reception at the theater on April 29 at 5:30 p.m. to discuss plans.

Capacity for this tour is limited to 25 to 30 participants.

For a detailed itinerary, call Lois Rodi at Pearson Travel at 274-2900, or Trinity Rep's Development Department at 521-1100.

*'Tis G-d gives skill,
But not without men's hands:
He could not make Antonio
Stradivari's violins
without Antonio.*

GEORGE ELIOT 1819-1880

A Rose By Any Other Name...

by Alison Smith
Herald Editor

First let me say that Providence Performing Arts Center is having a blockbuster season. Something new or something old, recreated, is always coming up over the horizon.

Having said that, let me also say that a rose by any other name, say, prickly pear, might not have become America's favorite flower, and "Stomp" by any other name, say, "Sound Waves" or "I Hear You (Not) Talking," would have been the kind of show that sells out weeks before it arrives in town.

Names, Shakespeare not-

withstanding, make a big difference.

Stomp was a great show — a unique show — and much more subtle, clever and artistic than its blunt, one-dimensional name implied.

Our reviewer, Arlene Sherman, said, "...this eight person troupe conveyed their personalities through their individual dancing styles, facial expressions, and stage presence. They pulled the audience in and connected with them... It was like watching kids at play... purposeful play. At times there was a magical simplicity, as when the group choreographed the rustling of the newspapers they were all reading. Other times, there was controlled mania.

"Not counting the great wall of stuff [in the background] I noted 31 different everyday objects that were transformed into the instruments of the night. From brooms to dustpans, garbage cans to wetsocks, and clicking lighters to pan scrapers — everything, including the kitchen sink — came alive.

"There were opportunities for each performer to be featured solo, and it was during these times that the audience was most involved, clapping hands and snapping fingers in response to initial patterns. The resulting spontaneity was wonderful.

"I was impressed at the diversity of the audience and their seemingly unanimous enthusiasm for this performance. My expectation was that Stomp would have been appealing to a select group of people. I was wrong. My 10-year-old son, my father, and my grandmother would have all been thoroughly entertained, had they been in attendance."

In line with this consideration, advertising images matter tremendously, too. The image of a young black woman shouting at an angry Hassidic man in Trinity Rep's "Fires in the Mirror" ads hit too close to home for most of us, to help sell tickets to the performance.

Who hasn't been part of a business or family confrontation

where bitterness, grief, arrogance, and sheer unbridled anger left everyone wrung out, afterwards? We don't want to replay that tape for an evening. But if the ads had shown that pivotal moment, when a large car mounted the pavement headed directly for a small black child on a bicycle, we would have felt less threatened and more interested. And if the point is to get us into the theater, so we can be exposed to the thought provocation in the drama, then the ads should draw us in.

In theater, as in politics, getting elected (getting chosen for the evening's entertainment) is the sine qua non.

Summing up, next time you get a chance to see (and hear) Stomp, grab it. Take the whole family. Think of it as Sound Waves.

Electrifying Theatre

"Electra," Euripides' Greek drama, will be presented at Brown University Theatre April 25 to 28 and May 2 to 5 in Leeds Theatre at 8 p.m. May 5 will be a 3 p.m. matinee only.

The story of Electra begins after her mother, Clytemnestra, plotted with her lover to murder her husband, gaining the throne for themselves. The deed done, her brother, Orestes, is exiled and Electra is married off to a local farmer to ensure her children won't gain the throne. Orestes returns to seek out his sister and avenge the murder of their father.

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ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT



Born to Be a Clown

by Neil Nachbar
Herald Associate Editor

As a youngster, David Solove never pictured himself becoming a clown with Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey®, but all the signs pointed in that direction.

"To be honest, I never saw a circus growing up or thought about clowning until my senior year in college," said Solove. "But when I look back on it, the roots were all there."

Solove produced puppet shows in his basement as a child. His favorite television show was "The Muppets."

"I loved their sense of humor and their outlook on life," said the Columbus, Ohio, native.

At age 8, Solove organized a carnival, complete with games and a petting zoo, to raise money for muscular dystrophy.

From elementary school through college, he participated in children's theater, both as an actor and a writer. In 1990, Solove graduated with a bachelor of fine arts degree in acting from Syracuse University. He then spent two seasons sharpening his performing skills at Busch Gardens.

Solove graduated Clown College in 1991 and he's been with Ringling Bros. since 1992.

Living on the road may not be for everyone, but the 27-year-old clown has embraced the rigorous travel schedule.

"It's one of my favorite things," said Solove. "There's a different audience and different scenery every night. I've also made friends from coast to coast."

One of the gags in this year's show is a car wash skit, in which the clowns get covered in soap.

"I get to be a kid again," said Solove. "I can make a mess and I don't have to clean it up."

But even the silliest routines require a great deal of skill.

"You have to know how to fall properly, you must have constant energy and in the case of the car wash bit, you have to know when to close your mouth," said Solove.

With more than 300 people in the circus, Solove has had a chance to get to know people from all walks of life.

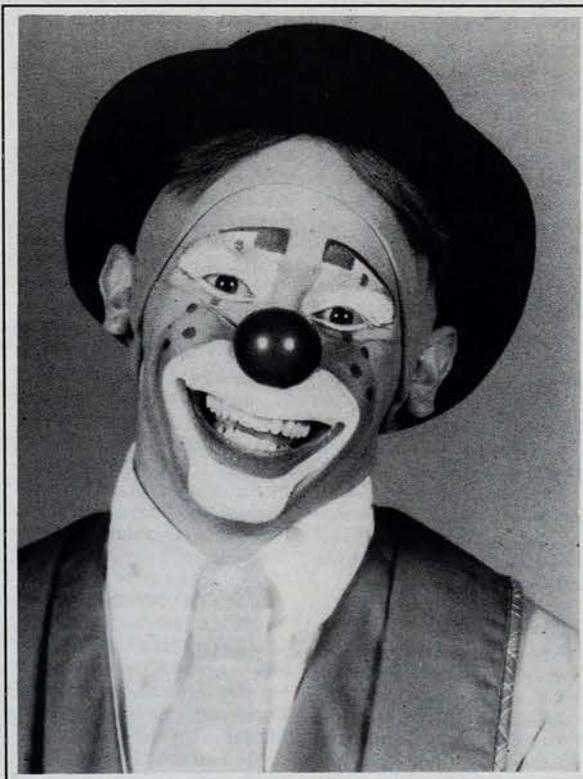
"It's a wonderful environment," said Solove. "I take it for granted."

For Solove and the rest of the clowns, the show actually starts 20 minutes early, as it's their job to go into the audience and "warm up" the crowd.

"You never know how the audience is going to react to you," said Solove.

Now that Solove has discovered his true calling, he would like to stay with the circus for a long time.

"As long as they'll let me stay, I'll be here," stated Solove. "It's been a great adventure."



David Solove

What Lies 'Beyond Therapy'?

The Newgate Theatre at 134 Mathewson St., Providence, is presenting "Beyond Therapy," by Christopher Durang, directed by Alan F. Hawkridge, from April 26 until May 18. The theme of the play is "the Human Potential Movement gone bananas." It is called "absurd, wacky and wickedly funny."

Performances will take place every Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 to \$12. Discounts for students and seniors are available. Call 421-9680 for tickets.

Swing Around the Galleries

Visit the Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design on May 4, from 8 p.m. to midnight, to experience "Dragons, Dancing and Desserts."

All proceeds from the event will benefit the RISD Museum. Tickets are \$75 per person, \$125 per person for a special drawing for theater tickets and a two-night stay for two at the St. Regis Hotel in New York City on Nov. 8 to 9.

To reserve tickets or obtain more information, call 454-6502.

PC Present String Quartet

The Providence College music department will present the Charleston String Quartet with Rosalind Y. Chua, piano, on April 28 at 3 p.m. at Providence College's Blackfriars Theatre, Harkins Hall.

Chua will be performing the Brahms Piano Quintet in F Minor with the quartet.

The concert is free and open to the public. For further information, call at 865-2183.

Wind Symphony to Perform

The Southeastern Massachusetts Wind Symphony will present a Grand John Philip Sousa Style Band Concert on April 27 at 7:30 p.m. at Watson Auditorium, Wheaton College, Norton, Mass.

The theme for the evening is

"In the Spirit of John Philip Sousa." The program will include George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue" with guest pianist Teresa Boland, "Symphony No. 3" by Boris Kozhevnikov, Irving Berlin's "Symphonic Portrait, Heritage of Freedom" by Curnow and Sousa's "Semper Fidelis" and "Willow Blossoms."

Suggested donation is \$3 per person. Students will be admitted free with a school identification. For more information about the concert, call (508) 286-3589.

The Circus Comes to Town

The world's premier producer of live entertainment, Kenneth Field, will present the Human Arrow, Airiana, in Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey at the Providence Civic Center, May 1 to 5.

The Greatest Show on Earth® is an interactive adventure featuring a pantheon of performers. Standing at the pinnacle of this select group is Great Britain's preeminent animal trainer, Graham Thomas Chipperfield.

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Tickets are \$9.50, \$12 and \$14.50, with special ringside seats available. To purchase tickets, stop by the Providence Civic Center's box office (no service charge) and all TicketMaster outlets, including Filene's. Charge by phone, 331-2211 or (617/508) 931-2000.



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OBITUARIES

JULIA FARBER

GREEN VALLEY, Ariz. — Julia (Ruben) Farber of Green Valley, Ariz., and formerly of Providence, died April 3.

A resident of Green Valley for the last 12 years, she is survived by her husband, Melville G.; daughters Beverly Brenner of Sudbury, Mass., and Paula Geraghty of Hoboken, N.J., and two grandchildren, Jessica and Richard Brenner.

She was the wife of the late Jacob S. Farber. For many years, she ran a paint and wallpaper store in Providence.

Memorial services were held in Green Valley, Ariz., on April 3. Contributions in her memory may be made to the Miriam Hospital.

ELI FEINGOLD

PROVIDENCE — Eli Feingold, 84, of 1 Regency Plaza, founder and president of Paramount Fountain and Restaurant Supply Corp. since 1940 until his retirement in 1967, died April 14 at the Elmhurst Extended Care Facility. He was the husband of Edith (Kwasha) Feingold.

Born in Leominster, Mass., he was a son of the late Samuel and Lena (Burke) Feingold.

He was a graduate of the Rhode Island College of Pharmacy. He was a member of Temple Emanu-El and its Men's Club. He was a member of the Redwood Masonic Lodge, the Shriners, the Scottish Rite, and the Touro Fraternal Association.

Besides his wife he leaves a daughter, Barbara Trilling of Natick, Mass., and four granddaughters. He was the father of the late Steven Feingold.

The funeral service was held April 16 at the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery in Warwick.

MORTON HAMER

PROVIDENCE — Morton Hamer, 67, of 46 Paris St., Pawtucket, director of purchasing for Benny's Inc., for more than 40 years, died April 17 at Miriam Hospital in Providence. He was the husband of Ileana (Dressler) Hamer.

Born in Providence, a son of the late Charles and Bessie (Gordon) Hamer, he lived in Pawtucket for the last 36 years.

He was a member of Temple Emanu-El. He was a member of the E.L. Freeman Masonic Lodge and the National Sporting Goods Association. He was a member of the Knights of Pythias and received its Man of the Year Award in 1976.

He was an Army veteran of the Korean War and a former Commander-in-Chief of the Jewish War Veterans of R.I.

Besides his wife he leaves two daughters, Susan Kaplan of Mansfield, Mass., and Maureen Hamer of Pawtucket; a sister, Selma Hanna of Pawtucket, and three grandchildren.

The funeral was held April 19 at the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

HENRY HELFAND

EAST PROVIDENCE — Henry Helfand, 99, of 35 Peabody Drive, Warwick, owner of the former Henry's Auto Parts in Providence before retiring 40 years ago, died April 19 at the Orchard View Nursing Home in East Providence. He was the husband of the late Eva (Rakatsky) Helfand.

Born in Russia, a son of the late Samuel and Ida (Racklin) Helfand, he had lived in Providence, Warwick and East Providence.

He was a member of Temple Am David. He was a member of the Jewish Fraternal Association and the South Providence Hebrew Free Loan Association.

He leaves a daughter, Eilene Smith of Warwick; two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

A graveside service was held April 21 at Lincoln Park Cemetery in Warwick. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

NAOMI LAUFER

PROVIDENCE — Naomi Laufer, 79, of 75 East St., a nurse at Rhode Island Hospital until retiring, died April 14 at Miriam Hospital. She was the widow of Maurice Laufer.

Born in New York City, a

daughter of the late Louis and Saide (Welinsky) Steinberg, she lived in Providence since 1942.

She was a graduate of Bellevue Hospital School of Nursing in New York.

She was a board member of the Harmony Hills School in Chepachet and was a volunteer at the Meeting Street School and Butler Hospital. She was a member of the Bradley Hospital Foundation.

She leaves four daughters, Susan Lowther of Alexandria, Va., Marjorie McNeeley of Westport, Me., Deborah Laufer of Warwick and Laura Laufer of Huntington Woods, Mich. and two granddaughters.

A memorial service was held April 17 at Swan Point Chapel in Providence. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

SCOTT D. MICKELSON

BROCKTON — Scott Derek Mickelson, 24, died unexpectedly April 14. He was the son of Stanley Mickelson of North Dartmouth and Judith (Crock) Mickelson of New Bedford.

He died at Beth Israel Hospital, Boston.

Born in Boston, he was a graduate of Nichols College and Winchendon Prep School.

He lived in Brockton and was a salesman in the garment industry.

Survivors include his parents, a sister, Jill Mickelson of New Bedford; a paternal grandmother, Lillian Mickelson of New Bedford; and maternal grandparents, Jerry and Lillian Crock of Florida.

Funeral services were held on April 16 at Tifereth Israel Congregation in New Bedford, Mass. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

DORA REDLICH

FALL RIVER — Dora Redlich, 90, of 76 Broadway, died April 15 at the Fall River Jewish Home for the Aged. She was the widow of Samuel Redlich.

Born in Russia, a daughter of the late Harry and Mary Brooks, she had lived in Newport since

1977, previously living in Providence.

She had been a member of Congregation Shaare Zedek in Providence.

She leaves four sons, Harold Redlich of Portsmouth, Leonard Redlich of Randolph, Mass., and Milton Redlich of Brookfield, Conn.; a brother, Phillip Brooks of Clearwater, Fla.; 13 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held April 17 at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery in Warwick.

NANCY M. ROBBINS

PROVIDENCE — Nancy M. Robbins, 90, of Regency West, Regency Plaza, died April 16 at home. She was the wife of the late Robert S. Robbins.

Born in Woonsocket, a daughter of the late Abraham and Rose (Guzner) Medoff, she lived in Providence for the last 22 years, previously living in Woonsocket.

She was a member of Temple Emanu-El in Providence and the Congregation B'nai Israel in Woonsocket. She was a life member of Hadassah and the Sisterhood of Congregation B'nai Israel. She was a member of the Women's Associations of Miriam Hospital and the Jewish Home for the Aged, and a member of the Providence Hebrew Day School.

She leaves two sons, Arthur S. Robbins of Providence and Donald M. Robbins of Cambridge, Mass.; two sisters, Eve Goldberg and Brenda Smira, both of Providence; a brother, Dr. Edward B. Medoff of Woonsocket; five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Samuel J. and Israel Medoff.

The funeral was held April 18 at Temple Emanu-El. Burial was in Congregation B'nai Israel Cemetery, Woonsocket. Arrangements were by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

DAVID F. TULCHIN

WEST CHESTER, Pa. — David F. Tulchin, 40, of West Bradford, Pa., died April 12 at Chester County Hospital, West

Chester. He was the husband of Aline (Morin) Tulchin. Born in Fall River, he was the son of Natalie Flint Tulchin, Fall River, and the late attorney Abraham Tulchin.

He was a 1973 graduate of B.M.C. Durfee High School, and a 1977 graduate of Cornell University, where he received a bachelor's degree in industrial relations. In 1985 he received a master's degree in business administration. He was employed as manager of human resources at the Sun Oil Co., Philadelphia, Pa., for six years. Prior to that, he held the same position at Lockheed Sanders Inc., Nashua, N.H., and GTE, Quincy, Mass.

He was an active member of the Beth Chaim Reform Congregation, West Chester, Pa. In addition to his wife and mother, he is survived by three daughters, Sarah, Ashley and Rebecca, all at home; a brother, attorney Harris Tulchin of Santa Monica, Calif.; an aunt and uncle and nephews and nieces.

The funeral was held April 15. Rabbi James Bleiberg officiated. Interment was in Haym Salomon Memorial Park, Frazer, Pa.

DOROTHY SILVER

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — Dorothy Silver, 86, of Troy Hills Center, Parsippany, died at the center on April 18. She was the wife of the late Peter Silver. She was born in New Bedford, Mass., the daughter of the late Philip and Mamie (Herman) Feingold, and lived in Brockton, Mass., from 1940 until 1990, when she moved to Parsippany.

She was a cashier at a shoe store and factory seamstress, until her retirement in 1975. She was a member of the Ladies' Auxiliary of Agudas Achim Synagogue in Brockton, International Ladies' Garment Workers Union and the Brockton Senior Citizens.

(Continued on Page 15)

Correction

The name of the company the late Karl Foss founded in Providence was M and F Case Company, not M and F Plastics as stated.

The Herald sincerely regrets its error.

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Unveiling

An unveiling will be held in memory of the late Augusta M. (Berger) Miller, formerly of Providence, wife of the late Frank Berger, mother of Phoebe Zaichyk, Brenda Goldreich, and Arthur Berger, on Sunday, April 28, at 1 p.m., Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

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Christopher's On the Hill: Fine Dining, Outstanding Food

by Neil Nachbar
Herald Associate Editor

When James Kelly opened Christopher's On the Hill seven months ago, he knew he would have to have a menu that would stack up against those of other restaurants in the Federal Hill neighborhood.

"We're trying to find our niche, without copying others," said Kelly.

One thing that sets Christopher's apart from other restaurants, is its constantly evolving menu.

"We change the menu daily," said Kelly. "Rather than have the staff recite a list of specials, we decided to create a menu special for that day. Some of the items may remain the same for several days, but the menu as a whole is always different."

According to Christopher Turner, the executive chef (and Kelly's son-in-law), the restaurant "represents an upscale bistro. We started with French and Italian influences, but there are also Asian and Mediterranean influences added in."

Turner, for whom the restaurant is named, also sets the restaurant apart from others.

"Christopher borrows from several influences, but shapes the menu to his own style," said Kelly.

Turner graduated from Johnson & Wales University in 1992 with a degree in culinary arts. He worked for a couple of different restaurants and took classes in France in February of 1995.

Using a wide array of vegetables and herbs (from Christopher's roof garden), Turner is continuously trying different combinations and presentations.

"The presentation of a certain dish may change several times in the same night," said Turner. "On the other hand, if I'm happy with a particular dish, I may keep it for a while."

"I find that whether I'm cooking at work or at home, I must see a nice accompaniment, in taste and in color," said Turner. "For example," Turner added, "with a hearty steak, I would serve a sweet potato."

Regardless of which vegetable he chooses, Turner makes sure there is plenty of variety, in case someone doesn't like a certain item. Recently, Christopher's started making their own breads and desserts.

"One of our goals was to have all breads and desserts made in house," said Kelly. "That way we can control the freshness and change what we're going to

serve day to day. Which ones we pick depends on our motivation that day."

During my recent visit to Christopher's, one of the delicious breads in the bread basket was called focaccia. It was baked with rosemary, basil and garlic, but on other nights it may include green olives, onions or oregano.

The breadsticks also include a combination of herbs.

"Since we started baking our own bread, people have been requesting two or three bread baskets," said Kelly.

Kelly, who serves as the host and does a lot of the baking himself, stays away from peanut oil or nuts in the bread.

"There are a lot of people who are allergic to nuts," said Kelly.

As an appetizer, my guest and I had a wood-grilled pizza with fresh plum tomatoes, basil, garlic, mozzarella, parmesan and romano cheeses.

I never thought I would like a pizza whose main attraction is tomatoes, but this was incredible. First of all, the pizza was big enough to be a meal in itself. The tomatoes were the freshest and juiciest I ever had and the combination of cheeses was perfect.

"The pizza starts in the grill and then finishes in the brick oven," said Kelly. "That way the ingredients are warm, but the contrast is maintained."

According to Kelly, more pizzas aren't featured on the menu for three reasons. "They take up so much space on the grill, we don't want to come across as copying others and rather than do a lot, a few pizzas are more appealing."

As with every order, the ingredients for the pizza are sliced as the order is put in, not ahead of time.

After the pizza, Kelly had us try a platter of several other appetizers. Those included:



LOCATED ON HISTORIC Federal Hill, Christopher's On the Hill offers fine dining in a relaxing atmosphere.

Herald photo by Neil Nachbar

- A stuffed artichoke with roasted red and yellow peppers, and asparagus.

- Jim's Grilled Bread rubbed with infused garlic oil, topped with a mixture of chilled plum and sun-dried tomatoes, anchovies, Greek olives and fresh herbs, served with a "Hunka Hunka" wedge of feta cheese.

- Portabello mushroom marinated in aged balsamic vinegar, olive oil, rosemary and roasted garlic, grilled over hardwood charcoal, served with mixed field greens.

Next, we had a salad composed of arugula, spinach, endive leaves, sun-dried tomatoes, grilled radicchio and portabello mushrooms with a fresh herbed, and balsamic vinaigrette, sprinkled with feta cheese.

For our entrées, I had boneless chicken breast, pan seared with raspberry and peppercorn sauce. My guest had veal tenderloin, lightly marinated in aged balsamic vinegar, hardwood grilled with asparagus, served with red bliss mashed potatoes.

We only ate half our entrées, to save a little room for dessert. I had a refreshing lemon sorbet served with homemade sugar

cookies. My guest had a traditional chocolate layer cake filled with rich chocolate ganache, finished with chocolate butter cream.

All the food was magnificent. The herbs and vegetables Turner selected seemed perfect for each dish. The servings were very generous and our waiter was great.

The restaurant is designed with earth tones and brass, candlelight and a few paintings and plants.

On the evening that I was at Christopher's there were plenty of available seats. Kelly later explained why this was the case.

"There are a lot of excellent service personnel that you can get to work one or two nights, but you have to hire kitchen personnel for a full week," said Kelly. "We can't do 15 dinners on a Tuesday and 150 on the weekend. Therefore, we decided to limit the number of people on the weekend to no more than 100 people."

The restaurant can potentially seat 160. In time, Kelly hopes to add to the staff and open all the dining rooms.

"We have room for expansion without leaving the building," said Kelly.

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Musical Trio to Perform

The Earles Court Consort will perform music for flute and continuo at the North Kingstown Free Library on April 28, at 3 p.m. The performance will be the second in this year's series of "Sunday Musicales at the Library."

The trio includes Barbara Lenney (flute), Jennifer Saila

(viola da gamba) and Charles Strauss (clavier). Their program will include works by Telemann, Bach, Luigi Boccherini, Eric Satie and Claude Bolling.

The performance is open to the public, free admission. Seating is limited. For more information, call the library at 294-3306.

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