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# Rhode Island Jewish HERALD

Temple Sinai's  
Celebration of  
Jerusalem

PAGE 8

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

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## UAHC Publishes Landmark Haftarah Commentary

*First Complete English  
Work Casts New Light  
on Ancient Prophets*

A landmark work in modern Bible scholarship that sheds new light on the role and writings of the ancient Hebrew prophets will be published on June 6 by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

The 928-page volume, titled *The Haftarah Commentary*, is written in gender-neutral, modern English. The work is the first translation and commentary in the English language to deal with the complete cycle of 85 prophetic selections chanted weekly in synagogues during Sabbath and holiday morning services down through the ages.

For many boys and girls, these "after-readings" have become the centerpiece of the bar or bat mitzvah ceremony — the rite of passage into adulthood.

According to UAHC officials, the new commentary is a radi-

cal departure from earlier translations of the Haftarah, filling a long-time gap in Biblical scholarship and providing new insight into early Jewish history.

The Haftarah was believed to have been compiled around 200 B.C.E. when the Syrians conquered Israel and forbade the reading of the Torah, the Five Books of Moses. In response, ancient sages composed the Haftarah from the book of Prophets as a substitute for the reading of the Torah itself. (Together with the Torah, the Prophets and the Writings make up the Hebrew Bible.)

After the Syrian ban was lifted, the Haftarah selections were retained in the liturgy following the reading of the Torah during prayer services. Alternative readings from the book of Writings were later added.

The term Haftarah is derived from the Hebrew root meaning "conclusion," referring to the chanting of the texts at the end of the Torah reading.

### New Translation of Haftarah Texts

*The Haftarah Commentary* covers the entire cycle of traditional weekly selections from the Prophets as well as alternative readings from the book of Writings. The authors include annotations and interpretations based on the latest findings in archaeology, history, linguistics and literature. The commentary also features essays on religious, social, moral and ethical issues raised by the particular texts, as well as "gleanings" from ancient and modern sources, including poetry.

The commentaries were prepared by Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut, rabbi emeritus of Holy Blossom Temple in Toronto, and Rabbi Chaim Stern of Temple Beth El in Chappaqua, N.Y., a noted Reform translator and liturgist, who also translated the text from the Hebrew.

The translations and commen-

(Continued on Page 15)

## The Haftarah Commentary — A Sampler

The following are summarized selections from several of the commentaries:

- While conventional trans-

lations of scriptural texts allude to an exclusive covenant between G-d and the Jewish people, *The Haftarah Commen-*

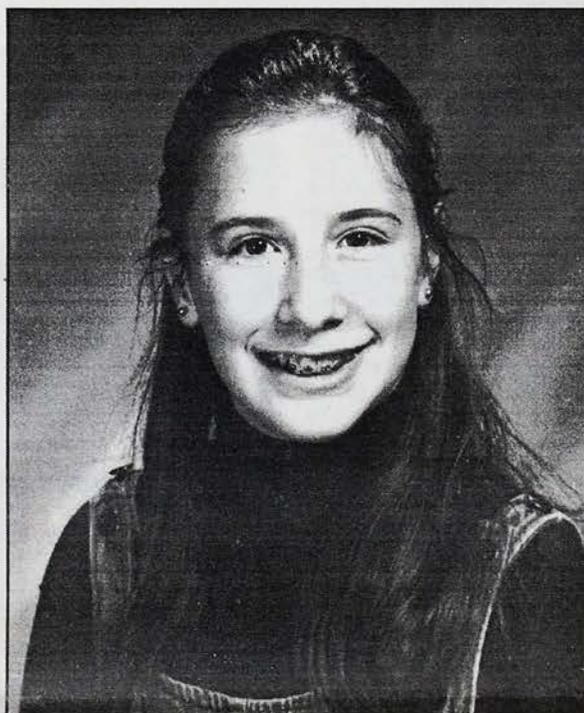
*tary* says that in actuality G-d charged Israel with being the agent to arrange a covenant between G-d and all of humanity, thereby serving as "a light to the nations." — Page 2

- Although Jews in recent times have been discouraged from engaging in missionary work and conversion, the prophet Isaiah advocated such activity as a cardinal principle of Judaism. — Page 8

- In traditional translation, the Persian King Cyrus, who was not Jewish, is appropriately credited with having freed the Jews from their long exile in Babylon. But the new volume shows him to be a far more important figure in Jewish history than was previously acknowledged. He allowed the Jews to resume their traditional worship, improved their social condition and sought to learn from them. His policies strongly influenced the future development and spread of Judaism. A Haftarah reference to a "champion from the East" — traditionally interpreted as applying to Abraham — actually referred to Cyrus. Pages 25, 28, 30

- In *Second Kings*, the prophet Elisha is described as having restored a dead boy to life by placing his mouth over that of the youngster. Past interpretations credited Elisha with having performed a Divine miracle, after

(Continued on Page 15)



Rachael Blackman

## Rachael Blackman Becomes Ambassador

Rachael Keir Blackman of Winman Junior High School in Warwick has been selected by the People to People Student Ambassador Program to represent Rhode Island and the United States in a three-week visit to Australia and New Zealand this summer.

Blackman will be learning about the government, economy, and culture of these countries through activities such as briefings at embassies and ministries, and discussions with industry and trade officials, site visits to the headquarters of international organizations, and meetings with youth clubs.

Blackman's group will receive an overview of the cultural heritage of each country during visits to major historical sites and performances of ethnic music and dance. This opportunity is especially exciting for Blackman because she has had a fascination with marsupials (animals only found in Australia and New Zealand) since she was in second grade. This trip will allow her to study her favorite subjects at firsthand.

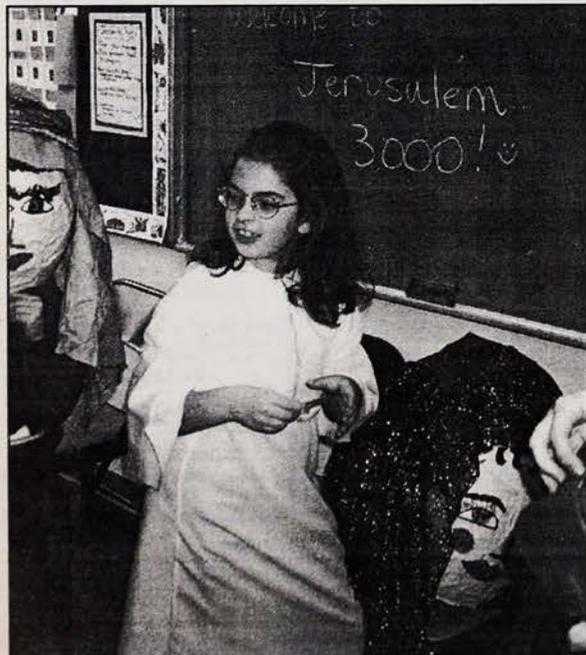
As part of her overseas experience, Blackman will live with a host family. Host families include their American guests in everyday activities, enabling the Student Ambassadors to gain a firsthand understanding of the ways people live and work in other cultures.

Each ambassador is selected on the basis of recommendations, including school references and personal interviews with members of a screening committee in their local community. Once students are accepted into the program, they prepare for their overseas project by attending orientation meetings in their own area and studying background material on the countries and organizations they will visit.

As part of her Enrichment Opportunities Program at Winman Junior High this year, Blackman wrote, anchored, and produced a half-hour documentary about the People to People program that was telecast four times during the month of April on Cox Cable Television locally.

The Student Ambassador Program is operated under the auspices of People to People International, a non-political, private-sector organization founded by President Eisenhower in 1956 to further international goodwill and understanding.

Due to the observance of Memorial Day, next week's *Rhode Island Jewish Herald* will be delivered on Friday.



### Heads Were Rolling

One of the mystery players at Temple Sinai's celebration of Jerusalem 3000, Megan Bernstein, waits for her cue to put on a head (on the floor to her left) and puzzle parents and students as to its identity. See the story of Temple Sinai's celebration on page 8.

Herald photo by Alison Smith

# INSIDE THE OCEAN STATE

## "You Just Go With It..."

by Alison Smith  
Herald Editor

Nelson Kaplan was recently named 1996 MS Father of the Year by the Rhode Island Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

MS is a chronic progressive disease which affects the sheathing of the nerves carrying messages from the brain to the muscle systems of the body.

It strikes young people, for the most part, those referred to as "being in the prime of life," and those who are about to have or are already raising young families.

Kaplan is the father of three children, one of whom, Danielle, 11, lives with her mother. (The Kaplans are divorced.) Scott, age 15, goes to the Pier School in Narragansett, and lives with his dad. Sandra, 18, is about to graduate from Narragansett High School, and lives with her father also.

Their dad sees to it that they get all the support and assistance they could expect from a father with no disability. The top of a bookcase is crammed with Scott's athletic trophies. His dad has provided transportation and a cheering section whenever possible.

Kaplan's daughter, Sandra, said, on her Father of the Year statement, "He is the kind of person who will give you more than he has to give. He is the

kind of person who will always be there for you, no matter what... Having MS does not make you less of a person, it makes you more of a person... I was given 17 years of pure unconditional love."

In another statement, one of Kaplan's children says, "He is one of the strongest people I know and for sure, the best parent I know. I couldn't love anyone more than I love my father."

Kaplan was diagnosed with MS 10 years ago. When I asked him how he handled the anxiety, frustration, fear that would come to anyone with the diagnosis of a chronic, progressive disease, he answered simply, "You just go with it."

Since his major symptom before diagnosis was, literally, fall-

ing to the ground, one gets the impression that finally having a name, and explanation, for this mysterious weakness was a relief.

When I got out of the car in Kaplan's building's lot, I saw a tall, straight, youthful-looking man standing on a balcony above me, and waving. "Are you from the Herald?"

It was hard to believe that

this individual had anything wrong with him at all. But that is, at least in part, because Kaplan works at staying on top of his illness. Whenever possible, he works out at a neighborhood gym. He goes out to MS chapter meetings for two chapters, keeps up with his kids' activities, sees friends, both male and female, socially, and drives himself where he needs to go.



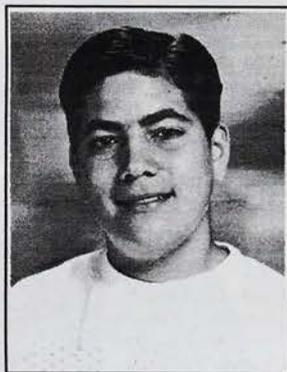
Sandra Kaplan

(At one point he used a car with hand controls, but no longer finds that necessary.)

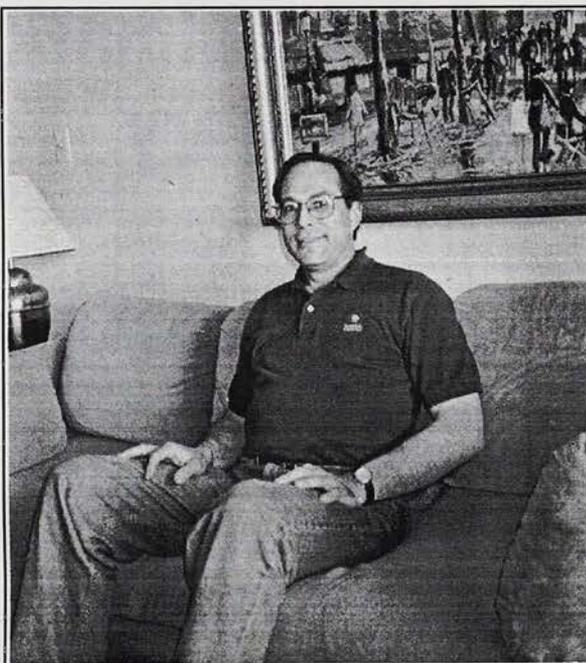
He cannot go out on the nearby beach in the summer — heat just wipes him out... exhausts him. When he works out, he has to be careful not to overdo, because if he does, his body exacts a price — he cannot walk. Nothing that rest won't fix, but extremely frustrating and incapacitating at the time. His energy level tends to go down in the afternoons.

He says his kids "know I have my limitations."

Two hundred new cases of MS are diagnosed in the United States every week. Doctors estimate that one percent of the population is affected. Most of them seem to be people, like Nelson Kaplan, with others depending on them. They deserve all the help we can give them, when we are asked to donate to the MS fund.



Scott Kaplan



NELSON KAPLAN, MS Father of the Year, is proof that MS cannot keep a good man down. Herald photo by Alison Smith

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# THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Highland Court Completes Twelve New Assisted Living Units

by Emily Torgan  
Jewish Community Reporter

The Highland Community has completed 12 new units for assisted living, and plans to use them to help keep folks feeling younger longer.

On May 15, the community celebrated the addition of the new units by hosting a speaker, Craig Simpson, of Physiotherapy Associates of Providence. About 65 residents and special friends turned out to hear Simpson's talk, "You Can Grow Older and Stay Young," given near the newly renovated units at the Highland Court Pavilion on North Main Street in Providence.

Simpson's talk focused on how individuals can make themselves feel younger by remaining social and active.

In a conversation before the lecture, Mark Trott, manager of operations at the Highland Community, talked about how the concepts of care in place at Highland are designed to make residents stay younger as well.

"Research shows that people stay younger if they continue to

do normal things and to lead exciting, vibrant lives," said Trott. "Assisted living enables them to do just that."

With assisted living, residents are able to maintain a ba-

these needs can be met, said Trott. The community provides social life, balanced meals, day-to-day help and nearby medical care, as well as amenities such as independent transportation and exercise.

The Highland Community was one of the first facilities in the area to offer assisted living, Trott said. In 1987, the community began to offer such services to the Rhode Island community.

At present, the Highland Community offers assisted living along with two other forms of care, independent living and long-term care.

With independent living, individuals are able to live independently at the facility, where they pick and choose the care they need.

Long-term care includes medical care, Trott explained.

"It's wonderful to see the worry lift," Trott said of people who move to Highland Court. "The residents and their families all become much happier."

For further information, call Highland Court at 272-9600.



CRAIG SIMPSON, of Physiotherapy Associates, spoke at the Highland Community on May 15.

Herald photo by Emily Torgan

sic independence supplemented by balanced meals and help with difficulties that may arise as people begin to age.

"Many people come to need help with basic day-to-day needs such as bathing and dressing," Trott explained. "But otherwise, these people are able to maintain a healthy and active lifestyle. They need to be able to socialize, to exercise and to have ways to visit friends and family members outside of the facility."

At the Highland Community,

## Doctor-Assisted Death Causing Debate in Jewish Community

by Emily Torgan  
Jewish Community Reporter

After Dr. Jack Kevorkian was found innocent of assisted-suicide charges on May 14, supporters released 28 balloons outside the Pontiac, Michigan, courtroom where he was tried. The balloons represented lives of patients whom Kevorkian has helped to die, and they quickly disappeared.

However, the issues the balloons represent have continued to float in the minds of Rhode Island's Jewish scholars and medical professionals, where they have caused a wide range of reactions.

The practice of assisting suicide, or intervening to help a patient bring about his or her own death, is against traditional Jewish law. However, some believe a departure from this law is in order.

"From the point of view of Orthodox Jewish law, assisted suicide is not permitted under any circumstances," said Ed Beiser, associate dean of medicine at Brown University. "The notion is that G-d owns your body, and that you are required to obtain a reasonable level of health care for it. But the range of non-Orthodox Jewish opinion is varied."

Both Beiser and Rabbi James Rosenberg, of Temple Habonim, a Reform synagogue in Barrington, said case-by-case evaluation to determine what is right in each situation is critical.

"Asa Reform rabbi, I am gen-

erally against assisted suicide," said Rosenberg recently. "However, there are some extreme situations where I would approve of doctors doing everything they possibly can to relieve extreme pain, even if the result was death."

Patients often die in cases involving morphine titration, Rosenberg said.

"The issues of intent are very complex," Rosenberg explained. "For a long time, the unofficial position has been that you shouldn't do it, but that if you do, you look the other way."

According to Rosenberg, the Jewish notions that assisted suicide is wrong and that a person should show as much mercy as he or she can, may conflict.

"There is a tension there," Rosenberg said. "Very wisely, the tradition does not advocate suicide. If you advocate suicide as a positive law you can get into trouble."

Still, many physicians have helped their patients to die, Rosenberg said.

"Most of us have lived long enough to know that sometimes all you can do is help someone out of their misery," Rosenberg said. "In situations requiring extraordinary mercy, actions are taken that may cause death but will lead to a reduction of pain. The intent is not to kill, but death is often the result."

Rabbi Mitchell Levine, of Congregation Beth Shalom, an Orthodox congregation in Providence, said the issue is

much broader than the doctor-patient relationship.

"I'm troubled by the way our society is asking doctors to impose these measures," Levine said. "If we take religion seriously, and if suicide is ever warranted, perhaps it should be carried out under the supervision of a spiritual leader rather than doctor, who has been trained to prolong life."

As an Orthodox rabbi, Levine said he tried to uphold traditional Jewish law, but said he would turn to specially trained religious authorities if confronted on the matter.

"Pulpit rabbis have people to turn to about such matters," explained Levine, who said he would go to an internationally known figure such as Rabbi Moses Tendler of Yeshiva University in New York City if approached by a congregant with an assisted-suicide situation.

"Now, there are trained religious authorities with MDs and degrees in biology for pulpit rabbis to speak to," Levine said.

Tendler, chairman of the biology department, professor of Talmudic law and professor of medical ethics at Yeshiva University, recently called assisted suicide a tragedy of American society this week.

"Actively taking a life is (Continued on Page 15)

## JCCRI Buys Baby Buggy

by Emily Torgan  
Jewish Community Reporter

Toddlers at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island are now strolling around in style.

On May 6, the center's Infant Toddler Center received a baby buggy, a four-wheeled stroller that seats six children.

"This is much better for the children," said Elisa Silverstein-Heath, director of planning and allocations and mother of an ITC student. "The kids are buckled in much better. They are safer and more comfortable."

"With the baby buggy, the children go out more often, and they are much less limited in where they can go," said Sue Robbio, an ITC mother and senior adult coordinator at the center.

Silverstein-Heath and Robbio spotted the baby buggy in a Kaplan's School Supplies catalogue. As they had seen similar models put to good use at other Rhode Island preschools, they decided to try to get one for their own program.

"We knew the buggy would be good for the children, and we know the buggy would help us stay competitive with other early childcare cen-

ters," Silverstein-Heath said. "We need to keep updating to stay current."

Because the baby buggy's \$1,000 price tag seemed daunting, Robbio and Silverstein-Heath began a fund-raising campaign in mid-April. They sent requests to fellow JCCRI parents and some grandparents, and the funds for the buggy poured in.

Both were surprised by the tremendous support for the project.



JCCRI TODDLERS enjoyed their new buggy last week. Riders are as follows: (from left) Kahe Rockwell, Nathan Rakitt, David Cahana, Maxie Formal, Allison Robbio, Rebekah Heath. Elisa Silverstein-Heath looks on.

Herald photo by Emily Torgan

"We are thinking about getting another," Silverstein-Heath said. "The babies really love it."

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# EDITORIAL

## What is Shavuot?

Shavuot, the second of the three major festivals, comes exactly 50 days after Passover. It marks the giving of the Torah by G-d to the entire Jewish people on Mt. Sinai 3,308 years ago. In Hebrew the word "Shavuot" means "weeks" and stands for the seven weeks during which the Jewish people prepared themselves for the giving of the Torah. During this time they rid themselves of the scars of bondage and became a holy nation ready to stand before G-d.

The giving of the Torah was far more than an historical event. It was a far-reaching spiritual event — one that touched the essence of the Jewish soul then and for all time. Our sages have compared it to a wedding between G-d and the Jewish people. We became his special nation and he became our G-d.

Each year, Shavuot is the special time for us to reawaken and strengthen our special relationship with G-d. We can do so by rededicating ourselves to the observance and study of the Torah — our most precious heritage.

### What is Torah?

The Torah is composed of two parts: the written law and the oral law. The written Torah contains the Five Books of Moses, the Prophets and the Writings.

Together with the written Torah, Moses was also given the oral law which explains and clarifies the written law. It was transmitted orally from generation to generation and eventually transcribed in the Talmud and Midrash.

Throughout the generations

our people have studied these works, commenting upon them, clarifying their meanings, deriving practical applications of these principles and codifying the laws derived from them. Thus, a continuous chain of tradition extends throughout the generations, connecting the scholars of the present day to the revelation at Mt. Sinai.

Speaking metaphorically, our sages tell us that G-d constantly "gazes into the Torah and creates the world." The Torah is not only a practical guide for our behavior in daily life, but also on a deeper level it is actually the "blueprint" for creation.

Everything that happens in our lives is a manifestation of G-d's wisdom, as expressed in His Torah. As such, Torah represents the very source of our vitality, and the key to the fulfillment of our deepest aspirations.

When we study Torah, even on the simplest level, we link our minds and hearts with G-d's true purpose in creating the world. Our actions become a direct expression of G-d's will; our feelings become imbued with His benevolence; our minds become illuminated with His wisdom.

The revelation at Mount Sinai was a tumultuous awe-inspiring experience. The entire universe, our sages say, trembled with the piercing sound of the ram's horn. Thunder and lightning filled the skies. Then — silence. Not a bird chirped. No creature spoke. The seas did not

stir. Even the angels ceased to fly, as the voice was heard: "I am the L-rd your G-d."

Our sages tell us that the revelation at Mount Sinai is an event that is not merely ancient history, but an experience that can be relived each time we study the Torah. The awe and delight of divine revelation are available to us, if we will only open our awareness to G-d's gift and learn it the proper way.

When G-d revealed himself on Mount Sinai, our entire people heard his voice proclaim-

These 10 commands range from the highest and most refined concept of the belief in the oneness of G-d to the most basic laws which every society has found it necessary to enforce, of not killing and not stealing.

### The Hidden Torah

Contrary to popular opinion, it was not just the Ten Commandments that we received on Mount Sinai. The revelation encompassed every dimension of Torah, including the deepest mystical secrets.

Our sages tell us that every Jew at Sinai saw a vision of the divine chariot, as de-

scribed many centuries later in the prophecy of Ezekiel.

This sublime manifestation of G-dliness is the core of the wisdom of the Kabbalah. Throughout most of our history, this esoteric inner dimension of Torah was kept hidden, studied only by the select few.

While mainstream Jewish scholarship focused primarily on Talmudic logic and practical laws, the mystical aspects of To-

rah were taught only in private, one on one, to those deemed worthy. The secrets of the Kabbalah were considered too potent to be revealed to the masses.

As the centuries passed, the Jews of the diaspora became increasingly engulfed in the darkness of exile. Persecution and poverty eroded our faith. The spiritual awareness that had been prevalent in Biblical times gradually gave way to ignorance and despair. Jewry was "fainting"; powerful medicine was required to revive her.

By divine providence, the "elixir" appeared: the esoteric wisdom of Torah began to emerge from private sanctuaries into the public domain. Kabbalistic texts that had been buried for centuries were suddenly unearthed and published. Sages began to promulgate profound teachings that kindled sparks in the hearts of the downtrodden. And with the advent of a remarkable man named Israel Baal Shem Tov, the ancient mystical truths were eventually revealed and rendered accessible to every man.

Submitted to the Herald by Rabbi Yehoshua Laufer of Chabad House.

## TORAH TODAY

ing the Ten Commandments:

1) I am the L-rd your G-d who took you out of the land of Egypt. 2) You shall have no other gods before Me. 3) Do not take the name of the L-rd your G-d in vain. 4) Remember the Sabbath to keep it holy. 5) Honor your father and mother. 6) Do not murder. 7) Do not commit adultery. 8) Do not steal. 9) Do not bear false witness. 10) Do not covet."

## Agudath Israel Opposes Same-Sex Marriages

As hearings began before the House Subcommittee on the Constitution on the issue of "same-sex marriage," Agudath Israel of America, the nation's largest grass-roots Orthodox Jewish coalition movement, reiterated its opposition to what it called "the shocking trend toward redefining the sacred institution of marriage."

The hearings followed the introduction of the "Defense of Marriage Act," which would absolve states of any requirement to extend "full faith and credit" to any other state's law with respect to same-sex "marriage." The bill would also define, with regard to federal law, the term "marriage" as the legal union of

a man and a woman; and "spouse" as either a husband or a wife.

A spokesperson for Agudath Israel indicated the Orthodox organization's strong opposition to any type of formal legal recognition of homosexual relationships.

"It is troubling enough that contemporary culture so often glorifies homosexual conduct as an innocuous or even positive 'lifestyle,'" said Rabbi Avi Shafran, Agudath Israel's director of public affairs.

"There is a clear and important distinction, though," he went on, "between the simple existence or even toleration of immorality and its formal soci-

etal sanctioning through use of a label like 'marriage.' The latter crosses a critical line, sending a loud, clear and tragically wrong message to all of the society's members."

Though the American Jewish community's Reform rabbinical group recently voted to support the civil recognition of "same-sex marriages," Shafran pointed out that Jewish tradition is "manifestly clear" on the issue, deeming homosexual relations sinful, and a society's validation of same-sex relationships "a grave danger to its moral fiber and its future."

Submitted by Rabbi Avi Shafran, of Agudath Israel.

## AJ Congress Support Higher Minimum Wage

by Dr. Martin Hochbaum  
Dr. Hochbaum is Director of the American Jewish Congress' Commission on National Affairs

The American Jewish community, beginning with its immigrant roots in sweat shops and related trades, has always been a major supporter of issues important to labor.

While this backing has waned somewhat in recent years, perhaps reflecting a more general sentiment found throughout our society, both Jewish religious tradition and more secular principles require that we back an increase in federal minimum wage.

Contrast this with the Judaic. In Exodus, shortly before we are told to observe the Sabbath, we are first commanded, "Six days thou shall do they work." Moreover, in Deuteronomy it is written, "Thou shalt not oppress a hired servant that is poor and needy, whether he be 'Jew or gentile. Maimonides, a 12th-century physician and philosopher, taught that finding employ-

ment for the jobless represented the highest form of charity.

The relevance of eating the fruits of one's labor to the contemporary era is clear. The current federal minimum wage of \$4.25 an hour (some states such as New Jersey have higher floors) prevents a working class man or woman from purchasing the products he or she is producing. This is especially the case when one considers that a minimum wage worker is responsible for such employment related costs as transportation, Social Security taxes and lunch.

American society has long preached to the poor that hard work is the path out of poverty. But that is not currently the case since a full time worker employed at the minimum wage annually earns but \$8,840, a figure far less than the income required today to bring a three-person family out of poverty. Even with a government subsidy, such as the Earned Income Tax Credit, this family is con-

demned to remain poor and often unable to purchase "the fruits" it has produced.

Moreover, the \$4.25 an hour federal minimum wage has remained the same since 1991 (the first minimum wage of \$2.5 an hour, included in the 1938 Fair Labor Standards Act, was the culmination of a 100-year effort to have government regulate the workplace). During this period its purchasing power has declined substantially as the national cost of living index rose by more than fifteen percent.

The major opposition to a higher minimum wage is that it would lead to a loss in jobs, a concern invariably articulated whenever this subject comes up for discussion by the U.S. Congress. Inevitably, the dislocations that followed a higher minimum in the past were found to be minimal. Moreover, a higher minimum wage could encourage job stability, thus leading to improved productivity.

### RHODE ISLAND JEWISH HERALD

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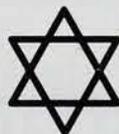
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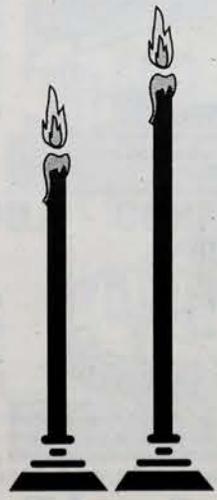
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Candlelighting  
May 24, 1996  
7:49 p.m.



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# FEATURE



## Is Your Oven Kosher?

by Mike Fink  
Herald Contributing Reporter

Saul Chernick, a rabbi's son, studies Jewish literature with me. He presented a tale from the Gemara to the class, perhaps well-known to many, but fresh and new to his studio audience, which mixes Asians, Germans, African-Americans, and Irish Catholics.

It's the one about the two rabbis who contend over the kashrut of an oven. The greater of the two boasts that his judgment must be the correct one, because he can make a tree march, a canal reverse its course. The voice of the Most Holy speaks from above in his behalf. "He's always right," states the sky.

But the lesser rabbi stays unimpressed. "Hey, You gave us the Torah. It's up to us here below to figure it out." And his followers go so far as to excommunicate G-d's favorite. This act upsets dough in ovens and causes strife throughout nature. But the heavens just shrug it off with a laugh.

Saul asks the assembly, what does the story signify? The power of envy?

No, claims Saul. It points out an important theme in Judaism. If you follow a leader, you let go of your own creative free will, which is our link with the sacred. "As an artist, the parable appeals to me, but it also confounds me. It makes the great loner a magnificent, tragic creature, but it comes down on the side of the community. It invites you to take part in the allegory."

At the close of my semester, as I sum up the successes and failures of my attempt to squeeze the Jewish narrative into one brief season, I recall the performances of certain design disciples who stand out. Saul's story says it for me. The laws are there, but you choose to interpret them according to the dictates of your own soul.

After the destruction of the second Temple, the priests gave way to the rabbis. Where is the Hebrew Hall, in Jerusalem, in New York, in Providence, or in your own space, where you keep your oven and its bread, the staff of your life, according to the dictates of your own conscience?

## Dan the Funny Man

by Mike Fink  
Herald Contributing Reporter

You may have seen him on the avenues, dressed in motley, dancing and prancing with the curved slippers and belled cap of the classic jester.

Dan did more than smile and saunter. He also recited verses, doggerel he composed in a gentle rap and read off from an endless scroll in his hands. The theme: get your pizza!

Dan Kertzner played the holy fool in Divine Providence for more than five years. Just the other day, on a brisk spring evening, he formally announced his retirement. Cameras clicked and camcorders ground as cinematic lights focussed on the strange and poetic figure of the pizza-buffoon of the Brown campus. Several hundred under-grads, on the brink of their semester's end, crowded round the stacks of free pizzas. Dan has enormous, star-quality, klieg-light charisma!

He stepped out at the C.I.T. building, on the corner of Waterman and Brook, in full costume and regalia, to review his life as a salesman-showman.

"I've been part of every event, on ice, turf, and sand, and now I move along," he crowed, or something like that, but it rhymed.

I saw him, out of uniform, on Thayer Street, after the Sunday evening farewell, and he told me, without rhyme, his history.

"It's time I worked for a larger cause, an organization, a group to help forlorn children or needy groups. But I'm proud of my past. I have become a folk figure for stu-

dents and cafe-people."

"What about your search for the spirit through Chabad House and the Chassidic tradition?" I asked him.

"Tikkun olam," he responded, "that's what I like to think I perform."

And that's the way he left me, wondering how his graceful and generous act has helped to repair the nerves of all those in his wide audience who have smiled in awed appreciation at the character he crafted and created.



Dan Kertzner

## A Magazine for Jewish Families

by Alison Smith  
Herald Editor

Yosef Abramowitz, whose articles have appeared frequently in the *Herald* during the past year, has started publica-

view of sex by — you guessed it — Dr. Ruth Westheimer.

There are other articles, of course, on teaching ethics to children, on bedtime rituals, on celebrity Seders, etc., but this listing should give you an idea of the breadth of Abramowitz's material. He's put together a chatty publication with some depth, some glitz, some very practical advice.

The premiere issue is 64 pages long, and includes a survey form for readers to fill out, so Abramowitz can find out where he's hitting the mark, and where he needs to put more emphasis.

This would make an excellent gift for any observant young Jewish parent. It's \$2.95 at newsstands, \$12 a year for a subscription delivered in the United States. And if you can't count on someone thinking of giving you a subscription, you might give this magazine to yourself. If you've enjoyed Abramowitz's provocative pieces in the *Herald*, you'll like *Jewish Family and Life!*



tion of *Jewish Family and Life!*, a quarterly magazine dedicated specifically to Jewish families with children.

The first issue, which came out this spring, had a "welcome" written by Elie Wiesel, who is co-chair of the editorial advisory board, an article by Hillary Clinton on "children's innate spirituality," an interview with Steven Spielberg, and a "relationships" piece on the Jewish

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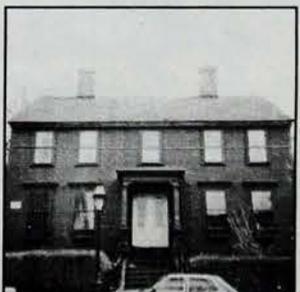
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# THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Head of the JWV Visits Rhode Island

by Neil Nachbar  
Herald Associate Editor

On May 17, the national commander of the Jewish War Veterans, Neil Goldman, paid a visit to Rhode Island.

It was an opportunity for Rhode Island's Jewish veterans to meet the leader of their organization and for Goldman to get acquainted with Rhode Island.

The day started at 8:30 a.m. with a trip to Lincoln Park Cemetery in Warwick, where Goldman spent a few moments in the veteran portion of the cemetery.

Next, Goldman went to the Rhode Island Veterans Home in Bristol.

From there, the national commander stopped at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Providence. The Rhode Island chapter of the JWV had purchased a \$300 United States flag, which they handed to Goldman and he, in turn, presented to the hospital on behalf of the organization.

At the hospital, Goldman had the opportunity to briefly address some of the hospital volunteers and visit the building's sanctuary.

The next stop was the State House. Goldman received a proclamation from the speaker of the House, the governor and the lieutenant governor.

At 6:15 p.m., Goldman at-

tended Shabbat services at Temple Am David in Warwick. At 7:30 p.m. he had dinner at the temple.

At 8:30 p.m., at the temple, Goldman swore in members of Post 23. His long day finally ended at 11 p.m.

While being ushered around the VA Hospital, Goldman took a few minutes to respond to questions.

Across the country, JWV's membership has dropped in recent years, as many of the members have become elderly. Following World War II, many veterans joined JWV, but as they have gotten older or passed away, veterans of more recent wars—such as Vietnam—have not joined the organization in significant numbers.

Although Goldman said Rhode Island is an extreme example of this, he did acknowledge the trend nationally.

"Because of the Vietnam veterans' experiences when they came home — they were vilified — many became bitter," said Goldman. "They're just now reassessing their role. They'll start joining veterans' organizations."

"I recently asked a Vietnam veteran if he was proud to have served his country, he said 'I'm becoming more proud.'"

This being the 100th anniversary of the Jewish War Veterans, America's oldest veterans organization, Goldman had tried to get a commemorative stamp approved.

After his request was rejected, Goldman sent a lengthy, strong-worded letter to U.S. Postmaster General Marvin Runyan.

"He [Runyan] told us that if Congress approved a stamp, he would support it," said Goldman. "The Senate passed the resolution unanimously. The House refuses to recognize any stamp. He knew that would be the case. There has been a history of sandbagging."

Goldman said he would continue to pursue the matter.

On the subject of Bosnia, Goldman said JWV was against sending troops without looking closer at the situation, although he said, "once the troops are there, we'll support them any way we can."

Goldman also said he's 100 percent against sending troops to the Golan Heights.

A member of Dallas Post 256, Goldman enlisted in the U.S. Air Corps as an aviation cadet. He served as a celestial navigation operator and instructor, and was honorably discharged in February 1946.

## Chabad Celebrates

The Chabad House, 360 Hope St, Providence, will be holding a Festival of the Giving of the Torah on May 24 and 25.

Starting at midnight, May 23, and going till dawn on the 24th, there will be an all-night, Torah learn-a-thon, with study groups, discussions, and more.

At 10 a.m. on May 24, another program will begin, fol-

lowed by a program about the Ten Commandments at 11 a.m., which, in turn, will be followed by a holiday luncheon and a children's program, complete with sweet treats.

On May 25 there will be Shabbos at 10 a.m., and Yizkor services at 11:30 a.m.

For more information, call 273-7238.

## Richard Kaplan to be Honored

Richard Kaplan, a former chairman of the Rhode Island Israel Bonds campaign and active member of the Rhode Island Jewish community, will be honored at a reception and dinner on June 19 at 6 p.m. at the Ledgemont Country Club.

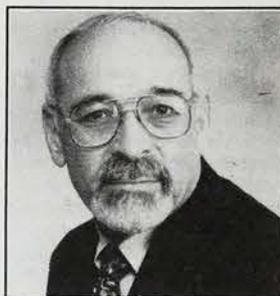
Guest speaker at the tribute will be journalist Robert Meyer Evans.

The dinner is being held under the auspices of Rhode Island Israel Bonds.

At the dinner, Kaplan will be presented with the Jerusalem 3000 Medal in recognition of his leadership in the Rhode Island Jewish community and his steadfast support of Israel.

Dinner chairmen Gary and Lawrence Dressler said, "Richard Kaplan has been a pillar of our community for many years, strengthening Jewish institutions in Rhode Island and in Israel. The presentation of the Jerusalem 3000 Medal is our means of expressing our appreciation to Richard for his leadership and inspiration."

Kaplan, a prominent Rhode



Richard Kaplan

Photo by P.M. Cohen Photography

Island CPA, holds a number of community leadership positions, including board member and past president of the Community College of Rhode Island Foundation; president, Jewish Family Service; treasurer, Providence Rotary Club; and board member, Jewish Federation of Long Island.

For additional information on Israel Bonds or for dinner reservations, contact Michael Shuman at the Israel Bond office at (800) 752-5651.

## On the Road With Hadassah

On May 29, chairwomen Goldie Greene and Fran Sadler will lead a Hadassah trip to West Hartford to see "From the Ends of the Earth: Judaic Treasures of the Library of Congress."

The trip will include lunch at the 1877 Club and a tour of Con-

gregation Beth Israel, the oldest congregation in Connecticut.

If weather permits, a surprise visit will complete this fascinating venture into other facets of Jewish life.

Call the Hadassah office at 463-3636 for more details.

## Service of Healing at Beth-El

On June 2 at 4 p.m. another in a series of worship services called "A Healing Service for the Soul" will be held at Temple Beth-El in Providence. The program is designed for those struggling with chronic illness, their

caregivers, and anyone seeking spiritual solace.

Temple Beth-El is located at 70 Orchard Ave., at the corner of Orchard and Butler avenues on Providence's East Side.



IRVING LEVIN (left), Rhode Island state commander of the Jewish War Veterans, showed Neil Goldman, national commander of JWV around the state recently.

Herald photo by Neil Nachbar

### Shavuos Candlelighting

Candlelighting for the second day of Shavuos is no later than 7:49 p.m. The time was wrong in last week's Herald because the Herald was given incorrect information.

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# THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Joani McCullough Honored by Hadassah

Joani McCullough of the Rhode Island Chapter, South County Group of Hadassah has been named a recipient of the 10th annual Hadassah National Leadership Award.

This award honors members whose leadership accomplishments within Hadassah and other civic, educational and cultural organizations reflect Hadassah's dedication to the principles of the volunteer ethic.

Award recipients are selected by their peers and represent a wide range of achievements.

"The future of Hadassah, indeed of the Jewish people the world over, rests on committed, concerned and educated Jewish

leadership," said Mariene Post, national president of Hadassah. "I am pleased to welcome Joani McCullough to the family of outstanding women who have built our organization and given of themselves to create a better world.

"Joani McCullough has been an innovative and creative vice president of programming for our chapter," said Diane Jewett, president of the South County Group of Hadassah. "She has enhanced our group with her exciting ideas and commitment to our charitable and educational goals. These assets have made her a peer model and leader to us all."

McCullough states that her involvement in Hadassah stemmed from her belief in the dynamics of the organization and its charitable goals. She reports very much enjoying arranging program events, such as the Soup Cook-off, which not only raised funds but served as opportunities for contact among the members of this minority group in South County.

McCullough, who is also deeply involved with local educational projects, along with her husband and two daughters, is hosting an exchange high school student from Slovakia.

South County Hadassah Group president Jewett concludes, "We all share a sense of pride for this tribute to Joani which she truly deserves."



JOANI McCULLOUGH, on the left, has been honored by South County Hadassah. Beverly Rudman, on the right, shares her pleasure.

## Chai to Host Dance/Bash

Chai Productions has announced its first anniversary dance/bash. Chai is celebrating its first year, which has included dances, tennis, hiking, biking and now table talk. At the anniversary event, Jewish singles of all ages will have a chance to come and meet singles and dance, eat and win prizes.

The festivities will take place at the Copley Marriott, Boston, inside one of the most popular nightclubs, Champions. Doors will be open from 8 p.m. until 2 a.m.

Advance tickets are \$10, \$12 for members at the door and non-members \$14. There is plenty of garage parking in the Copley. Advance tickets will be sold by phone at (508) 443-7834. Call Barton Roth for more information.

## Dr. Weinberg Joins Board

Dr. Marc Weinberg recently became a member of the board of directors for Blue Cross/Blue Shield. He also became a member of the executive committee of the board of directors of HMO of Rhode Island.

Weinberg was a moderator for a medical symposium, entitled "Hypertension in the Chal-

lenging Hypertensive Patient," which was held in Newport.

Recently, Weinberg submitted a paper to the *American Journal of Hypertension*, entitled "Up 269-6, A Clinically Effective Antihypertensive Angiotensin II, ATI Receptor Antagonist: Evidence for a Time-Dependent Effect on Duration of Action."

## Thank You

Here are the results of our appeal for identification of ladies in the large picture in the fashion section last month.

Elizabeth Berger is almost sure that the fifth woman in the top row from the left is her mother, Betty Abel, and the fourth woman in second row with glasses (also from the left) is her grandmother, Anne Abel.

She asks that someone else corroborate her identification.

She thought the woman on the extreme right in the first row was related to Gov. Sundlun (name Gus Sundlin Warenback).

Zara Brody Matzner identified herself as the woman in the top row on the extreme right and said the picture was of a Temple Beth-El group.

## JWV to Hold Memorial Services

On May 26, the Jewish War Veterans will hold their annual memorial services at Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick, at 11 a.m.

The names of the veterans who have passed away this past year will be added to the monument and will be consecrated by Rabbi George J. Astrachan and Cantor Rennie Brown of Temple Sinai, Cranston.

All veterans and their families and the public are invited to attend.

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### Correction

On page 10 of the May 16 edition of the *Herald*, in an article, "The Mitzvah Man" by Cindy Halpern, Murray Perelman should read Murray Perlman. The *Herald* regrets the misspelling.

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## Department of Rhode Island Jewish War Veterans



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# THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

## 'What Jerusalem Means to Me...'

by Alison Smith  
Herald Editor

It was a lovely Tuesday evening on May 14, peaceful and serene outdoors, but the teachers at Temple Sinai came out of their meeting with Leonore Sones, educational director for the temple, race-walking to their classrooms.

They had work to do and projects to complete before the celebration of Jerusalem 3000 on Sunday.

A lot had already been done. Photo opportunities were everywhere—classroom doors decorated as real, historic gates in Jerusalem; huge paper mâché heads for mystery players; displays of the work of many small hands which could bring tears or smiles to the beholder's face.

One mosaic, made up of dozens of tiles created by Renee Fullerton's sixth-graders and their families, reminded me of an intricate quilt. The border was completely made up of tiles representing the fruits of Jerusalem, which gave the whole mosaic a harmonious, finished look. The interior tiles carried images representing all the things that Jerusalem meant to the children—the gates, the Wall, tiny Jerusalem scenes, and symbols like the Star of David.

There were letters to the mayor of Jerusalem in another room, written by fifth-graders, who discussed, made suggestions about, and asked questions on, the different neighborhoods in Jerusalem.

The originals of the letters, and a Temple Sinai T-shirt have all been sent to the mayor. Each child also created a collage of images that he or she associated with his or her chosen neighborhood. These letters, by the way, probably brightened the mayor's whole day, or at least made him smile.

In every room, it was clear that Sones and the teachers involved had given their children an opportunity to learn and to create.

In the seventh-grade room, a more serious mood prevailed. Political banners, unflinchingly and graphically illustrating the contrasting opinions and emotions on the question of Jerusalem's future, were displayed along one wall. The sev-

enth-graders will be the ones who will debate the question of Jerusalem's future government, on Sunday.

Finally, on the lower level of the temple lobby, there was a duplicate of the Kotel, made by Sinai parents. Here and there, slits had been cut in the wall, and everyone will be invited to write a prayer and insert it into the wall, to be collected later and mailed to the real Western Wall.

A poster beside the wall recounted how, after the Turks had captured the city and the wall in 1517, their sultan climbed to a mosque on the Temple Mount to give thanks to Allah.

After saying his prayers, he became aware of a foul smell polluting the air. He found that the smell came from an immense heap of garbage outside the mosque site. An old lady, tossing her garbage onto the pile, told the enraged sultan it had long been the custom to dump refuse there.

The sultan's adviser told him that when the Romans destroyed and burned the temple (and its walls) they had decreed that everyone continue the desecration by dumping garbage on the site.

The sultan, being a wise man, started dropping gold coins on the garbage pile every night.

In time, the whole pile was removed, as people dug deep to find more coins.

When the job was almost done, the sultan ordered his men to clean the wall, and wash it with rose water.

In 1948, the Jordanians seized the city, and Jews were not able to pray at the wall again until it was liberated by Israeli forces in 1967.

Beside every gate (classroom door) there was a similar poster giving the history of that gate, the history of its name, and any distinguishing features.

The posters were done by Bob Miles.

The stage was set, by the time everyone went home on Tuesday evening, for a memorable celebration of Jerusalem's birthday, and fun and enrichment for all ages at the Temple Sinai festival on May 19.



SO HOW'RE WE DOING? From the left, Stephanie Delman, Ariel Bierh and Jennifer Delman play a board game at Temple Sinai's celebration of Jerusalem 3000. Herald photo by Neil Nachbar

## Such a Celebration!

by Alison Smith  
and Neil Nachbar

The Temple Sinai celebration of Jerusalem 3000 was due to start at 9 a.m. on Sunday morning, but by 8:45, families were



Andy Garber prepares to send his prayer to the Western Wall. Herald photo by Alison Smith

starting to line up in the entry hall, waiting for a chance to pick up their "key"—a paper key entitling them to enter one of the seven gates of Jerusalem in the temple school.

Many of them wandered into the lower lobby, first, attracted to

the Kotel, and a chance to write a prayer, insert it into the "Wall" and have it delivered to the real Western Wall in Jerusalem.

Once the majority of parents, grandparents, children, siblings and friends had arrived, each classroom became pleasantly crowded with people who were admiring the students' work, learning more about Jerusalem, and creating something new on their own—mosaic tiles, practically unbreakable, hand-decorated plastic plates, etc.

In one classroom, students wore incredibly large papier mâché heads, as they were disguised as well-known figures from Jerusalem's history. By reading the Jerusalem timeline, and asking the characters for clues, visitors had to try to guess which character the students were supposed to be. If they guessed correctly, the famous figure would give his or her autograph.

After the visitors passed through all the gates, everyone gathered upstairs in the temple's social hall. Crafts, Judaica and food were available for purchase. Jerusalem 3000 T-shirts were also

for sale (and still are, for \$7).

With guitar in hand, Denise Heitman led everyone in singing some traditional Jewish songs.

Next, a few students debated which group of people should govern Jerusalem in the future. An argument was made for Arab rule, Israeli rule and international rule. The audience voted for who they thought made the strongest case. The results were: Israeli, 21 votes; international, 19 votes; and Arab, one vote.

Leading up to the day's activities, students had to complete a Jerusalem booklet, which consisted of nearly 100 questions. Clues were given all over the temple.

For participating in the Jerusalem 3000 event, students and families received a laminated poster of Jerusalem, a sheet of Israeli stamps, a key chain and a Jerusalem book, which included a compass (to figure out which way is east).

By any standard we could come up with, particularly the ones of full family participation and teacher preparation, this event was a tremendous success.



THE WESTERN WALL has a long, significant history, which Charlotte Backer and her daughter Jennifer (left) and Terry Charren and her daughter Julie stopped to read about before they wrote down their prayers to be sent to Jerusalem's Wall. Herald photo by Alison Smith



THE FACES ARE FAMILIAR but we can't recall the names! Children at Temple Sinai dress up as famous figures from Jerusalem's history to stump parents and friends at Temple Sinai's recent celebration. Herald photo by Neil Nachbar

# They're Still On The Sidelines

## Russian Olim Resent

### Stereotyping

by Michele Chabin

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Nearly seven years after the former Soviet Union opened its gates for large-scale Jewish emigration, many of the more than 600,000 immigrants who have made their home in Israel are still struggling to feel at home.

"Things are extremely tough. I can't find a job as a music teacher, so I am working as a sales clerk," says Natalya, who came here five years ago and, like many newcomers, is reluctant to share her full name. "If it weren't for the children, who are doing so well here, I think we would go back to Belarus."

The olim from the former Soviet Union are attempting to cope with a new language, a foreign culture and the stress that accompanies radical transitions.

Even more importantly, they must cope with Israel's anxiety about security, and the fact that negative stereotypes of Russian immigrants abound in the Israeli media and in the society as a whole.

But not all of these newcomers share Natalya's opinion. If you ask a random group how they like life in Israel, the answers are surprisingly varied.

"Life is good," says 21-year-old Ludmilla, who works at a supermarket checkout counter. "My husband and I have a new baby and just bought an apartment in the Katamonim (a working-class neighborhood in Jerusalem). We're hopeful about the future."

"Life is what you make of it," says 50-year-old Gregory, a physician who is working in his profession.

"Sure, Israelis assume I'm not a good doctor because I received my medical training in Russia, but once I treat them they give me a lot of respect."

From a purely statistical standpoint, "this aliyah is a great success story," says Edith Rogovin Frankel, a senior political science lecturer at Jerusalem's Hebrew University.

"On the one hand, more than 90 percent of the olim are employed, and most own their own apartments."

"This is very admirable, but on the other hand, you have the experience of an immigrant who was a doctor or lawyer in the former Soviet Union who is now working as an orderly or selling shoes. For him, that's not a success story."

Much, Frankel says, depends on the immigrant's expectations.

"The Russian-speaking population isn't a monolithic group. There are the older people, retirees, who never expected to get a job in Israel. There are middle-age people, some of

whom get jobs in their profession and some who don't.

"Then there is the younger generation — soldiers, university students — who within a short time will be reading [the Israeli daily newspapers] and will be watching Hebrew programs on television. As a group, they are less disillusioned than their older relatives."

With the exception of the young people, Frankel adds, immigrants from the former Soviet Union "tend to group together, but often this is because new immigrants, regardless of background, gravitate to outlying areas, where apartments are available and less expensive."

Unlike some Israelis, who view these efforts as "un-Israeli," Frankel views the trend as "a fairly normal phenomenon."

"It's just that because the Russians are such a large group, their tendency to stick together is seen in an exaggerated form."

Those who came from the former Soviet Union face some unique challenges, said Rinat Cohen, spokeswoman for the Zionist Forum, an advocacy organization.

"The Russians are the best-educated group of immigrants to ever come to Israel, and are top-heavy with professionals — doctors, scientists, engineers. The country simply can't absorb them all."

"While 91 percent of the immigrants are employed, only 30 percent work in their chosen professions. Many earn low salaries and are understandably frustrated."

Many Israelis have negative reactions to recent immigrants from the former Soviet Union.

Frankel says: "This group is definitely receiving worse press than other immigrant groups had to contend with. This is partially due to the sheer size of the aliyah."

"In addition, Israelis sense that the newcomers aren't here for ideological reasons."

In the past, Frankel adds, "immigrants, including the Russians who arrived in the 1970s and 1980s, made aliyah because they felt strongly about Israel, not because they couldn't go anywhere else."

"With this group there is a different motivation: uncertainty about life in the [former Soviet Union]."

Cohen adds that "the more successful the immigrants become, the more Israelis feel threatened by them."

"This is a high-quality aliyah, many people have 13-plus years of education," Cohen says, and that Israelis view the immigrants "as competition for housing, jobs."

Ida Nudel, a former Prisoner of Zion, sees the competition as regrettable but inevitable. "The newcomers have a different cul-

ture and value system. It creates resentment, and the politicians use this natural fear to pit one group against another."

Galaina Nabati, a music teacher who immigrated 17 years ago, feels that "the Russian immigrants in this country get no respect."

"The media spreads negative stereotypes, painting Russian olim as criminals, prostitutes and members of the [mob]," Nabati says. "Criminals account for something like 3 percent of the olim population, which means that 97 percent are law-abiding citizens. But you never read about the 97 percent who are doctors, engineers, scientists."

Still others, like Lev Elbert, insist that given time, most of these immigrants will be completely absorbed into Israeli society.

Sounding every inch a native Israeli himself, Elbert, a former Prisoner of Zion who now works as a civil engineer, says, "It's unjust to give immigrants subsidized mortgages when native Israelis who have served in the army and paid their taxes don't receive one."

"This is something you learn when your own children, who are Israelis, go into the army and want to buy an apartment."

## Immigrants May Determine Election Results

by Michele Chabin

JERUSALEM (JTA) On Israel's election day, Luda, a waitress at a Jerusalem cafe, will cast her vote for Yisrael Ba'Aliyah, Natan Sharansky's new immigrant rights party.

Luda, who agreed to be interviewed provided that her real name was not used, was trained as a nurse.

But she will probably have to wait tables for the foreseeable future.

"In order to get a nursing license in Israel, I have to improve my Hebrew. I'm working on it, but it's a slow process," she says.

"In the meantime, I can't work in my profession, and it's frustrating. Waitressing doesn't pay enough to buy an apartment, so my husband and I are just making do at the moment."

"Israel is an expensive place, and the government isn't doing enough to help. Hopefully, if the immigrant party gets

elected, things will be easier for all of us."

Come May 29, the 400,000-plus eligible voters among the more than 600,000 olim who arrived from the former Soviet Union since 1989, will be taking such bread-and-butter issues with them to the ballot box.

In the race for premier — opinion polls show Prime Minister Shimon Peres narrowly ahead of his opponent, Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu — the immigrants from the former Soviet Union could well be the deciding factor.

Aware of this fact, the larger political parties are working hard to woo the immigrants, whether they be newcomers or veteran Israelis.

Many of the parties have a "Russian desk" churning out Russian-language advertising, brochures and news releases, on everything from the job market to mortgages for new immigrants.

In the race for parliamentary representation, recent opinion polls indicate that Sharansky's party will likely garner three or four Knesset seats. But, given their size as a voting bloc, the immigrants from the former Soviet Union have the ability to elect another six or seven Knesset members. In addition to their pocketbook concerns, the immigrants are extremely security conscious, since a disproportionate number of them have been injured or killed in recent terrorist attacks.

Netanyahu is running on the "Mr. Security" ticket, but Peres' recent decision to order the 16-day Operation Grapes of Wrath in Lebanon could steal some of Netanyahu's thunder.

Of those immigrants polled by the Tazpit Research Institute in late April, 36 percent said they would support Sharansky's party, while 24 percent favored Likud and 20 percent

favored Labor. The remainder said they would support smaller parties.

In the race for prime minister, 60 percent indicated they would vote for Peres.

"The Russians want respect, some recognition, appreciation of the contributions they are making to Israeli society, and they aren't getting this recognition," says Tazpit pollster Aharon Fein.

Although Sharansky's initial support came from newer, unemployed immigrants, Fein says, "in the past several months even veteran immigrants feel that a small party may be able to accomplish more than having one or two representatives in a larger party."

A decade after making aliyah, Sharansky, a Soviet Jewish activist, says he decided to throw his hat into the political ring last year because he felt that political change could not be accomplished from the sidelines.

Included in his party's platform are calls for a liberalized, free-market economy, improved education, more affordable housing, and a greater emphasis on human rights and the environment.

On political issues, the platform calls for a referendum on the continuation of the peace process.

The party opposes the establishment of a Palestinian state, but supports Palestinian autonomy and territorial compromise on the Golan Heights.

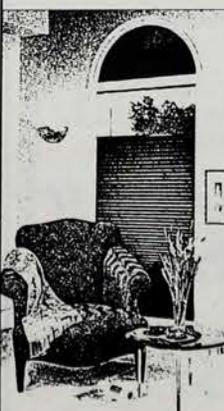
While many immigrants will no doubt put their faith in Sharansky, many others will not.

"I won't be voting for Sharansky because the concept of an ethnic party is like a party for pregnant women," says Lev Elbert, who immigrated nine years ago.

"After nine months, you no longer need the party because you are no longer pregnant."

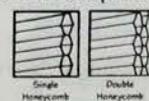
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# SCHOOLBEAT



**UNDERWATER WORLD**—Sarah Vogel (left) and Michael Mintz show off the mural their kindergarten class made recently.

*Photo courtesy of Dr. Irving Fried*

## PHDS Kindergarteners Create Undersea Mural

In conjunction with their studies of the letter "S" the kindergarten children of Providence Hebrew Day School recently read the book *Swimmy* by Leo Lionni.

The children discussed the underwater world of swimming and decided to create a mural of the underwater. The kindergartners worked in small groups to make various aspects of the

mural. They enjoyed using many colors and varieties of paper, chalk and doilies to represent *Swimmy* and his friends.

The mural was on display at the Academic Fair May 21 and 22 and will be presented to Sen. Claiborne Pell in recognition of his concern for the environment. The project was led by Jacqueline Olster, kindergarten teacher and Beverly Hall, the art teacher.

## Exceptional Teacher Named to Head Upper School at Moses Brown

Robert M. Ryshke, currently the director of studies at the Marlborough School in Los Angeles, has been named head of upper school at Moses Brown.

He was selected from among more than 140 candidates screened during an international search.

His appointment takes effect July 1.

"Bob Ryshke brings solid administrative credentials, but more importantly, he is an exemplary teacher," said head of school Joanne P. Hoffman. "In his personal statement to the search committee, in interviews, and conversations here at Moses Brown, we came to know Bob as a teacher first and foremost. His work as an administrator is an extension of his teaching, as he helps shape and mentor a faculty."

Ryshke earned a B.S. in zoology at University of Wisconsin, a M.S. in medical microbiology from University of Wisconsin, a master's of science education at Columbia University Teachers College, and has completed graduate course work at New York University.

His present situation, Marlborough School, is a girls school of about 500 students in grades seven to 12. As director of studies, Ryshke is in charge of the

academic program and policy. As science department head, he won a \$285,000 grant from the W. Alton Jones Foundation to upgrade science technology.

He has been nominated twice, in 1983 and 1985, for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Teaching.

As head of the upper school, Ryshke will oversee Moses Brown's largest academic division, which consists of a student body of almost 400 students and about 55 teachers.

## Single Mother Scholarship is Available at URI

The Women's Studies Program at the University of Rhode Island is inviting applications for The Eleanor M. and Oscar M. Carlson Scholarship for Single Mothers.

Applications are available in the women's studies office, 315 Roosevelt Hall, Kingston, R.I. 02881 or may be obtained by calling 874-5150. The application deadline is May 31.

## Ryan Friedman Receives Presidential Recognition

Ryan B. Friedman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd A. Friedman, of Jacksonville, Ark., and grandson of Mrs. Ruth P. Friedman and the late Abraham "Buddy" Friedman of Providence, R.I., was one of 300 outstanding students to win the Presidential Award for Educational Excellence and Outstanding Academic Achievement. Friedman is a student in the seventh grade at Fuller Junior High School in Little Rock, Ark.

In recognition, the winners were each presented with a trophy and a certificate signed by President Clinton. They also received a letter from the White House extending best wishes from both the president and Hillary Rodham Clinton.

The requirements for the award were a grade point average of not less than 3.5 for at least five out of six semesters, and a recommendation by the student's teachers.



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# 1996 GASPEE DAYS CELEBRATION

## Before Lexington and Concord There Was The Gaspee

by Alison Smith  
Herald Editor

For about two weeks, from May 25 to June 9, the neighborhoods near Gaspee Point will be in a pleasant state of constant hospitality to the rest of the state, as the Gaspee Days Celebration runs its course.

Many of those area residents are members of Temple Am David, Gardner St., Warwick, a Conservative temple under the leadership of Rabbi Nechama Goldberg.

For those who have never fully understood what all the Gaspee fuss was about, it is the celebration of what was really the first open, armed defiance of the British Crown forces in this country.

In short, the schooner Gaspee, under the command of Lieutenant William Dudingston, had made a real nuisance of itself in the bay, and settled in for the long haul in March 1772. Dudingston flouted his authority. He began harassing shipping, even that conducted on very small boats with the utmost legality. His men were allowed to steal livestock from coastal farms, which raised temperatures on shore. What was probably the crowning blow was his seizure and redirection of a whole ship loaded with rum, Greene family rum, to Boston, for condemnation and sale in British admiralty court.

On June 9, while in hot pursuit of a vessel that may or may not have been smuggling goods, Gaspee ran aground on what was then Namquit Point (later Gaspee Point).

The temptation proved to be too much for local residents, and in a very gentlemanly strike, they approached the Gaspee, shot Dudingston (giving him the best available medical care immediately), took everyone off the ship, and burned her to the waterline.

Although the rest of New England acted as though nothing had happened, British admiralty could not take this view of the matter. Investigations were held. No one was ultimately punished, or even tried.

It was as painless and bloodless a victory as this country was going to see as the revolution raged up and down the eastern coast. And it preceded, by several years, the battle of North Bridge in Concord, where "the shot fired round the world" was fired.

On May 25, 26 and 27, there will be an arts and crafts fair, featuring the works of more than 150 artisans, along Narragansett Parkway. Entertainment and snacks will be available in nearby Pawtuxet Park.

On May 31, at 7 p.m., there will be a special ceremony, the Gaspee Night Gala, featuring the Pawtuxet Rangers, and a fire and drum corps.

There will be a children's colonial costume contest on June 2, at 1 p.m., at the Aspray Boat-house in Pawtuxet Park. Everyone's children are invited to come dressed in colonial outfits, to compete. Participants will be invited to march in a parade following the contest.

There will be an authentic colonial encampment in Pawtuxet Park on June 7 and 8, hosted by the Pawtuxet Rangers, R.I.M. If you want to smell, feel and see military life as it was in 1772 (the year of the Gaspee incident), seize this opportunity.

There will be an ecumenical service on June 8, at 8 a.m. at the Pawtuxet Baptist Church on Broad St., Cranston, with music by the West Bay Chorus.

At 9:45 on the 8th, the Allan and Edna Brown Memorial

Footrace along Broad Street and Narragansett Parkway will be held, followed by the 31st annual parade, which will start at 10 a.m. (which sounds like pretty tight scheduling).

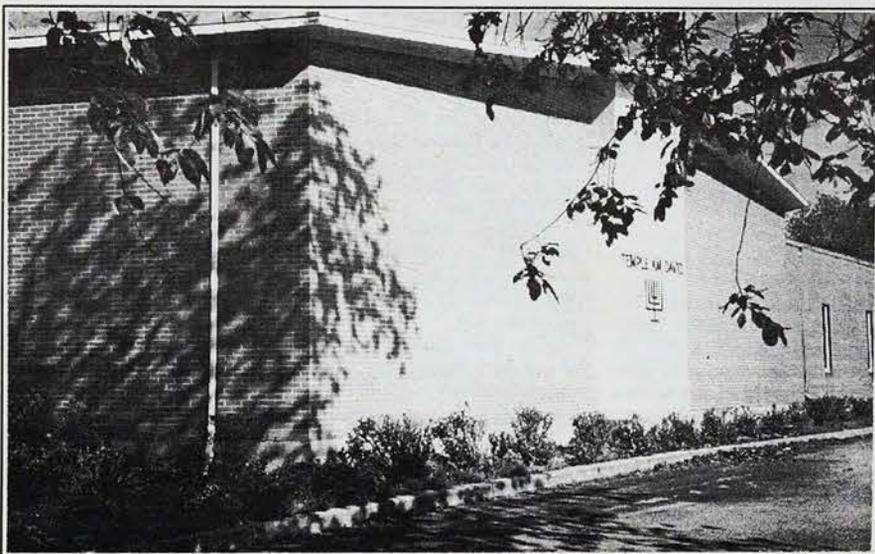
And, to finish the day off, there will be a colonial muster on the grounds next to the Scottish Rite Masonic Center on Broad St., with performances by some of the colonial units from the parade.

On June 9, so that everyone can unwind a little, there will be an event called, "Sunday in the Park," which will consist of ev-

eryone bringing a picnic lunch, listening to a band concert, participating in games for the kids, and watching a rededication of the recently refurbished overlook park.

A mock battle of a showdown between the British and American militias will take place after the concert, and then — finally — the H.M.S. Gaspee will be burned on the waters of the Pawtuxet Cove, off the shores of Salter Grove.

For more information on any Gaspee event, call 781-1772.



TEMPLE AM DAVID is the closest temple to Gaspee Point, and many of its members live on the point.  
Herald photo by Alison Smith

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# WORLD AND NATIONAL NEWS

## Jewish Agency Closed Down in Russia

NEW YORK (JTA) — Russian authorities revoked the operating license of the Jewish Agency, the quasi-governmental body responsible for bringing hundreds of thousands of Jews from the former Soviet Union to Israel in recent years, last month.

There has been a flurry of diplomatic activity since then, to sort out whether this is just due to bureaucratic machination, as the Russians maintain, or whether a real threat to Jewish emigration looms.

U.S. Jewish organizations involved with emigration are on alert, but have heeded a request by the Israeli government to allow Israeli-Russian diplomacy on the matter to take its course.

Officials are quietly warning that any high-profile protest against the actions could backfire by playing into the hands of Russian politicians who are anxious to exploit nationalist sentiment in advance of their upcoming presidential elections.

"The stakes are very high," said Mark Levin, executive director of the National Conference. "We believe at this time the most appropriate thing our community can do is continue

to express our concern and be supportive of the diplomatic initiatives that are underway."

Malcolm Hoenlein, executive vice chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations said, "There is a clear consensus that the matter is being handled" privately through diplomatic and organizational channels and "this is not the time for a public campaign."

Jewish Agency Chairman Avraham Burg in New York said he had come to a New York meeting "to share information and prepare contingencies for worst-case scenarios," alluding to the possibility of a crackdown on emigration.

He added that the full intention of the Russian authorities will be apparent only after June 16, the day the elections are slated to be held.

Said Burg, "Between now and then will be a very sensitive," time, during which the Jewish Agency strategy will be "not to provoke them."

Until then, the agency plans to conduct "business as usual, and where they come and say 'stop,' we stop," he said.

## Hadassah's Unsung Heroes Deal With Terrorism

Easily identified by their pink smocks, social workers at Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem move into positions beside medical personnel helping the wounded after terrorist attacks.

Some activate the electronic information center, while others await the arrival of relatives and friends of the victims.

"Each of Hadassah's 60 part-time social workers has a permanent assignment in a specific hospital unit.

"During times of crisis, three teams of 15 to 20 are activated," said Gurit Schneidman, director of Social Work Services at the two Hadassah hospitals in Jerusalem.

"It is important to meet patients at the moment of their arrival, as badly wounded as they might be. Our first job is to reconnect them with their roots. If the patient is unable to speak, we try to find a piece of personal information, such as a mother's maiden name, to provide some assurance to the family. If the patient can speak, we hold the phone up to their mouths. It helps the families to cope.

"Identifying trauma victims is a stressful and complicated process. At the first hint of a

disaster, 15 phone lines are opened for calls. All the hospitals in Jerusalem transmit the names and descriptions of the patients and then the matching process begins.

"When a family calls, and there appears to be a match, the family is asked to come in.

"After the recent bombings in Jerusalem, many victims were brought into the emergency room for treatment. Initially, there were 300 inquiries. By late afternoon, everyone was accounted for.

"When families arrive, each is assigned a social worker who stays with them until the patient recovers. We are there for them," said Schneidman.

"We encourage the families to also express their feelings of pain and revulsion. Such tragedies impact on the total family. Hadassah's social workers stand beside families to ease the psychic pain and provide comfort and support."

## Bar-Ilan University Still An Enigma

A public committee commissioned by Bar-Ilan University where Rabin's assassin, Yigal Amir was a student, has concluded it found no truth claims that the school permit an atmosphere of political tremor on campus, describing it instead as "cultured, quiet, relaxed." The committee did recommend, however, that the university enforce regulations barring political activity on campus.

In a puzzling counterpoint fund-raising pamphlet dedicated to the memory of Rabin and prepared by the American Friends of Bar-Ilan, contained several photographs of Yigal Amir.

In reference to that blunder the committee said the school administration must take practical steps to prevent such occurrences in the future.

## Learning to be Jewish Leaders

Over the past three years, some 193 Conservative synagogue vice presidents from the United States and Canada have spent four intensive days at the SULAM Challenge learning why administrative know-how is not enough for successful congregational leaders.

With a program that focuses not only on the core values of Judaism but on problem solving in a specifically Jewish context the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism SULAM has sent these congregational leaders back to their communi-

ties with a firm mandate: Help your synagogues become "mitzvah communities."

Participants must be vice presidents, or recently elected presidents, of United Synagogue congregations.

For more information about the program, contact Rabbi Moshe Edelman at USCJ, 155 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10010, (212) 533-7800, ext. 2205. The 1997 SULAM Challenge locations will be announced in September.

## Bronfman Criticizes WJC

by Emily D. Soloff  
Chicago Jewish News

CHICAGO (JTA) — Despite the fund-raising appeals of his own World Jewish Congress, Edgar Bronfman believes that the Jewish community is spending too much money fighting anti-Semitism and not enough educating Jews about Judaism.

And in the process of delivering that message recently to Chicago-area college students, WJC President Bronfman condemned a fund-raising letter the congress sent out over his own signature.

On a whirlwind tour to promote his vision of Jewish renewal on college campuses, Bronfman met with students and faculty at several universi-

"There is only one real community agenda," he said. "To create a renaissance of Jewish life, to get awareness of Jewish religion out to Jews."

He talked about setting priorities in Jewish life and took a swipe at Jewish organizations that continue "business as usual" while the number of Jews shrinks.

"Jews are not here only to fight anti-Semitism," he said. "I am not Jewish because of the Holocaust. I won't forget what happened, but I don't spend my time mourning the loss of 6 million. If Judaism survives, it will be on a positive, not a negative basis."

Bronfman's comments, however, came as the WJC was distributing a four-page letter that

said, "Our latest worldwide report on anti-Semitic violence shows that attacks against Jews doubled last year."

In the letter, the WJC appealed for contributions because "these virulent anti-Semitic terrorists respect no boundaries."

"This is wrong," Bronfman said when asked about the mailing. "Sure there is some anti-Semitism, but that's wrong."

"I'm going to have to do something about it. I don't like what they (professional fundraisers) are doing."

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Number of Voters .....	3,933,250
New Voters .....	About 400,000
Jewish Voters .....	3,391,652
Non-Jewish Voters .....	541,598
Voting Stations in Israel .....	6,900
Voting Stations Abroad .....	119

(100 in Israeli Missions, 19 on ships)  
For Every Party List: ....5,000,000 ballots printed in Hebrew;  
500,000 ballots printed in Arabic  
Total Budget (All Parties Combined) For Electoral Campaign 1996: 86,799,000 NIS (about \$27 million)

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# ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT



## Chanukah Revisited a la George Frederick Handel

"See the conquering hero comes. Sound the trumpet, beat the drums." Who is it? None other than Judah Maccabee.

Sing the story of Chanukah on June 5 at the Summer Sing of the Providence Singers. You will be singing "Judah Maccabee," one of the most exciting choral pieces in the repertoire. Handel was fascinated by many biblical and historical texts. His oratorios include Joshua, Saul, Solomon, Deborah, Samson, Jephtha, Esther, and Israel in Egypt.

Summer Sings are designed

for fun. Everyone who comes is part of the chorus. (You can just sit and listen, if you prefer.) The singers will provide a conductor, soloists, a pianist and a choral score (but please bring one with you if you have one).

The guest conductor for "Judah Maccabee" is Ed Markward, conductor of the Rhode Island Civic Chorale.

The program for the remaining Wednesday nights in June will include Gilbert and Sullivan's "HMS Pinafore" on June 12 with conductor Ann Danis; a "Vocal Potpourri" of

Bach, Liszt, Franck, and Ploquin on June 19 with conductor Joan Roth; and "A Capella Through the Ages: Dowland to Doo-Wop," conducted by Kim Kredich on June 26.

"Judah Maccabee" will happen at 7:30 p.m. on June 5 in the meeting room of the Cathedral of St. John, 271 N. Main St., Providence.

Admission fee is \$5, seniors and students, \$4. For more details call 331-4034, ext. 44678.

## Become Part of Biltmore Museum

The "Grand Dame" of Providence, the Biltmore Hotel, is happily showing her age. Hotel management has announced the establishment of a permanent museum on the mezzanine floor of the building. Opened in 1922, the hotel is included in the National Historic Preservation Register. It has been the location of significant events in the lives of hundreds of thousands of Rhode Islanders, and the famous and infamous from around the world.

With the assistance of the Providence Preservation Society and the Rhode Island Historical Society, a permanent, changing historic exhibition is being created. There is a per-

sonal touch to this display. The hotel is asking everyone to share their Biltmore experiences, through personal souvenirs and mementos of the hotel, with present and future guests.

The hotel is asking individuals to loan their Biltmore souvenirs to the mini-museum for a period of three to six months. The theme or time frame for the first exhibit will be determined after the hotel creates a data file on the items being loaned. The donated items will be enclosed in a locked display case while on exhibit.

Anyone wishing to participate in this display of the Biltmore's history is asked to call 455-3082.

## Brown to Host Dance Concert

The Brown University department of theatre, speech and dance will present its annual Commencement Dance Concert on May 25, with two shows, at 8:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. at the Ashamu Dance Theatre in lower Lyman Hall.

Tickets are \$10. Floor seats at \$3 will be available at the door half an hour before each show.

A reception will follow each performance.

The concert features works by graduating seniors and guest artists: Carolyn Adams has created "For Isadora" for five dancers. It is performed to Brahms "Intermezzo op. 118 #2 in A Major," which will be played live. "For Isadora" will be danced by Dana Chase, Naomi

Feldman, Meghan Flanigan, Maggie Husak and Miriam Ryvicker.

Local choreographers Annamaura Silverblatt, Mary Paula Hunter and Colleen Cavanaugh are each contributing works.

Silverblatt will be represented by the critically acclaimed "Breaking Silence" featuring Feldman, a Brown junior, to an original score created and performed by Ron Schmitt, and a new work, "Mother's Watch" which was developed in Bessie Schoenberg's choreography workshop at Dance Theatre Workshop in New York City this spring.

"Mother's Watch" features Chase and Feldman and RISD sculpture major, Susan Yoo.

Tickets are available at the Leeds Theatre Box Office, 77 Waterman St., Providence, Monday through Friday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information or to make reservations, call 863-2838.

## Hadassah Offers 12-Day Tour

Hadassah is offering a 12-day "Tale of Four Cities" tour June 5 to 16 for Hadassah members and non-members. Participants will visit Jerusalem, Amman, Petra and Eilat.

"A Tale of Four Cities" includes round-trip airfare, departing from Newark International Airport; accommodations; two meals per day; ground transportation and all tours. Price per person, double occupancy, is \$2,745; single supplement is \$575.

For information and reservations, contact the Hadassah National Travel Department, 50 West 58th St., New York, NY 10019; (800) 363-2373 or (212) 3093-8031.

## If it's Wednesday, it's Wurlitzer Time

The 1996 spring series of Wednesday at the Wurlitzer began on May 15 with the first of seven free organ concerts in the series. The series will continue on successive Wednesdays through May and June, featuring organists from the southeastern New England region in hour-long programs of light classics and popular music.

Alden Mitchell will play on May 22, Howard Jewell on May 29, Bob Love on June 5, Bob Legon on June 12. Lincoln Pratt will play on June 19, and the series will conclude with a concert by Carol Mitola on June 26.

Doors open at 11:30 a.m. for each concert, and audience members are welcome to bring a lunch or choose from refreshments available for purchase.

Call 421-ARTS for more.

## 'Three Free Spirits' Exhibit Opens in Wickford

The works of three Wickford Art Association artist members, Lee Alexander, Linda Graswald and Laura Slater, will be on display at the gallery May 24 through June 5. The artists will be exhibiting watercolors, pastel, and collage.

The opening reception for the show, which is entitled "Three Free Spirits," is on May 24, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the gallery at 36 Beach St. in Wickford. The public is invited to attend and meet the artists.

The gallery is open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday, and noon to 3 p.m. Sundays.

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## Acting 'Crazy' at PPAC

Winner of the 1992 Tony Award for Best Musical of the Year, "Crazy for You" showcases more than a dozen songs by George and Ira Gershwin during eight performances at the Providence Performing Arts Center on May 28 to June 2.

Tickets are available by calling 421-ARTS.

Tap dancing, comic dialogue, physical humor, sets, and costumes endow the music of "Crazy for You" with vitality. "Crazy for You" is based on the biggest hit of the 1930 Broadway season, "Girl Crazy."

This musical, featuring the Broadway debut of Ethel

Merman, produced a number of Gershwin favorites like "I Got Rhythm," "But Not for Me," and "Embraceable You." "Crazy for You" also incorporates songs (from other stage musicals and films on which the Gershwin brothers collaborated) including, "They Can't Take That Away From Me," "Someone to Watch Over Me," and many more.

Discounts for groups of 20 people or more are available by calling Margaret at 421-2997. Tickets are also available at Ticketmaster locations or by calling 331-2211.

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# OBITUARIES

## SYLVIA BOSLER

FLORIDA — Sylvia Bosler, 90, of 3155 Flagler Drive, West Palm Beach, died May 13 at home. She was the wife of the late Edward A. Bosler.

Born in Manhattan, N.Y., a daughter of the late Benjamin and Evelyn (Finegold) Goldstein, she lived in Providence most of her life, moving to Florida in 1990.

She was a longtime member of Temple Emanu-El until moving to Florida. She was a life member of Hadassah, the Miriam Hospital, the Brandeis University Women's Association and B'nai B'rith. She was a member of the Jewish Home for the Aged Ladies Auxiliary, the Organization for Rehabilitation and Training (ORT) and the Ledgemont Country Club.

She leaves a daughter, Arlene Bosler Lazarus of West Palm Beach, and two grandchildren, Nancy and Peter Lazarus. She was sister of the late Raymond Goldstein, Adrian Goldstein, Daniel Goldstein and Frances Darman.

Funeral services were held May 17 at the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

## DR. HOWARD R. COHEN

EAST GREENWICH — Dr. Howard R. Cohen, 55, of East Greenwich, a diagnostic radiologist at Miriam Hospital, North Main Imaging Center, and Harvard Community Health Plan of New England, died May 12 at the Boston University Medical Center after a brief illness. He was the husband of Patricia (Grant) Cohen.

Born in Pittsburgh, a son of Pearl (Cohen) Cohen of Deerfield Beach, Fla., and the late Edward Cohen, he had lived in East Greenwich for many years.

He was a fellow of the American College of Radiology; past president of the Rhode Island Radiological Society, former counselor to the American College of Radiology and a member of Temple Torat Yisrael. He was a lieutenant in the Marines, and served in Vietnam.

Besides his wife and mother, he leaves a daughter, Jeanette

Cohen, and a son, Joshua Cohen, both at home. He was the brother of the late Betsy C. Mayer.

The funeral was held May 14 at Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston. Burial was in Mount Hope Cemetery, Hastings-On-Hudson, New York. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## CELIA RUMPLER

PROVIDENCE — Celia Rumppler, 85, of 133 Hartshorn Road, died May 19 at home. She was the widow of Alexander Rumppler.

Born in Vienna, Austria, a daughter of the late Joseph and Augustus Farber, she settled in

Pawtucket 85 years ago and lived most of her life in Providence.

She was a life member of Temple Emanu-El and its Sisterhood, and the former Jewish Home for the Aged. She was a member of the Jewish Federation, the Miriam Hospital, Hadassah and Camp Jori.

She leaves two sons, Marvin G. Rumppler of Falmouth, Mass., and Leonard Rumppler of Barrington; 10 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

The funeral service was held May 20 at Temple Emanu-El, Sessions Street and Morris Avenue. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery in Warwick. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## Does Anyone Know Samuel?

There are two truisms that Wien & Wien Funeral Directors Frank and Barry Wien have come to swear by. One is, "In the funeral business you never know what tomorrow will bring." Another is, "You never know what you'll find under the dust in someone's basement."

In the case of Richard Podolsky's basement, under the dust and boxes were the ashes of the late Samuel Zagat, a famous 1940s political cartoonist and creator of cartoon character Gimpl Beinish, published in *The Jewish Forward* throughout the Holocaust era.

Podolsky was helping an elderly lady move her clutter out of the historical landmark house he had just purchased in Leonia, N.J., when under the clutter he found an urn. A book by Zagat's wife, Ida, documenting Zagat's

life and cartoons was found along with the urn.

Zagat was born in 1912 on New York's lower East Side in 1912, and he died in 1964. As an Orthodox Jew, Podolsky had reservations about discarding the ashes, so he called his local rabbi, Rabbi Spielman, of the Fort Lee Jewish Community Center, contacted the funeral home of Wien & Wien and presented them with the dilemma.

There are no known relatives to claim Zagat's ashes. Zagat's wife, Ida, died several years after he did, and they had no children. So, all in a day's work, Wien & Wien has issued the following request:

If anyone out there is related to the late Samuel Zagat, or would like to claim his ashes, contact Frank or Barry Wien at (800) EST-1892.

## Court Permits Rabin's Assassin to Vote

by Naomi Segal

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Israel's High Court of Justice has ruled that Yitzhak Rabin's assassin can vote in the May 29 national elections, saying that there was no clear legal precedent for revoking this right.

Tel Aviv resident Hila Alroy had petitioned the court to revoke Amir's Israeli citizenship

and his right to vote on the grounds that Amir had tried to undermine Israeli democracy by shooting Rabin.

But the court, led by Justice Aharon Barak, said the Knesset had failed to set detailed criteria for denying the vote to an Israeli citizen, and that removal of citizenship should be carried out only in extreme cases, such as treason.

## Declassified CIA Documents Show Wallenberg was U.S. Spy

by Daniel Kurtzman

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Newly declassified CIA documents support old claims that Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat who saved thousands of Hungarian Jews from the Nazis, also acted as a spy for the United States.

A new study conducted by the weekly news magazine *U.S. News and World Report* "shows conclusively that Wallenberg was a valued U.S. intelligence asset" for the Office of Strategic Service, the precursor of the CIA.

Rep. Tom Lantos (D-Calif.), who, as a 16-year-old living in Hungary in 1944 escaped to a Wallenberg safe house in Budapest, welcomed the new revelations.

"If he provided information that got back to U.S. intelligence officials which was helpful in the Allied effort to defeat the Nazis, that is wonderful," said Lantos, whose wife, Annette, was also saved through efforts inspired by Wallenberg.

Lantos stressed, however, that Wallenberg went to Budapest to save lives.

"His was a humanitarian mission, but he may have provided some intelligence information. Clearly he was not a spy who just happened to save lives."

Arriving in Budapest in July 1944, Wallenberg established buildings of refuge under the protection of the Swedish flag where he distributed food, medical supplies and Swedish passports. His efforts saved the lives of at least 20,000 Hungarian Jews facing deportation and extermination in Nazi death camps.

Wallenberg's service to the

OSS was approved by President Roosevelt, although he was not formally on the OSS payroll, according to *U.S. News*.

"His mission was not only to save Jews," the article states, "but to provide U.S. spymasters with access to anti-Nazi resistance forces trying to break up Budapest's alliance with Berlin."

The article also asserted that Wallenberg browbeat and bribed Nazis to free Jews using funds from the U.S. War Refugee Board, which the declassified files showed had links to U.S. spy operations.

Soviet authorities, aware of Wallenberg's ties to U.S. intelligence, "spirited him out of Budapest in January 1945," *U.S. News* reported.

The Soviet claim that Wallenberg died in 1947 has long been disputed, and *U.S. News* offered eyewitness and second-hand reports that placed Wallenberg in the Soviet Union decades after that date.

One of Wallenberg's closest colleagues, retired Swedish Ambassador Per Anger, believes he was alive as late as 1989 and may be alive today. The new revelations about Wallenberg come as the U.S. Postal Service unveiled a postage stamp this week paying tribute to the Swedish humanitarian.

It is only one of a succession of honors to be bestowed upon him. In 1981, Wallenberg was named an honorary U.S. citizen; in 1986, a Washington, D.C., street, where the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum now stands, was renamed "Raoul Wallenberg Place"; and late last year, he was honored with a bronze bust in the U.S. Capitol.

## Former Head of JWV Dies

by Michael Gelbwasser  
The Jewish Advocate

BOSTON (JTA) — Albert Schlossberg, a former national commander of the Jewish War Veterans USA, has died after a long illness. He was 77 and lived in Canton, Mass.

Schlossberg served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Immediately upon his discharge, he joined Boston Post No. 22, the oldest JWV post in New England, where he served as senior vice commander, commander and department commander.

He was elected commander of the New England Region in 1956. On the JWV national level, Schlossberg served as a member

of the National Executive Committee and National Policy Committee, among other groups.

In 1970, he was elected national commander. Schlossberg traveled extensively while he served in that post, meeting with Jewish and Israeli leaders and actively promoting Jewish and Israeli causes.

"The Jewish War Veterans has lost a great leader in both thought and action," said Neil Goldman, JWV national commander. "Israel has lost a good friend and a strong fighter in their cause. The Jewish community has lost a man who willingly gave of himself to Jewish causes, expressing those cause with great eloquence."

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## How Do You Like Your Steak?

by Neil Nachbar  
Herald Associate Editor

If you're the kind of person who appreciates a good steak, cooked just the way you like it, chances are that you'll enjoy Barnsider's Mile And A Quarter.

Sure, that may sound like a commercial, but it's true. Barnsider's offers 10 different cuts of steak: top sirloin, teriyaki sirloin, old-fashioned sliced sirloin, 20-ounce New York sirloin, 28-ounce sirloin for two, steak dijonaise, steak au poivre, beef kabob, filet mignon béarnaise and prime rib.

Several of the steaks are available at petisize or regular size. As with the fish that's on the menu, the steaks can be cooked Cajun style (mild or regular).

Of course, Barnsider's isn't a steak-only restaurant. Also on the menu are lamb chops, chicken teriyaki and a wide selection of fish, including salmon, swordfish and scrod.

To accompany any entrée, Barnsider's offers six different sauces: hollandaise, béarnaise, dijonaise, teriyaki, peppercorn or garlic butter.

All entrées include the salad bar and a choice of baked potato or rice pilaf. All the salad dressings are made fresh.

There are more than 15 appetizers to choose from — sautéed mushrooms, veggie nachos, chicken fingers and buffalo wings, to name just a few.

My guest and I had the baked stuffed mushrooms. The six mushrooms were plump and tasty.



Following the salad, I had the New York sirloin and my guest had the salmon special.

I had the steak cooked Cajun style, mild. It was spicy, but not too spicy. The salmon was huge

and very tender. A large baked stuffed potato accompanied both meals.

Barnsider's offers an extensive wine list and an impressive dessert menu. My guest and I didn't have wine, but we did leave room for dessert. I had the Oreo cake and my guest had the chocolate cake. Both pieces were big and very tasty.

Many of you may remember the Barnsider from when it used to be located at the Rhode Island Mall. The restaurant moved in 1983 to an historic building on South Main Street in Providence.

The reason the restaurant has the extended name "Mile And A Quarter," is because it's located that distance from the old State House.

The establishment is classy, but comfortable. The brick walls and paintings of seascapes and sailboats give the restaurant a real New England feel. The brass, glass and candlelit tables add a nice touch.

The service is very prompt and friendly. At least two people wait on you during the meal. If you need anything, they seem to anticipate what you need.

According to general manager Gary Swanson, the average meal, from appetizer to dessert, costs \$25.

"For what you get, including the great ambiance, the value is incredible," said Swanson.

He also said the prices have remained the same for a long time.

With different function rooms, Barnsider's can accommodate groups of 10 to 120 people.

If you visit the restaurant during the month of your birthday, you will receive a free entrée, provided someone with you orders an entrée of equal or greater value.

On the weekends, a murder mystery dinner is presented upstairs by the troupe Murder On Us. Call 245-5850 for reservations.

As for the rest of the restaurant, reservations are taken every night, but on the weekend, you must have a party of at least five to make a reservation.

To get to Barnsider's, take Route 95 to Route 195 East, exit 1 (Downtown Providence), right at the first light, go over the bridge, take a right, bear left at the fork, and it's all the way down on your left.

Call 351-7300 or 351-7305 for more information.

## Jerusalem Day Raises City's Temperature

by Michele Chabin

JERUSALEM (JTA) — As Israelis celebrated Jerusalem Day with marches and festivals, questions about the city's future seemed more and more pressing.

Israeli and Palestinian negotiators have held their first session of the final-status negotiations, which deal with the future of Jerusalem and other key issues.

With those negotiations slated to get fully underway after Israel's May 29 national elections, people are wondering — and worrying — about whether the city will one day be redivided.

Many Israelis are reluctant to visit the city. And even though Jerusalemites are conducting their lives as usual, many do so in fear.

"I'm afraid every time I have to board a bus, but what choice do I have?" said Miriam Cohen, a student.

"The government is warning that there will be more terrorism prior to the elections, and that Jerusalem could well be a target," she said.

"A lot of people are afraid, but neither terrorism nor the peace process will force us to give up Jerusalem."

Judging from opinion polls, Cohen's steadfast attachment to Jerusalem is shared by most Israelis.

Said pollster Rafi Smith, "The vast majority of Israelis, between 80 and 90 percent — perhaps more — want Jerusalem to remain the undivided capital of Israel."

Still, Smith said, "in the past year or two, since the peace process led to a change of atmosphere, I've gotten the feeling that people are more open-minded to new thoughts and solutions about the city's final status."

This "open-mindedness" was evident in a recent survey conducted by the Israel-Palestine Center for Research and Information, a joint Israeli-Palestinian public policy think tank.

Of the Israeli Jews polled, 28 percent said they were ready to accept a solution that would ensure Israeli sovereignty over western Jerusalem and Israeli communities in eastern Jerusalem, but that would also grant Palestinian sovereignty over the rest of eastern Jerusalem.

In a parallel study conducted by the center, 90.8 percent of

Palestinians polled rejected exclusive Israeli sovereignty over all of Jerusalem.

Given five possible scenarios — ranging from internationalization of the entire city to Israeli sovereignty over Jews in both parts of the city — the majority of the Palestinians polled wanted a return to the June 4, 1967, border.

Such a plan would enable Israel to control the western portions of the city, and the Palestinians the eastern.

Ahmed, a 34-year-old cook who asked that his last name not be used, opts for a pragmatic approach that would put aside emotional concerns.

"Of course, most Palestinians would like full control over the city," he said. "But it's a waste of energy to dream about something that cannot be."

"If we are to get anything at all, we will have to be practical and compromise. For us, having sovereignty over East Jerusalem represents a

**"The Palestinians must be given the sense that they have control over their religious, educational and social institutions."**

Levi Lauer

Yigal Ya'a-kov, a fruit vendor, is not prepared to surrender an inch of Jerusalem to the Palestinians.

"They don't deserve it. They've already gotten enough territory from the peace process," he said.

More than anything, Ya'akov worries that granting Palestinians control over eastern Jerusalem "will compromise security. The security situation is deteriorating as it is."

Like many Jerusalemites, educator Levi Lauer fears that the issue of Jerusalem's future could prove the ultimate, perhaps insurmountable stumbling block on the road to real peace with the Palestinians.

"My concern is that Jerusalem must be a place where Jews can live safely. At the same time, we must find a way to accommodate the reasonable needs of the non-Jewish population of the city," he said.

"The Palestinians must be given the sense that they have control over their religious, educational and social institutions," Lauer said.

Despite deep concerns for Jerusalem's future, Lauer stressed that Israel must at least "give the negotiations a shot."

Quoting a famous hockey player, Lauer said with a smile: "Wayne Gretzky once said you miss 100 percent of the shots you don't take."



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