



Rhode Island Jewish HERALD

The Year
In Pictures

PAGES 8 & 9

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

VOLUME LXVII, NUMBER 6

TEVET 16, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1996

35¢ PER COPY

Evelyn S. Lieberman To Head Voice of America

President Bill Clinton has named his Deputy Chief of Staff Evelyn S. Lieberman to serve as the new director of the Voice of America. Lieberman is the highest ranking woman in the White House, and the first woman to serve as deputy chief of staff.

"I can think of no greater life force for the free flow of ideas and for VOA's future than its new director, Evelyn Lieberman," the president said in making the announcement.

"Evelyn has a special talent for cutting to the case and getting to the truth. She makes the trains run on time. But more than that, she makes them run straight and true because of her steely determination, her extraordinary integrity and her great, good heart.

"We will miss her skill and her passionate personality which could warm even the coldest room here at the White House."

Prior to her current job, Lieberman served as deputy press secretary for operations and as assistant to the first lady's chief of staff.

Her long and distinguished career in public life has also included working as press secretary to Senator Joe Biden and

director of public affairs for the children's defense fund.

"When the president first raised the possibility of appointing me to the Voice of America, I was honored and excited," Lieberman said. "The Voice of America has a critical role to play in an ever-changing world."

Lieberman is the highest ranking woman in the White House, and the first woman to serve as Deputy Chief of Staff.

As a lifeline of reliable reporting, a wellspring of culture, and a tool for education, The Voice of America is the voice of democracy.

I look forward to working with the talented men and women who make the agency so vibrant."

The Voice of America sends America's voices to nearly 100 million listeners around the world. Lieberman will begin work at VOA on March 1, 1997.

Lieberman is married to Edward H. Lieberman, a lawyer, and lives in Washington, D.C.



MARCHING TO THE SAME BEAT, Evelyn S. Lieberman and President Bill Clinton walk across the White House lawn.
- Official White House photo

Palestinian Court Sentences Terrorists Responsible for Beit-El Shooting

In a trial lasting less than an hour, a Palestinian security court sentenced the three terrorists responsible for the murder of an Israeli mother and her 12-year-old son near Beit-El, *Ma'ariv* reported.

The Palestinian authority reportedly conducted the rushed trial in order to avoid handing over the arrested terrorists to Israeli authorities.

Ma'ariv reported that the two gunmen who killed Ita and Ephraim Tsur were sentenced to life imprisonment and hard

labor, while the terrorist who drove the car during the shooting was sentenced to 15 years in jail.

The investigation has revealed that the attack order was received from Abu Ali Mustafa, the PFLP military commander at the organization's headquarters in Damascus.

Israel Radio, KOL Yisrael, reported that Justice Minister Tzachi Hanegbi said his ministry and security officials are preparing to submit a written demand that the terrorists be trans-

ferred to Israel. Hanegbi said that the Interim Agreement requires that such a transfer may only be suspended if the accused are serving a sentence for another crime.

Israeli security officials praised the work of the Palestinian police and made positive mention of the cooperation with the Israeli General Security Service.

The Palestinian Authority now intends to act against the political infrastructure of the PFLP in the self-rule areas.

Jewish Talent Brightens First Night Providence

Two Jewish artists will contribute their very different musical gifts to First Night Providence this year.

Bresler's Klezmer Hotshots will share the rich celebratory tunes of Eastern European Jews in three action-packed sets at the State House. Drawing from a vast reservoir of songs both tender and exhilarating, the band uses clarinets, mandolins, guitars, banjos, drums, and voices to whip the audience into a toe-tapping frenzy. Performances are at 9 p.m., 10 p.m., and 11 p.m.

Issi Rosen, by contrast, takes listeners on a grand tour of a uniquely American idiom: the jazz repertoire. His guitar, bass, and drum trio plays with passion and verve. Listeners will hear influences of such greats as Miles Davis and Jimi Hendrix. The Issi Rosen Trio performs at the Providence Public Library at 10 p.m. and 11 p.m.

For a complete list of the First Night entertainment, turn to pages 12 and 13.



Fishel Bresler

Israel Firm on Financing Settlements

by Naomi Segal

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Israeli government officials recently defended a Cabinet decision to give special tax breaks and other financial benefits to Jewish settlements in the West Bank.

The officials also dismissed Palestinian warnings of renewed confrontations over the issue.

"We are not seeking a confrontation with the Palestinians," said Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, who met recently with Jewish settlement leaders.

"We are aware of the threats, but they will not deter us," he added. "We have said again and again that the settlements in Judea, Samaria and Gaza are deserving of support."

Mordechai's comments came

in the wake of a recent Cabinet decision to grant level "A" status to the Jewish settlements, the same status accorded development towns and border communities.

The status will provide settlements with a series of financial benefits, including subsidies for housing, education and investments. Such subsidies had been discontinued by the previous Labor government.

The Netanyahu Cabinet decision not only drew criticism from the Palestinian leadership, but also from the United States and the European Union, which said the Israeli government was adding more friction to already-tense Israeli-Palestinian relations.

Mordechai dismissed Pales-

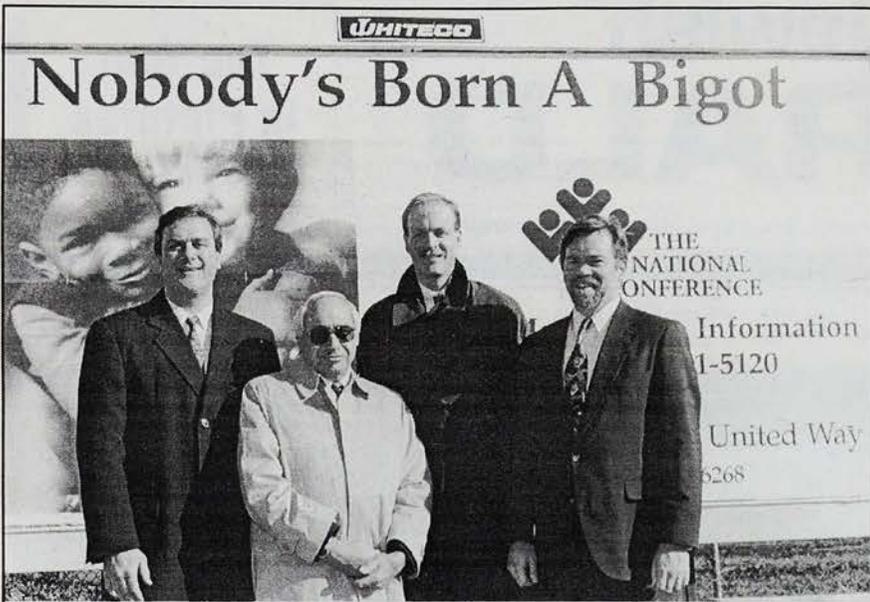
tinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat's description of the Cabinet decision as a "declaration of war" by Israel.

"I think it is clear to everybody," Mordechai told reporters. "We'd like to continue the peace process with the Palestinians."

The cabinet move came in response to a recent terrorist attack on a car carrying an Israeli family near Beit El, a settlement near the West Bank Palestinian town of Ramallah.

The Rhode Island Jewish Herald will be published a day late next week because of New Year's Day.

INSIDE THE OCEAN STATE



THIS IS ONE OF THE BILLBOARDS created by a coalition of (left to right) Jacob Belt, president of The Target Group, Robert Radding, president of Radding Signs, John Ripen, vice president of Whiteco Outdoor Advertising, Anthony Maione, executive director of The National Conference.

Photo courtesy of Tom Croke/Visual Image

Local Businesses Support Billboard Campaign

Radding Signs and Whiteco, two Rhode Island area sign companies, have donated billboard space to The National Conference of Rhode Island & South-eastern New England for an anti-bi-gotry campaign.

The campaign supports the year-end membership drive sponsored by The National Conference to raise awareness and to provide funds for programs aimed at teaching children and adults to understand and value diversity.

The 100 donated billboards feature a picture of two children, one black and one white, who are hugging each other, with the caption "Nobody's Born A Bigot."

Executive director, Anthony Maione, said, "We teach children by example. Who are our circle of friends? Without contact with people of different backgrounds there is too much room for stereotyping and prejudice to grow."

Lincoln School and Louis Raymond Offer 'Glorious Gardens' in January

Beginning in January, Lincoln School's alumnae association is offering a four-part lecture series entitled, "Glorious Gardens" featuring renowned R.I. garden designer Louis Raymond.

The series will focus on the finer points of gardening design. Raymond is writer, lecturer and host of his own PBS show, "The Renaissance Gardener."

He will expertly guide his listeners through an array of garden topics during the series, which is open to the public and will cover the following topics:

Fabulous Rare Trees, on January 15 (cost is \$35).

The evening will include a tree sale and elegant reception at the Hope Club in Providence. All trees have been carefully chosen for their suitability to the New England climate. Orders for trees will be taken throughout January, and will be delivered to Lin-

coln School in March. From March to May, trees will be housed at Lincoln's East Side campus and tended by Louis Raymond and a lower school science class as part of a special hands-on educational project.

Private Viewing: Society Gardens by the Sea, on Feb. 12 (cost is \$20). This class will explore which plants create settings, faux meadow or faux chateau setting, weekend gardens that are expected to foster relaxation, comfort, and frank hedonism.

Everything but the Kitchen Sink: Recipes for Great Mixed Borders, on March 12 (cost is \$20). A design-based lecture that will allow the participants to begin planning for their burgeoning spring plantings.

Astonishing Annuals: Two Centuries of Garden Discovery, on April 9 (cost \$20). Astonishing annuals describes gardens with tender garden plants through the years, and profiles the best annuals available today.

According to Stacie Davitt Murray of Narragansett, alumnae associate at Lincoln School and member of Class of 1982, "We are very fortunate to have Louis Raymond for this lecture series, not only is he an expert in this field, but he is full of fun and great to learn from."

"During this series all ages will benefit and we are especially appreciative to him for working with our lower school science class."

Raymond has appeared in everything from *The Wall Street Journal* to *The Narragansett Times*, designed for a largely residential client base from Cambridge, Mass., to the Caribbean, and worked for Manhattan's Turtle Bay Gardens and Otley's Plantation, a 35-acre inn on St. Kitt's which is one of the Caribbean's most often accoladed destinations.

For information or to register for the Glorious Garden Series, call 331-9696, ext. 127.

AARP Tips on Making a Home Crime Resistant

Living in the family home is an essential part of maintaining independence for many older Americans. Fond memories, a safe feeling and familiarity with the neighborhood keep seniors in their homes long after their children have left. Yet, that feeling of safety is often the first to vanish when there is a burglary.

Just as the times when seniors raised their children have changed, so have the neighborhoods in which they lived. Today, when a home is burglarized, the culprits are often neighborhood kids. According to John Bordenet, an expert on crime and the elderly with the American Association of Retired Persons, "Most burglaries are committed by neighborhood teenagers, not professional thieves."

These thieves, Bordenet explains, select homes they can enter and leave quickly and quietly with a minimum risk of detection.

"In order to prevent crime, the home must be burglar resistant," he said. "Effective crime prevention techniques can be simple. While no home can be completely burglar proof, simple adjustments can be made to fortify all homes and apartments."

Since burglars don't want to

break into occupied homes, the first rule of crime prevention is to be sure a house looks as if it's occupied. When homeowners go on a trip, it helps to have a friend pick up the mail and newspapers. They should arrange to have the lawn mowed and leaves raked, and put inside lights on a variable timer to go off at different times of the evening. A friend or neighbor should park a car in their driveway, if that is possible.

Most burglars gain entry through an unlocked window or door simply by kicking in a weak or poorly installed door. All windows and doors should be checked before the owners leave for an extended stay.

One Maryland suburb had a rash of burglaries committed by thieves who entered garages using automatic garage door openers they took from unlocked cars in driveways. The thieves frequently found the door between the house and garage was unlocked.

Double-hung windows are a popular window style. Something as simple as drilling a downward sloping hole at the top of the bottom arch and inserting a nail in the hole creates an effective barrier to crime.

(Continued on Page 15)

Join thousands of readers who know what's going on in the Rhode Island Jewish Community...

Subscribe to the

RHODE ISLAND JEWISH HERALD

Timely features, local and social events, editorials and business profiles highlight every issue... you also get special holiday and seasonal issues.

Don't miss a single one!

Return the form below to subscribe...

PLEASE BEGIN MY SUBSCRIPTION FOR...

- Rhode Island Mailing* 1 year \$15 2 years \$30
- Out-of-State Mailing 1 year \$20 2 years \$40
- Senior Citizen (62+), R.I. Mailing* 1 year \$12 2 years \$24
- Senior Citizen (62+), Out-of-State Mailing 1 year \$16 2 years \$32

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Mail check to: R.I. Jewish Herald, P.O. Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 02940-6063

*If you are a Rhode Islander and wish to have your subscription forwarded to an out-of-state address for any part of the year, you must pay the out-of-state rate.

Directory to this week's Herald

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT	12, 13
CLASSIFIED	15
EDITORIAL	4
FEATURE	5
JEWISH COMMUNITY	3, 6
MILESTONES	7
OBITUARIES	14
OCEAN STATE	2
1996 PHOTO RETROSPECTIVE	8, 9
SCHOOLBEAT	10
WORLD & NATIONAL	11

YOU'RE LEAVING?

Take time to let us know. Whenever and wherever you go, we want you to tell us about it. Us. Not the Post Office. They don't tell us everything, you know! Call us at 724-0200, and keep in touch.

Copies of the Herald are available at...

In Cranston

Barney's, Oaklawn Ave.
Borders Book Shop, Garden City Ctr.
Brooks, Reservoir Ave.
Rainbow Bakery, Reservoir Ave.

Providence and Vicinity

Barney's, East Avenue, Pawtucket
Books on the Square, Wayland Square (on Angell)
Hope Street Bagel, Hope St.
East Side Prescription Center, Hope St.
Swan Liquors, Hope St.
Rhoda Judaica, Burlington St.

THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

URI Husband and Wife Team Author New Book

by Emily Torgan
Jewish Community Reporter

After Norman and Naomi Flink Zucker plunked their coffee cups down on their dining room table and began staring at their birdfeeder, their assertions that they never fight when they work seemed almost credible.

"We actually know the other's areas of strength," said Naomi on Dec. 19 as she explained how she and her husband had just co-authored *Desperate Crossings*, their third book.

"After 36 years of marriage, we finish each other's sentences," said Norman after a swig of coffee. "First we work out an outline, which we almost never stick to. Then we each do sections or chapters."

"After we're done, I edit the whole thing," said Naomi, a lecturer in writing at the University of Rhode Island. "He's taught me about political science, and I've taught him writing. He's more methodical, and I'm more intuitive. But we do all the research together."

Fascinated by politics at an early age, Norman became a professor of political science at URI, the author of two books, and the co-author of three more.

"My dad owned a mom and pop store, and when I was 4, he used to send me and the dog out to get the *New York Times*," remembered Norman. "That's when I started reading it. He was from a little town in Poland, and he spoke a number of languages and wrote beautiful English. That's where I got my writing bug."

Norman went to Rutgers University, where he received a B.A., an M.A. and a Ph.D. in political science.

Naomi earned a B.A. in English at Douglass College.

Soon afterwards, Norman's first teaching job brought the young couple to Boston.

After two years as an assistant professor at Northeastern, Norman was an assistant professor at Tufts when URI lured him to its political science department. He would remain for 30 years, and Naomi would become a faculty member as well.

"I thought we'd be here three years, then start moving back towards New York," said Norman, suddenly startled by a commotion at the birdfeeder. "We had opportunities to move, but I have a very good department with congenial and bright colleagues, and Kingston is a good place to raise kids."

But as observant Conservative Jews, raising their two children in southern Rhode Island presented some difficulties.

"It was hard in some ways," remembered Naomi, cradling her coffee. "There were a lot of activities on Friday nights, but we insisted on a family Shabbat. Kashrut could also be a problem, but we've learned to accommodate, and our kids are very affiliated."

By working out of their home study, Norman and Naomi got their children interested in human rights issues.

Sarah, 32, is a human rights professional who now works with societies making transitions to democracy.

Sam, 28, is starting a career in urban law.

Both Zuckers think their Jewish heritage led to their interests in human rights and the plight of refugees.

"My father's whole family was destroyed in the Holocaust," Norman said. "I have an uncle who lived through World War II who is alive and living in Israel, so I have quite a feeling for refugees."

Naomi's grandparents were refugees from Nazi Germany who barely managed to escape.

"They had nowhere to go," said Naomi. "They travelled from country to country. It was very hard to get them into the U.S."

Norman watched the birdfeeder twist in the rain after an inquiry about whether his reputed compassion led him towards refugee work.

"That squirrel is very fat," said Norman, one of only three professors at URI to win both its Scholarly Achievement Award and its Teaching Excellence Award.

But neither Norman nor Naomi was reluctant to speak about how their refugee scholarship took off.

On sabbatical in Washington in 1979, the couple got involved with the Carter administration's Select Committee on Immigration and Refugee Policy. After discovering a number of complex problems, they recognized that few knew anything about the refugee situation.

When asked what they hoped readers might gain from their *Desperate Crossings* and other works, Norman spoke.

"Immigrants and refugees are good for this country," he said. "There is a difference between immigrants and refugees. In most cases, refugees are a result of U.S. policy or lack thereof, and flawed U.S. policies have contributed to their need to escape."

"In the future, we will have to consider whether our foreign policy will create refugees, and we will have to wonder if there is a better way to act before we put them into place."

Desperate Crossings Are Complex

by Emily Torgan
Jewish Community Reporter

Norman and Naomi Zucker were very pleased when their second book won critical acclaim and the Gustavus Myers Center Outstanding Book Award of 1988, but they still had more to say about American refugee policy.

Therefore, the husband and wife team followed their second book, *The Guarded Gate: The Reality of American Refugee Policy* (Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Publishers, 1987) with a third entitled *Desperate Crossings* (M.E. Sharpe, 1996.)

In *Desperate Crossings*, the Zuckers use extensive research to show how "a troika of interests... foreign policy, the costs of resettlement and domestic pressures" has shaped—and twisted—American refugee policy.

According to the Zuckers, the U.S. government has received or rejected asylum-seekers based upon this "troika of interests" rather than meaningful consideration of applicants' situations for many years, thus vio-

lating both human rights and international law.

To show these forces at work, *Desperate Crossings* focuses on the dichotomy between recent U.S. refugee policies in Cuba and Haiti.

In both countries, thousands of citizens boarded barely seaworthy vessels headed for U.S. shores. However, an anti-Communist foreign policy developed during the Cold War meant that Cuban asylum-seekers were initially welcomed as refugees.

Alternately, Haitians were barred as economic migrants who had no reason to fear the brutal dictators and military elite who ruled without regard for human rights and with American support.

This same dichotomy emerges again when the Zuckers briefly describe America's responses to Central American refugees from Nicaragua as opposed to El Salvador and Guatemala.

Studies and surveys cited throughout the impeccably researched work show that citizens of these non-Communist

countries faced greater dangers than immigrants from the Communist nations.

Notes and transcripts from courtrooms show terrible miscarriages of justice wrought upon applicants for citizenship.

But the book's sections about the Mariel Crisis and U.S. efforts to bar Haitians involved in a mass exodus are the most valuable, for it gives these episodes a name—mass escape—and explains how such "mass escapes" happen.

Additionally, the Zuckers' accounts of Presidents Reagan, Bush and Clinton working to please voters while shutting out humanitarian concerns are chilling.

Finally, *Desperate Crossings* is no easy read. Its pages of policy analysis and lists of committees and legislative acts sometimes seem to make its refugee subjects into statistics.

However, those who do read *Desperate Crossings* will gain highly valuable insights into the area of politically based emigration.

Professors Serve As Student Role Models

by Emily Torgan
Jewish Community Reporter

When Brown/RISD Hillel Director Alan Flam first contacted Brown Associate Professor Lynn Davidman to ask her to speak at Hillel about how Jewish professors may serve as student role models, she asked him to call someone else.

"I told him to call one of the heavies," said Davidman at Hillel on Dec. 12 as she faced a group of about 20 people gathered to participate in the discussion. "I'm not a model as a Jew."

But by the end of the casual lunch hour conversation, Davidman, who teaches sociology and Judaic studies, had led the group through an exploration of what she thinks the term "role model" means.

"It's not 'I wish I were just like him or her,'" Davidman said. "A role model is a person who embodies qualities you might aspire to or incorporate yourself as you think about what you want to do. It's a person who embodies certain habits of mind and daily life."

Davidman herself encountered such role models as an undergraduate at Barnard College in New York.

One of them, a professor named Elaine Hegel, encouraged Davidman and her other

students to probe and question text rather than to passively absorb it.

"I wanted to walk in front of a class and say 'indeed' like she did," remembered the animated Davidman.

Later, she got a job as a research assistant with a psychology professor whose intellectual interests were the same as her personal interests and values.

"She had an integrated approach," Davidman explained. "She had a passionate and committed life."

Though Davidman said she did not know if she was a role model, the personal involvement and zeal she seemed to have learned from her own professors appeared to affect what she feels she does well today.

"I know I'm successful in helping students think critically and blend gut responses with academic learning," Davidman said. There are stances that Davidman would like to model for her students.

"What I do is grounded in who I am," Davidman said. "There is a way to be an academic and to be passionate about it. There is a way to question taken-for-granted realities. I hope to model [the role of] a committed feminist. I hope I model a love of learning."

But Davidman said she would not want to be perceived as a role model in other areas of her life.

"I feel uncomfortable being a role model for Jewish practice," Davidman admitted. "My Jewish practice is minimal. I want to help students think critically and embrace learning. If it's Jewish learning, great."

At the end of her dialogue, Davidman emphasized that she wants to teach people to be committed, but not about what they should be committed to.

"My work and my life are connected," Davidman said. "People can learn from me by example, and they are free to ignore it."

Nov. / Dec.

The Camera Werks



3" or 4" Color
Reprints .19¢ ea.

Minimum order 5 reprints
from the same size negative(s)

Available from 35mm, 110, 126 or
Disc COLOR NEGATIVES ONLY

Offer good 11-1-96 to 12-31-96

GRAND REOPENING GRAND REOPENING

REGAL AUTO

382 Pawtucket Avenue, Pawtucket, RI 02860

Hours: M-F 8-5, Sat 8-12 • 722-9200

DECEMBER SPECIAL

Lube, Oil and Filter \$18⁹⁵
(up to 5 qts.)

We Pick-Up and Deliver on
the East Side of Providence
and Pawtucket

CarCareCenter
The Next Generation of Automotive Service

FOR AD RATES,
CALL 724-0200

EDITORIAL

The Way Home

We are upon the 3,000th anniversary of King David's conquest of Jerusalem, which re-established the Temple there.

This is just one of the reasons an avalanche of books has arrived at your local mall celebrating the city that holds an important place in the hearts of Jews.

Researchers, anthropologists, religious writers and others are climbing all over each other to touch the Western Wall in a city that has great spiritual and historical importance.

And what is that importance built upon?

As the Jerusalem bureau chief of the *New York Times* wrote recently, "It was never a major center of trade, it has little strategic significance, it has too little water, it is accessible only by roads rising treacherously through steep, rocky hills." What's the attraction?

On a very basic level: It's home.

Not home in the usual sense, of course, or even as an ancestral land that you heard about from your grandparents. Most of the world's Jews have never been there, and even those who have did not visit it to look for

the shop where Bubba used to buy her chickens.

It is a home to millions because that is where, only in stories they have read, their distant forebears made a stand in the name of G-d. It is home to the yearnings of our hearts for a connection to the passions of those Biblical heroes and heroines we feel a kinship with.

It is, in a sense, a womb that promises peace and nurturing... despite the realities of today's Jerusalem.

In this week's portion, Vayigash, we read a poignant story of one of our forebears and his own yearning for home. Joseph is found by his brothers, prospering in Egypt years after they had sold him into slavery.

There is a tension upon their first encounter. His brothers do not immediately recognize Joseph, and he is faced with a choice: Should he exact vengeance, should he exult in his triumph over the adversity they consigned him to?

No. He embraces them, and ultimately is welcomed back into the warmth of his family. His father, Jacob, and the rest of the family come to settle in Egypt.

But now, instead of being in a foreign land, Joseph is once more home, because he and his family establish a spiritually oriented existence there, on "The finest portion of land."

We all have the opportunity to establish a plot of Jerusalem, a part of the Temple, a piece of our heritage, in our own lives. Torah gives us that map to the finest portion of land. Find it, study it, and you'll be home.

Submitted by Rabbi Eliezer Levy of Chabad of West Bay Chai Center.

The Myth of Bostoner Flaish

by Harold Bloom

To explain how the Providence Jewish public felt about "Bostoner flaish," meat from Boston, back in the '30s, let me shed some light on the perception of "Bostoner flaish."

Understand, there were only two basic sources of beef cattle, "Western" and "Native." The cattle offering the highest grades of beef were shipped in from Chicago (Western beef) after having been removed from the open ranges of our western states where they had been grazing on grass.

Prior to shipping from Chicago, they were held in feed lots for up to several months where they were "grained-off" — fed heavily fortified grain — which fattened them considerably.

This "graining-off" produced both the steaks of fat that marked the tenderest steaks and roasts, and the thick white suet layer around all the cuts of meat.

"Native" beef, on the other hand, was obtained from local herds in New England, which had been grazing on local grasses and were fed hay, silage and/or corn.

The resulting beef was considerably leaner (healthier, we now know, but less appealing to the customer of yesterday). The suet of native beef generally had a darker yellow tint, and the comparable cuts of meat lacked both the streaking and the thick suet edging of the western beef.

Both the local and the Boston slaughterhouses received shipments of western cattle. Never-

theless, it seemed that advertising "Bostoner flaish" drew more customers.

My father took this one step further by occasionally purchasing a forequarter of a steer that had won a prize at a Chicago cattle show, and by displaying the imprinted prize ribbon in the window of the store.

This "show beef" was a profitless enterprise. There was such an over-abundance of fat, that after trimming enough of it to satisfy customers, the obtainable price was insufficient to cover the cost — but it was an intriguing advertising ploy.

In summary, then, the mystique of "Boston flaish" was just that — mystique — a perception adopted by the public with no basis in fact.

When We Look Into One Another's Eyes...

by Rabbi Sue Levi Elwell

When Jacob and Joseph meet at the beginning of Vayechi, this final portion in Genesis, the weathered, weakened patriarch approaches his regal son.

Jacob, a stranger in Egypt, is beholden to his son for his very life. He wants to give his son a blessing to assert the traditional relationship between father and son, between one who has worn the mantle of leadership and one who will take on that responsibility.

But first Jacob must insure that he will return home, if not in life, then in death. Using words of deference that he had uttered only in preparation for and in meeting with his brother Esau (33:8, 10), Jacob now turns to his second youngest son and begins, "If I have found favor in your sight..."

Because Jacob feared that Esau would kill him, he used these humble words to approach his estranged brother. Now Jacob may fear that Joseph, too, will keep him from returning home to Canaan.

Jacob is a man whose life has been spent in a struggle for

"right relations" — with his brothers, his mother, his father, his father-in-law, his wives, his children. Now, at the end of his life, he asks his son to see him as a modest petitioner with a simple request.

"If I found favor in your sight," Jacob asks Joseph to look at him, to see him as he is. Does he ask Joseph to see the similarities between their journeys from their childhood to the present?

Jacob and Joseph are two men who were suddenly separated from their families and their homelands before their maturity.

Jacob, the reluctant trickster, and Joseph, the precocious dream interpreter, both suffer grievous losses of mother and the company of siblings, and both are reunited with their brothers only after years of anger and distance.

Is Jacob remembering his own father's clouded vision when Jacob demanded a blessing that was not rightly his? Is Jacob now asking his own son to see him clearly as his father could not?

What does it mean to find

favor in another's sight? To be seen in the stark light of one's own humanness, one's own mortality?

Joseph looked into his father's and saw the weight of a long and troubled life. And he promised to carry him home. In that moment, Joseph also saw himself.

As the portion ends, Joseph, too, prepares to die and asks his brothers to carry out his last wish: to be buried in Canaan with his ancestors.

The words with which we conclude each book of the Torah have particular strength here: Chazak, chazak, venitchazak: From strength to strength we strengthen one another.

When Jacob asked to be seen, Joseph responded. Their seeing each other became a blessing. When we look at one another, with intention and clarity, when we see ourselves mirrored in the eyes of those we encounter, we find blessing and strength. Chazak, chazak, venitchazak.

Rabbi Sue Levi Elwell is the director of programs for outreach and the family, Pennsylvania Region, Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

HAVE AN OPINION?

If you have an opinion about something in the Jewish community, why not express your opinion in the Herald?

Send your letter to:
Rhode Island Jewish Herald
P.O. Box 6063,
Providence, RI 02940

RHODE ISLAND JEWISH HERALD

(USPS 464-760)
Published Every Week By The Jewish Press Publishing Company

EDITOR

ALISON SMITH

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

NEIL NACHBAR

CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

MICHAEL FINK

JEWISH COMMUNITY REPORTER

EMILY TORGAN

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT REP

DIANA FLORIO

MAILING ADDRESS:

Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 02940

TELEPHONE: (401) 724-0200

PLANT:

Herald Way, off Webster Street
Pawtucket, R.I. 02861

OFFICE:

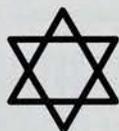
1175 Warren Avenue
East Providence, R.I. 02914

Periodical Mail postage paid at Providence, Rhode Island. Postmaster, send address changes to the Rhode Island Jewish Herald, P.O. Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 02940-6063. Subscription rates: Thirty-five cents per copy. By mail \$15.00 per annum. Outside Rhode Island and southeastern Massachusetts; \$20.00 per annum. Senior citizen discount available. Bulk rates on request. The Herald assumes subscriptions are continuous unless notified to the contrary in writing.

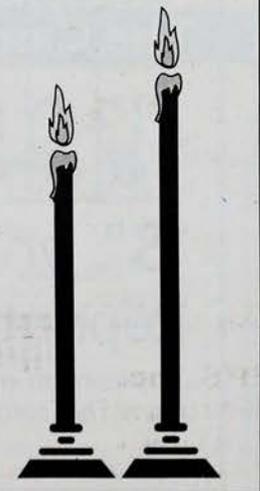
The Herald assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertisements, but will reprint that part of the advertisement in which the typographical error occurs. Advertisers will please notify the management immediately of any error which may occur.

Unsolicited manuscripts: Unsolicited manuscripts are welcome. We do not pay for copy printed. All manuscripts must be typed, double-spaced. Enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope if you want the manuscript returned. Letters to the editor represent the opinions of the writers, not the editors, and should include the letter writer's telephone number for verification.

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



Candlelighting
December 27, 1996
4:04 p.m.



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

Paving the Way for the World to Come:

The Path of the Baal Shem Tov

The material and the spiritual are often described as two conflicting worlds. Yet they do not have to be. According to Jewish mysticism, the physical and metaphysical complement each other, allowing a person to infuse his mundane nature and the world around him with holiness.

The idea of bringing the spiritual into the material may sound like an impossible dream. For millions of Jews, Rabbi Israel Baal Shem Tov (1698-1760) made it a reality.

The Baal Shem Tov (literally: Master of the Good Name) was a holy but humble man who loved the Jewish people and lived G-dliness. During his youth, he served as teacher to little children. Later, he became a spiritual mentor to some of the most gifted scholars of his day and a rebbe to masses of Jews

throughout Eastern Europe.

Aside from a handful of letters, he left no written works; yet he did leave the rich legacy known as Chasidism. This approach to Judaism embraces the virtues of prayer, faith, the performance of mitzvos with joy, and knowledge of both G-d's immanence and transcendence.

On the topic of Ahavas Yisroel, love of a fellow Jew, the Baal Shem Tov said that in a heartfelt chapter of Tehillim (Psalms), the effort expended in doing another Jew a favor, whether material or spiritual, and love of one's fellow Jews are the keys which can unlock the gates to the heavenly palaces of mercy, healing, salvation, and livelihood. (Keser Shem Tov)

On the subject of piety, the Baal Shem Tov interpreted the verse, "Know what is above you (Avos, 2:1) as "Know that whatever is above depends on you."

(Tzivaas HaRiVaSh)

On the subjects of thoughts, the Baal Shem Tov taught that wherever one puts his thoughts, there is the whole man. (Keser Shem Tov.)

Baal Shem Tov wrote to his brother-in-law, Rabbi Gershon, that he asked Moshiah, "When will you come?" and the reply was, "When your wellsprings have overflowed to the outside."

David Sears and Len Estrin have cooperated on a book on the more fundamental aspects of the Baal Shem Tov's approach, *The Path of the Baal Shem Tov*. It presents Chasidism as a profound yet personal way to bring the spirituality of the higher worlds down here below.

Estrin is the author of three Jewish children's books and a lecturer on Jewish topics.

The book, *The Path of the Baal Shem Tov*, is being published by Jason Aronson, Northvale, N.J.



Tale of Mr. Todd

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing
Report

The Chassids claim every new friend brings a mitzvah: you didn't meet by chance but b'shert, by design. You get a new start. Then you go back to being alone again. That's what cafes are about, not coffee really, but conversation.

I spend pleasant evenings among folk whose names I may not know—not students or colleagues or neighbors but just human souls. In the case of the pigeons or the trees on the property, just plain souls.

with silly trinkets, tassels and pennants. Then he set up an easel upon the handles and propped up a series of small canvases on which he went to bright work. The footrest would serve as a gallery. The seat could hold a wee boutique of dumpster treasures, altered by his genius, for sale at whatever the passerby might offer.

Todd doesn't cling to one corner like an oldtime peddler. He rolls out to any sunny spotlight where cafes draw an audience.

indoors for a coffee and a muffin.

He opens his notebook and shows me his sheaf of drawings. Like his paintings, they repeat the same forms, almost the way a mantra evokes spirit in meditation. They are carefully composed and gracefully rendered.

His poems are tighter, sincere scrawls on small bits of scrap paper. "I dropped out of Barrington," confides Todd, and he fell from the suburban sky onto the landscape of town cafes, like an angel, a messenger, blocking your way until you figure him out. He is the janitor of city dumpsters, redeeming what is thrown away, to give new life to rejected items.

My father used to worry about amateur talents. He warned of cousins who wrecked their lives thinking they could sing like Caruso or write like Steinbeck.

He thought that business was the true American calling. School could make or break you, doing harm or good. If my dad found a chair among the garbage, he would fix it, cover it with cloth, and sell it.

He graduated from a High School of Commerce. I have his school banner in my office.

But Todd left the mini-mansions of Rumstick Point to seek his happiness and fortunes over the bridge to the East Side. As Jews in America we keep two new years. We search our souls at the autumn equinox and join our fellow immigrants at the winter solstice to toss out the old and ring in the new with a hope that happy days are here again. January holds FDR's birthday and the Roman motif of doorways and passageways, the folkfigure of the janitor or janus who swings the portals from then to now.

I look backwards at the friends I have made for a day, who move along, leaving me the small blessing of a kind word, a caring gesture, a touch of truth and warmth to carry through the coming cold spell.



Mr. Todd on Wickenden Street
Herald photo by Mike Fink

One day in a pool of cool light I found Todd. He had pulled a broken wicker and wood wheelchair out of the trash, the type I had been vainly seeking as a prop to go to a costume party as FDR.

This streetfellow, custodian of Sunday nights, decorated his find in fine dada fashion. He festooned the invalid-throne

Todd is always quiet but cheerful. He wears threadbare duds, with halfgloves to keep his artist hands supple. Upon his head, covering his long curly hair, a jester's colorful but oddly shaped hat seems to play with the sunbeams.

Todd speaks softly with a slight stammer, but he smiles openly, mildly, gently. I ask him

Saying Hola! to Latino Jews

Adding another facet to the changing face of B'nai B'rith. Along with more women and more young people, more Jews of Latino heritage are flowing into the organization.

Units of Latino Jews, many of them immigrants, have formed in Dallas, Chicago, Los Angeles and Washington, D.C.

B'nai B'rith has created a Latin American Network so these Jews and their brethren in Latin America can discuss and take action on political issues, such as the recent desecration of a Jewish cemetery in Buenos Aires.

The world's oldest and largest Jewish organization, B'nai B'rith was started by 12 German Jewish immigrants on the lower east side of New York 153 years ago.

"B'nai B'rith has always appealed to immigrants," said Warren Eisenberg, associate director of B'nai B'rith's Center for Public Policy. "While there's not an enormous number of Latino Jewish immigrants in the United States, people keep coming in and

names keep being added to the list — it's burgeoning."

B'nai B'rith groups exist in 56 countries including Mexico (started in the 1920s) and throughout South America (since the 1930s). Today, the organization boasts units in 16 Latin American countries.

But only with the current wave of Latino immigration have Latin American Jews made a significant impression on B'nai B'rith in the United States.

Martin Shuster started the Reunion Unit of Los Angeles two years ago when he and some friends realized what a need there was for a group of Latin American Jewish immigrants. Today, the unit has nearly 100 members. The majority immigrated from Argentina — Shuster's home country — or Chile.

While the group performs traditional B'nai B'rith community service work, it also hosts events tailored to Latino Jewish interests, such as lectures on the marranos (secret Jews of Spain) and the tracing of Latin American Jewish genealogy.

Oscar Olchyk, a 1960 immigrant from Cuba where he was a member of B'nai B'rith's Havana Lodge, organized a similar group in Dallas composed of Jews from Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica and Venezuela.

This winter he and 10 of his unit's members will join International B'nai B'rith President Tommy P. Baer on a B'nai B'rith-sponsored humanitarian mission to Cuba to deliver food, medical supplies, household goods and spiritual assistance to the 1,400-member Jewish community.

The Idle Elder

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing
Reporter

Would some hidden, elf-like talent scout discover me as a kid and whisk me to Hollywood, fame and fortune?

Because I was pintsize, I had a certain stage presence, though no great talent at the piano or other performance art. At MGM you had to sing and dance.

I waited throughout the seasons of life till now, and made my screen debut last year. I played the hero's father in an Australian movie directed by a student, who filmed my South American forest sequence in nearby Connecticut.

I got to sing a ballad, but when they released the feature *Down Under*, they dubbed my voice with a native accent. Even so, Aussies know my face and name.

This month the people of Paris will catch me in a preview showing at a film festival of "The Education of Young Kimoto." Marian Marzynski produced this narrative account of a Japanese student pursuing the secrets of American culture. I represent the elusive professor, whose strange speeches must be grasped.

My favorite scene takes place on Narrow River. I lecture Tsuyoshi in a canoe, with my little dog at the helm. I like the clip because I have to take the fancy camcorder, figure out how to look through the lens, and turn on my student as he paddles and listens—to prove that he is there with me! Marzynski has filmed Poland and Israel, and now Narragansett into the bargain with this documentary that features master and disciple like an Asian legend. I haven't yet seen the final cut, but French audiences have.

If you watch our local Channel 36 you may have caught a portion of "Rhode Island Remembers," a series of interviews by Frank Muhly, who won many awards for his "Wake of '38" study of the great hurricane.

He cast me as a tosspot, a pubcrawler covering the terrain from Summit Avenue to North Main Street. I sip a vodka at the Penalty Box, next to the site of the arena, and recall the days of the circus and the Ice Capades. I wear a grey necktie and vest and make up for the loss of clowns, acrobats, elephants and tigers through the magic of the tap and the bar.

Other memories in further portions of the show include ferries, farms, dancehalls and hockey rinks held in castles. The channel is proud of these vignettes and sells them to raise money to preserve public television. I drink to that.

Just last week, deep in December, my daughter Lily and I

took the shuttle bus to Boston to appear in a motion picture about Emily Dickinson. Jim Wolpaw, who took this town by storm in "Complex World" set in downtown, and then wowed Hollywood with a short about John Keats and his "Ode to a Nightingale"—for which he received an Academy Award nomination—is making these reels about the Amherst recluse.

He asked Lily to play the part of an Emily try-out, one of a handful of auditions that are part of the concept of the film. She parts her hair in the romantic style and arranges her outfit to resemble the one famous portrait of Emily that gets printed in an oval shape above her verses.

The crew settle her at a table beside great windows with gulls cawing and floating over the skyscape of Boston. This loft studio is serene and surreal. An apartment consisting of a bed, a sofa, a table, and shelves of kitchenware and of books looms about, among, above the empty backlot spaces where movies are made.

Lily responds to the questions put to her with wit, charm and immediacy. It seems to work. The sound people clap.

My role is to make snide comments on the set. I harp, "Don't lose the graceful phrases in the funny business." I hold my ancient volume of Emily's great lines and quote them. "If I can ease one pain, I shall not live in vain." "Tell all the truth, but tell it slant." I had fun clinging to the little ironies.

By winter's end the fragments will be spliced and edited, and people here and there will see close-ups of Lily and catch glimpses of me on silver surfaces.

My face with its glasses and beard and worry lines will be projected from hemisphere to equator, across oceans and horizons. I try to teach my students how to write, crit and produce. They seem to prefer to tell me what to say and do on the other side of the camera. They also serve who only stand and wait for the cue, I guess.

Whatever I do, it's the same role, really, the idle elder. If somebody decides to remake "Wizard of Oz" I'll surely get the title role at last.



Buyers, Sellers and
Appraisers of

ESTATE JEWELRY
AUTHENTIC ANTIQUE JEWELRY

Lower Level Antique Gift Gallery

3228 Post Road
Apponaug Village
Warwick, RI
(401) 738-0511
(800) 910-4869
Lic. #92365

Since 1975 **NATIONAL AUTO TRANSPORTERS, Inc.** 

Ship Your Car For As Little As
\$325.00 Coast to Coast

TRUCK AND DRIVEWAY TRANSPORTATION SERVICES We Deliver Anywhere
"One Call — Does It All"

(508) 761-9044 — ASK FOR BOB

1077 Washington St., (Rt. 1) South Attleboro, MA 02703
(on Rt. 1, 100 yards from Pawtucket, RI)

THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Reform Women Launch Torah Project

An historic effort to redefine the role of women in the Bible and in Judaism has been helped along with the creation of a pilot project of collecting commentary on the Torah — the Five Books of Moses — from women clergy and biblical scholars around the world.

The project is sponsored by Women of Reform Judaism: The Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, whose board of directors authorized the undertaking last year.

"This project is the initial critical stage in the preparation of a major volume that will reflect women's voices for the first time in interpreting the biblical events that have given Jews their spiritual identity throughout the millennia," said Judith O. Rosenkranz, president of WRJ.

Rabbi Emily Hope Feigenson, spiritual leader of Congregation Adat Chaverim of Los Alamitos, Calif., is editor of the pilot project, which will culminate in the issuance of a preliminary publication next summer. Work will then begin on the final publication, a *Women's Commentary on Torah*.

Rosenkranz estimates the endeavor will take at least several years to complete but should have "a transforming impact" on how Jews — males and female — view woman's role in Judaism.

"The final commentary, when published, will serve as a standard work for decades to come," she said.

Feigenson, who was ordained at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion,



Rabbi Emily Hope Feigenson

also holds degrees in education and philosophy, and formerly taught at the University of Southern California. She is the author of a number of publications on Judaism and Jewish education.

Calling the project "a challenge," she noted that while women have written comments on Judaism for generations, "for too long, women's views and

commentaries on Torah have been lost to general audiences and subsequent generations."

Feigenson has invited contributions from numerous female Bible experts, including hundreds of rabbis, historians and biblical scholars in the United States, Canada and abroad.

According to Ellen Y. Rosenberg, executive director of WRJ, the challenge facing the women writers and editors of the *Women's Commentary on Torah* was encompassed in remarks by Cantor Sarah J. Sager of Anshe Chesed, Fairmont Temple, Cleveland, Ohio, at the WRJ 1993 Biennial Convention in San Francisco, when the subject of such a publication was first advanced.

Referring to that week's Torah portion, "Lech Lecha," the speaker declared that she had "searched in vain for a message that spoke directly to me, to Sarah, the matriarch of our people, to the women of today."

She noted that "the founding myth of our faith posits a male epiphany, a masculine experience of G-d, a single transforming moment experienced alone."

Sager then contended that the time has come to show how the perceptions of women Bible scholars "are challenging the three most basic concepts of Jewish life: G-d, Israel and Torah."

N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009.

JWV is currently celebrating its 100th anniversary as the "Patriotic Voice of American Jewry." To join the JWV of Rhode Island, calling Irving Levin at 467-3434.

Orthodox Union Joins Call for New TV Ratings System

The Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America has joined the effort spearheaded by Senator Joseph Lieberman (D-CT) to have content-based ratings for television programs.

Since the passage of legislation requiring television manufacturers to install v-chips in new sets, a group of industry experts headed by Jack Valenti have been developing a rating system to guide parents in the use of the v-chip, to restrict the kinds of programs their children may watch. This system appears to be a rating system that is age based (much like the movie rating system).

The OU joins with child development experts, the National PTA and concerned legislators to call upon Valenti's group to issue a content-based system that will provide parents with real information to aid them in

monitoring their children's TV watching. Such a system would indicate whether a program possessed violent, sexual, or objectionable language content.

"We are pleased to join this important effort to aid parents in the monumental task of raising morally healthy children," said Dr. Mandell Ganchrow, president of the Orthodox Union.

Rabbi Raphael Butler, the Orthodox Union's executive vice president, noted that "a reality of American life is that children watch television and that parents need help in making sure that they control what their kids see. At this time of year," continued Rabbi Butler, "when Jews are celebrating Chanukah by lighting candles in the darkness, we would like to make sure that some useful light is cast upon the dark world of television programming."

It's Tu B'Shevat Already?

The Jewish National Fund invites Jews everywhere to join four special Tu B'Shevat seders — on the Internets.

A 9 p.m. EST youth seder and a 10 p.m. EST adult seder will be held on Tu B'Shevat, which falls on Jan. 22 (15 Shevat 5757). School-oriented seders will be held on Jan. 23 at 1 p.m.

To join the seders, one must be a member of America Online. To access them, go to "Jewish Community Online," then to "chat" to enter the "chat-room" in which the seders will take place.

Rabbi Arnold D. Samlan, director of JNF's Department of Education, will lead the seders, to consist of blessings, text and

stories, all emphasizing the importance of ecology and trees. Participants at their computers are invited to share their own stories and ideas and speak with Samlan, who commented, "JNF is reaching out creatively to the entire community by offering innovative, on-line programs and events on Tu B'Shevat, as well as on Yom Yerushalayim (Jerusalem Reunification Day) and Yom Ha'atzmaut (Israeli Independence Day)."

For more information on JNF's Tu B'Shevat seders, call Rabbi Arnold Samlan, director, JNF Department of Education, at (516) 561-9100, or send e-mail to jnfed@aol.com

JWV Calendar Now Available

The full-color, limited edition 1997 Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America calendar is now available through JWV headquarters.

The calendar depicts Jewish military personnel and veterans in historic settings, at military installations and at military academies throughout the country.

The calendar sites significant events in our nation's history and Jewish holy days. It is a valuable resource for government officials at the departments of defense and veterans affairs and is also used by many members of Congress.

To receive your calendar, write to Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. Calendar, 1811 R Street,

N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009.

JWV is currently celebrating its 100th anniversary as the "Patriotic Voice of American Jewry." To join the JWV of Rhode Island, calling Irving Levin at 467-3434.

Jewish Music Recordings Re-Discovered and Presented to President Weizman

An early recording of a Hassidic melody attributed to the founder of the Habad Hassidic movement, Rabbi Schneur Zalman of Liadi, and a recording of the famed Yiddish author Sholom Aleichem are included in a disk of rare recordings of Jewish interest that was presented to President Ezer Weizman by the president of Ukraine, Leonid D. Kuchma.

Professor Israel Adler, chairman of the Jewish Music Research Center at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, rediscovered this large collection of early recorded Jewish music, which had been lost since 1949, in storage at the Vernadsky Library of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences in Kiev.

The Kiev collection has tremendous historical significance because it preserves the musical traditions of an extremely rich period in European Jewish culture just prior to its nearly total destruction by the Nazis.

Moreover, the collection is a unique treasure because of its size and scope, consisting of thousands of individual items including musical recordings on cylinders and pages of handwritten copies of sheet music and text.

Included are Yiddish folk songs, klezmer tunes, cantorial

pieces, Sabbath melodies and Hassidic songs. Among those recorded in addition to Sholom Aleichem are Yiddish theater personalities Shlomo Mikhoels and Hanna Rovina.

The Kiev collection is based primarily on two stages of work, the first conducted under the auspices of the ethnographic expedition to Europe headed by Semyon An-Sky from 1911 to 1914.

Noteworthy among the items from this period are recordings of the Rebbe of Medzibohz singing a cantorial chant from the High Holiday liturgy, Hassidic melodies attributed to Rabbi Schneur Zalman and Rabbi Levi Yitzhak of Berditchev, a fragment of a Purim play and the voice of Sholom Aleichem.

The second stage was from 1928 to 1929 within the framework of the Musical Ethnographic Cabinet at the Institute of Jewish Culture of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences.

The location of this collection had been a mystery since 1949 when Moshe Beregovski, one of the important musicologists and ethnomusicologists of his time, who founded and directed the musical cabinet, was exiled to Siberia.

Jewish musical researchers

worked to discover what had happened to the collection but without success until Adler's discovery, two years ago, that it was in storage at the Vernadsky Library.

Adler then began negotiations with local officials in Kiev regarding the preservation, restoration and cataloging of the material, and its copying for the Jewish National and University Library at the Hebrew University.

An agreement in this regard was signed in July 1995 and followed an agreement signed the previous year between the Jewish National and University Library and the National Library of Kiev, allowing the microfilming by the JNUL of the extensive Hebrew manuscript collection at the Kiev Library.

Partners of the Hebrew University in the project to preserve the musical treasures in Kiev are the government of Israel, UNESCO and its International Music Council. Lending support are the Rothschild Foundation, the Yuval France Association and Friends of the Hebrew University.

Famed violinist Yehuda Menuhin and author Elie Wiesel have also expressed their support for the project.

A subscription to the Herald makes a great gift.
Call 724-0200 for more information.

Your local source for everything Jewish.



Rhoda's Judaica



Religious items, books, gifts, artwork,
toys, CDs and cassettes

SPECIAL ORDERS OUR SPECIALTY

77 Burlington Street — off Hope Street, Providence, RI
454-4775 — M-Th 10-6, Fr 9:30-2, Sun 10-2

ORDAINED JEWISH CLERGY FOR ALL YOUR FAMILY NEEDS

We educate and officiate in any location.

- Bar/Bat Mitzvah for every child including special needs
- Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah
- Weddings
- Funerals & Unveilings
- Baby namings
- Learn to participate in the service
- Learn to read Hebrew
- Private tutoring & classes available

The Jewish Lifecycle

1-888-4-MITZVAH
1-800-464-8982
Toll Free

FREE CONSULTATION
TOLL FREE 1-888-4 MITZVAH
1-888-464-8982

MILESTONES

Faith Levine Marries Scott Gorman

Faith Lisa Levine and Scott Jeffrey Gorman were married Oct. 19 at Temple Beth-El, Providence, R.I. The bride is the daughter of Sid and Herma Levine of Warwick, R.I. The bridegroom is the son of Gerry Gorman of Delray Beach, Fla., formerly of Commack, N.Y., and the late Honey Gorman.

Rabbi Leslie Gutterman officiated at the 6:30 p.m. ceremony and Ida Rae Cahana was the cantor. The reception was held at Temple Beth-El.

The bride was given in marriage by her parents.

Lauri Medwin Fine was the matron of honor. Bridesmaids were Jennifer Goldman; Dale Rogers, sister of the bridegroom; Robin Wunch; and Samantha Reiss.

Bestman was Paul Silverman.

Ushers were Michael A. Levine, brother of the bride; Mark Rogers, Robert Bellick, and Jeffrey Rodolitz.

The bride attended Queen Mary College at the University of London and graduated cum laude from Brandeis University, Waltham, Mass., and received a J.D. degree from Hofstra Law School, Hempstead, N.Y. She is currently a manager of state and local taxation with Ernst & Young L.L.P. in Miami, Fla.

The bridegroom graduated from the University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona. He is director of credit systems and analysis at American Express, Plantation, Fla.

The couple took their wedding trip to France and have made their home in Coral Springs, Fla.

Debra Cerel Marries Stephen Madore

Debra Susan Cerel and Stephen Paul Madore were married Oct. 20 at the Newton Marriott, Newton, Mass. The bride is the daughter of Daniel and Ruth Cerel of Warwick, R.I. The bridegroom is the son of Ronald and Carmen Madore of Beverly, Mass.

Justice of the Peace Cheryl Miller presided at the 5:30 p.m. ceremony which was followed by a reception at the Newton Marriott.

The bride was given in marriage by her father.

Diane Hanke, sister-in-law of the bride, was matron of honor.

Ross Madore, brother of the bridegroom, was best man.

The bride, who will retain her maiden name as Cerel-Madore, is a graduate of Pilgrim High School, Warwick, R.I., and Wheelock College, Boston, Mass.

She is employed by North



Stephen Madore and Debra Cerel-Madore

Shore Education Consortium, Danvers, Mass.

The bridegroom is a graduate of Beverly High School, Beverly, Mass., and Northeast Broadcasting School, Boston,

Mass. He is employed by Boston Acoustics, Peabody, Mass.

The couple took a wedding trip to Disney World and have made their home in Beverly, Mass.



Mr. and Mrs. Scott J. Gorman

Riesman To Be Honored

The American Jewish Committee will honor Robert A. Riesman, a former president and campaign chairman of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, at a reception at the Breakers Hotel in Palm Beach, at 4 p.m., on Jan. 28.

Riesman will receive the committee's National Human Relations Award.

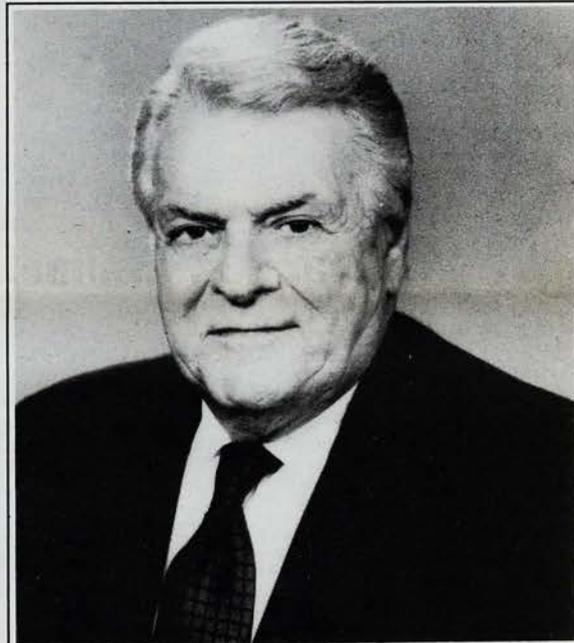
Through its National Human Relations Award, the American Jewish Committee seeks to recognize individuals who have attained leadership roles in industry or the professions, and who have contributed to the community through civic affairs and philanthropic endeavors.

Riesman, a graduate of the Boston Latin School and Harvard University, saw combat service with the U.S. Army during World War II in North Africa, Sicily, and Europe.

After the war, he joined the family wire and cable firm in Rhode Island, serving as president of the Royal Electric Company and later of Carol Cable Company until he retired to pursue civic and philanthropic interests.

Over the years he has been active in community and educational affairs, as a member of the National Executive Committee of The American Jewish Committee, an overseer of the Jewish Theological Seminary, a life trustee of the American Technion Society, and an honorary alumnus of Hebrew University.

He is a trustee of Providence College, a corporator of Northeastern University, and served as chairman of the Rhode Island Board of Regents and General



Robert A. Reisman

Photo courtesy of AJCommittee

Campaign chairman of the United Way of Southeastern New England.

The American Jewish Committee is often called America's

premier human relations agency. For nearly a century, it has worked toward strengthening democracy and encouraging positive intergroup relations.

\$35,000 Surprise For Hirsch

University of Rhode Island Professor of Nursing, Janet I. Hirsch, isn't usually out of step with what is happening at the College of Nursing.

But during the first Friends of the College of Nursing Reception on Dec. 4, the North Kingstown resident found out just how much she had been kept in the dark.

That night as faculty members, former and current students, friends and the college staff enjoyed a celebration of the school's excellence, Interim Dean Dayle Joseph announced that \$35,000 had been raised through URI's capital campaign for the Dr. Janet Hirsch Endowment Fund.

The Can You Keep a Secret Campaign was begun in August through the efforts of College of Nursing graduates, Carol

Lietar of Riverside, and Christina Sokoloff of Woonsocket, who wanted to honor Hirsch's commitment to students and graduates of the college.

The Hirsch endowment was one of several capital campaign gifts announced on Dec. 4, totaling \$100,000 to benefit the College of Nursing.

The endowment is for faculty enrichment. Recipients must be a member of the Rhode Island State Nurses' Association for at least a year.

The surprise announcement, which was made with Hirsch's family and friends in attendance, overwhelmed the professor. She shed a tear or two as colleagues and friends hugged her.

The 100 people in the crowd were captivated as Hirsch's face

(Continued on Page 15)

Rhode Island's Oldest
Stamp/Coin Dealer

Check Out Our
Tremendous Stamp
Inventory!

WARWICK COIN

613 Warwick Ave.
Warwick, RI 02888
(401) 467-4450



Sydney Elizabeth Levine

Sandra and Barry Levine announce the birth of their granddaughter, Sydney Elizabeth Levine, born on Nov. 6. Sydney is the daughter of Jennifer and Scott Levine of Providence.

Maternal grandparents are Sally Oken of Florida and Jim Kestenbaum of New York. Maternal great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Milton Scheingarten of Florida.

CONCANNON APPRAISAL SERVICES, INC

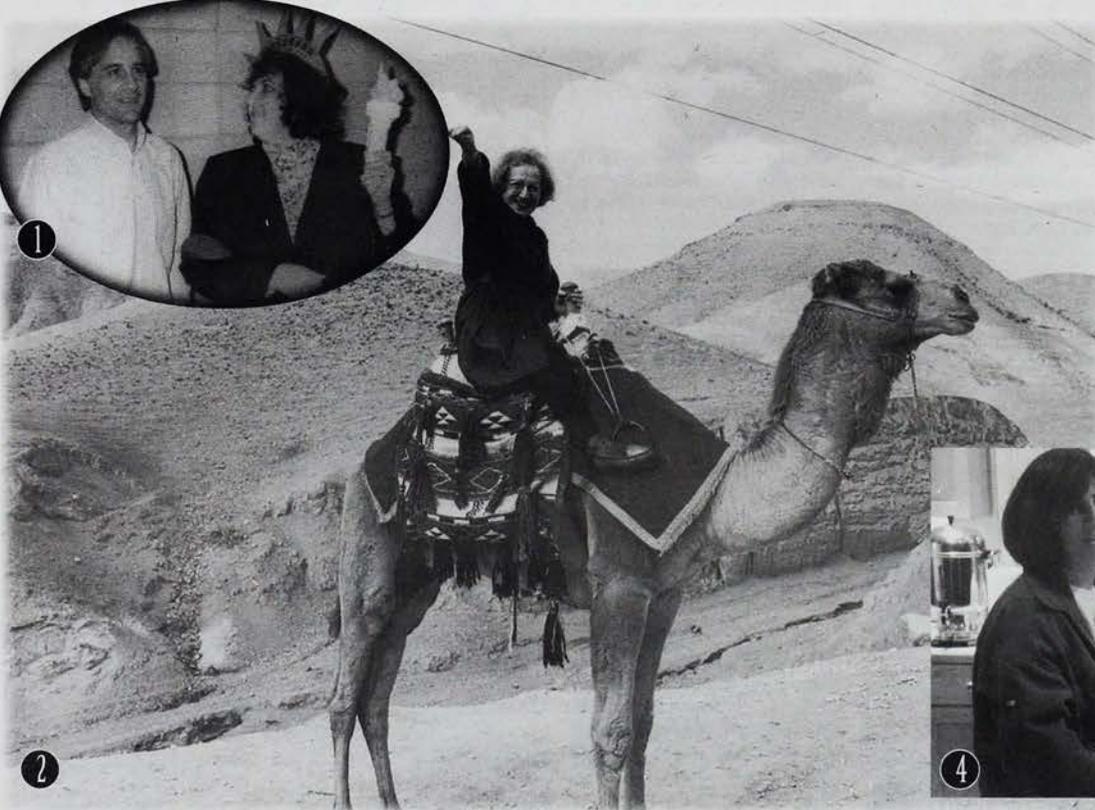


Concannon Appraisal Services Is Your Full
Service Custom Jeweler For: Diamonds,
Gold and Colored Stone Jewelry

"When You Can Have It your Own Way,
Why Settle For Less?"

Call Today (401) 722-0111
By Appointment

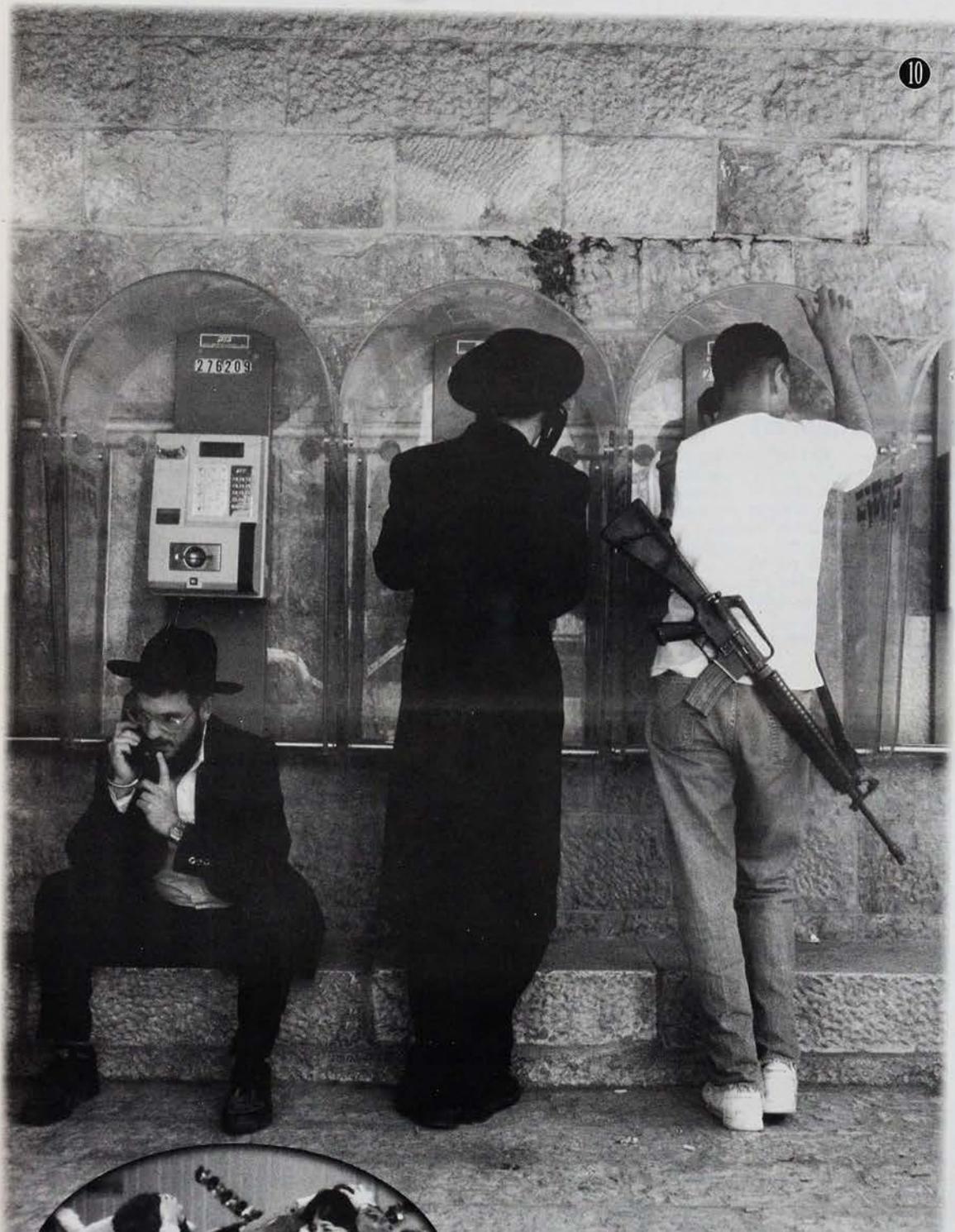
THROUGH THE LOOKING



The Spirit of America... personified by **Vivian Weisman**, and the spirit of Purim, evident in **Jeffrey Brier's** smile, light up the JCCRI. **2** "Caroline in Israel" ... **Carolyn Cohen** of Cranston goes camel riding in Israel. **3** "Look what I got!" ... watermelon never tasted so good as it did to **Ethan Zeigler** at The Temple Shalom barbecue. **4** The quiet before the march against breast cancer... marchers stoke up at **Robin Homonoff's** home on Oct. 6. **5** These fruitful creations were made and displayed by PHDS third-graders in honor of Tu B'Shevat. **6** It's precision work, as **Rabbi Eliezer Levy** (right) and **Yudi Mann** drill an opening in a ram's horn. **7** Feeling at home in the Fall River Jewish Home sukkah is resident **Dorothy Elias**. **8** Eat! Eat! Everyone had plenty to eat at the August barbecue held by Temple Shalom. **9** It's Chanukah time at Warwick Mall as **Alan Rosenberg** and **Avis Gunther-Rosenberg**, with their children, celebrate.



CLASS... *Photographic Reflections on* 1996



10. Always prepared... an off-duty soldier shares a phone bank with members of an ultrareligious Jewish sect in Jerusalem. **11.** "David" **12.** Mr. Magic, Stephen Weiner, does his magic show in sign language at Temple Sinai. **13.** Go, Joseph! Lisa Kemp dances with the company of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat." **14.** They're doing the macarena at Touro Synagogue under the spirited direction of Rebitzen Rivka Eskovitz. **15.** In the Purim mood, members of the U.R.I. Hillel get together to party.

Photo Credits:

Photos 1, 4, 6 & 9 by Alison Smith, Rhode Island Jewish Herald.
 Photos 3, 5, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14 & 15 by Neil Nachbar, Rhode Island Jewish Herald.
 Photo 11 by Mike Fink, Rhode Island Jewish Herald.
 Photo 10 by Annie Griffiths Belt, © 1996 National Geographic Society.
 Layout & Design by J. Sparling, Herald Press
 Photo Editing by D. Brandon, Herald Press.

SCHOOLBEAT

URI Plans January Party

A festive evening is being planned for URI alumni and friends — a night of dining, dancing, and auction fun. The Alumni Association will hold its sixth annual Winter Gala on Jan. 25 at the Newport Islander Doubletree Hotel on Goat Island.

Glenn Palmer '75, president of Liz Claiborne Collection and Studio, will serve as this year's honorary chairman.

Sponsored by Fleet and Liz Claiborne, a pre-gala reception will be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. and will feature hors d'oeuvres, an open bar, a special gift, and an auction preview. The gala will follow from 7:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. with a buffet, dancing, to the music of Sure Thing, and

silent and live auctions. Black tie is optional.

More than 100 items will be auctioned during this year's live and silent auctions. Some of these items include: a charter fishing trip for four with URI President Robert L. Carothers and football coach Floyd Keith; two tickets to any 1997 Monday night NFL football game, including airfare; lunch for four in New York City with fashion designer Dana Buchman and tours of the Liz Claiborne facilities; tickets for 10 in the Fleet luxury box at Fenway Park; a customized cartoon drawing by artist Don Bousquet '73; airline tickets to almost anywhere in the United States or the Caribbean; a ski trip; and two weeks at a private

beach cabin on Prince Edward Island.

Proceeds from the event will benefit annual alumni scholarships and grants for deserving URI undergraduates.

Tickets are \$50 per person for the gala, and \$100 per person for the reception. Summa cum laude tables of 10 at both the pre-gala and the gala are also available. The Doubletree Islander Hotel is offering a special rate of only \$74 per room, as well as a discounted Sunday brunch.

To order a table, or for information on tickets, sponsorship, or program advertising, call the alumni association at 874-2242, or 884-8444.

Seating is limited.

ASDS Goes Cerebral

Alperin Schechter is forming a chess club for students in grades 5 to 8. The club will meet Monday afternoons, from 3:30 to 4:30, from Jan. 6 to March 31.

All levels of skill are welcome. All necessary equipment will be provided. Space is limited. Early enrollment is suggested.

The cost is \$30, and checks should be made payable to ASDS.

For more information, call Vicky Lambroza at 431-1753 or Liz Goldberg at 728-6266

Zamir Chorale Presents Children's Concert

An educational and entertaining program of Jewish music geared to children ages 7 to 12, will be held on Jan. 19 at the Hebrew College, 43 Hawes St., Brookline, Mass., at 2 p.m.

Admission is \$2 per person up to a maximum of \$10 per family. Tickets will be available at the door.

For more information, call (617) 492-3611.

BCC's Nursing Graduates Perfect on State Boards

The 55 students who graduated from the nursing program at Bristol Community College last May have all passed their state boards on the first try.

This marks the second year in a row that BCC nursing graduates have had a 100 percent pass rate by first-time test takers.

This year's scores cap a recent history of a high pass rate

for BCC graduates — just two years ago, the first-time pass rate was 98.25 percent. Those scores are in sharp contrast with media reports over the past few years of low passing rates at other nursing schools, during the past few years.

Dr. Marie Marshall, program director, noted that not only do BCC students work hard to master the material, the faculty makes every effort to keep up with current nursing trends and to set demanding standards for the students.

Marshall praised the program's affiliates who provide clinical practice experiences for the student nurses, and the generosity of community members and health care providers whose donations to the BCC Foundation have enabled the college to keep learning materials up-to-date.

URI Models of Success

The following are alumni stars in URI's crown — an inspiration to students aspiring to enter URI next year:

Tundi Agardy, Ph.D. '87, senior conservation biologist, World Wildlife Fund

Lincoln Almond '59, governor of the State of Rhode Island

Robert Ballard, Ph.D. '75, discoverer of the sunken oceanliner "Titanic," founder of the JASON Project.

Sidney Cohen '55, president of Domestic Television Distribution, Metro Goldwyn Mayer, Inc.

Phillip Kydd '81, president, URI Alumni Association executive board, and chief civil rights officer, R.I. Department of Transportation

E. David Corvese '81, chairman and founder of Pro-Mark Gordon Crane '72, president of Apple & Eve, Inc.

Christiane Amanpour '83, CNN correspondent

John Geddes '74, business and financial news editor, *The New York Times*

Marcia Young '82, senior manager of research and development, Sara Lee Bakery

Elizabeth Leimkuhler, Ph.D. '83, neuropsychologist and

ASDS Basketball Schedule

Alperin Schechter Day School has announced its basketball schedule for the 1997 season. This year, for the first time, there will be a girls team as well as a boys team.

The head coach of ASDS basketball is Jared Earley. The assistant coach is Stephanie Reape.

Boys Basketball Schedule			
Date	Location	Opponent	Time
Jan. 21	@ Gordon	Gordon School	3:30 p.m.
Jan. 28	ASDS	Rocky Hill	3:30 p.m.
Jan. 29	@ RISD	R.I. School Deaf	4 p.m.
Feb. 6	ASDS	Prov. County Day	3 p.m.
Feb. 12	ASDS	Moses Brown	3:45 p.m.
Feb. 27	ASDS	R.I. School Deaf	3:30 p.m.
March 6	@ St. Andrews	St. Andrews	3:30 p.m.
Girls Basketball Schedule			
Date	Location	Opponent	Time
Jan. 13	ASDS	Moses Brown	3:45 p.m.
Jan. 22	ASDS	Gordon School	3:45 p.m.
Jan. 27	@ Lincoln School	Lincoln School	3:30 p.m.
Jan. 30	ASDS	R.I. School Deaf	3:30 p.m.
Feb. 10	@ RISD	R.I. School Deaf	4:00 p.m.
Feb. 11	ASDS	Lincoln School	3:30 p.m.
Feb. 13	ASDS	Rocky Hill	3:30 p.m.

codirector, Center of Neuropsychology and Learning Disorders.

Eric Lutes '91, actor, currently plays Del on NBC hit series "Caroline in the City"

Carol Makovich '75, vice president of corporate communications, RJR Nabisco, Inc.

Ernest Mario, Ph.D. '66, co-chairman and CEO, ALZA Corp.

Anita Manning '68, feature writer, *USA Today*

Glenn Palmer '75, president, The Collection, Liz Claiborne, and 1996-97 URI alumni fund

chairman Cynthia Deyscher '78, chief financial officer, Shiva Corporation

Thomas Ryan '75, president and CEO, CVS, Inc.

Barbara Hazard Munro, M.S. '73, dean, Boston College School of Nursing

Robert Urciuoli '69, president and CEO, Roger Williams Medical Center

Alfred Verrecchia, M.B.A. '72, chief operating officer, Domestic Toy Operations, Hasbro, Inc.

Art Auction to Benefit J&W Scholarship

Johnson & Wales University will hold an art auction on Jan. 11 at the Johnson & Wales Inn in Seekonk, Mass., to benefit the school's scholarship fund.

Items to be auctioned are expected to include selections from Dali, Hatfield, Wyeth, Miro, Rockwell, Picasso and Neiman. Opening bids are up to 50 percent less than traditional framed gallery prices. The auction, co-sponsored by Ross Galleries of New York and the National Student Organizations at Johnson & Wales, will include door prizes, wine and cheese, champagne punch and hors d'oeuvres made by Johnson & Wales culinary students.

Preview of art items is at 7 p.m.; the auction will begin at 8 p.m. Admission is \$7.50 per person, \$10 per couple, and \$5 per student. Advance tickets are encouraged. For more information, call 598-2341.



Double Celebration

Israeli singer David Broza is shown surrounded by some of the children who came to the Sheraton Tel-Aviv Hotel recently for the Festival of Dolls. The dolls, donated by Sheraton Hotels worldwide, were auctioned to raise money for UNESCO and WIZO. Children were the focus of a double celebration at the Sheraton Tel-Aviv Hotel. As part of the celebration of the 50th anniversary of UNICEF, the hotel presented a check for \$10,000 to representatives of UNICEF as their contribution towards the ITT Sheraton Europe's fund for establishing a program of immunization for children in Zambia. ©Copyright: ISRANET

DOES YOUR BUSINESS PROVIDE OUTSTANDING OR UNIQUE SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY

Why not let our readers know about it?

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 724-0200

SAAB

1997

Find your own road.™



Lease \$249³⁶ Mo.

1996 Down cash or trade 36 Mo. x \$249 = \$8,964. Bank fee, registration fee, registration, taxes and \$275 security deposit extra. \$5,000 mi. allowed 20¢ extra for overage. Option to buy at lease end.

WIGWAM

915 CHARLES STREET NORTH PROVIDENCE, RI 353-1260 • 722-5700

FLYING SHUTTLES STUDIO
Specializing in handwoven rugs and original art
Cards Now Available
782 Hope Street Providence, RI (401) 273-1220
Tues.-Friday 9 am-2:30 pm
Saturday 10 am-3 pm

MAX FORMAL CO.
Staff Shirts • T-Shirts • Sweatshirts
CUSTOM PRINTED WITH YOUR NAME AND/OR CUSTOM DESIGN
Specializing in Bar/Bat Mitzvahs & Corporate Screening
421-3268
1158-1164 N. Main St. Providence, RI 02904

WORLD AND NATIONAL NEWS

Israeli Technology Attracts American Commercial Giants

by Lesley Pearl
Jewish Bulletin of
Northern California

SAN FRANCISCO (JTA) — Microsoft Corp. and U.S. West Interactive Services recently purchased an unspecified stake in a video company with offices in both Israel and Palo Alto, Calif., propelling the fledgling corporation to international status.

Formed in 1995, VDOnet is already a leader in Internet video technology. It provides the tools and services for individuals and organizations to view and broadcast video via computer and to converse on video-telephones.

U.S. West Interactive Services, part of U.S. West Media Group — which recently merged with Continental Cablevision to serve 26.2 million homes — will use VDOnet technology with its current cable and video capabilities to expand its services.

Similarly, Microsoft will use VDOnet technology to support its own programs for audio business conferencing, live audio and video transmission, and to "complement [each other's] efforts and play a vital role in the future of network communications," said John Ludwig, a Microsoft vice president in Seattle.

Asaf Mohr, VDOnet president and chief executive officer, said that through this partner-

ship, viewers will be able to watch a child's football game live from across the country or sit in on a lecture series from London.

Already, 150 organizations, including the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, are using VDO's technology for their sites on the Internet's World Wide Web. In April, AIPAC screened major speeches from its annual policy conference in Washington, which could then be accessed with a computer and modem.

AIPAC's "video Web" was seen by people in 29 countries. In the three weeks after the conference, the site received 60,000 hits. Viewers from San Francisco to Kuwait watched speeches by President Clinton and former Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

In addition, AIPAC has also "Webcast" its meetings at the national Democratic and Republican conventions.

"We wanted to make our events accessible to the widest possible audience. We wanted to give people a virtual front-row seat at our convention," said Toby Dershowitz, director of media relations for AIPAC.

"We wanted to be accessible to our members and activists and the wider audience interested in U.S.-Israel relations."

Similarly, PBS-TV has screened some of its programs

for rebroadcast on the Internet.

Unlike most downloading capabilities on the Internet, which can take several minutes to display a 30-second clip, VDOnet's technology speeds up and refines the quality of motion video viewed via computer and allows for live screening.

"In simple terms, this is the first time you can do this live with a regular modem," said Mike Brogan, publicist for VDOnet.

VDOnet's technology self-adjusts based on a particular computer system's speed and capacities. This feature means that VDOnet's systems will not become obsolete as computers gain speed and capabilities.

Shlomo Shalev, of the Israeli economic affairs office in Santa Clara, Calif., said VDOnet is an example of the potential for Israeli-American business collaboration.

"VDOnet made it by themselves," Shalev said, adding that his office did not play a role in VDOnet's merger with Microsoft and US West. Both VDOnet principals, Mohr and Gideon Barak, have done business in Silicon Valley, he added, and "know their way around."

For Israeli entrepreneurs who do not have established connections in the United States, Shalev acts as a matchmaker between startup companies and venture capitalists.

Jerusalem Yeshiva to Teach Judaism's Feminist Viewpoint

by Alia C. Ramer
MetroWest Jewish News

WHIPPANY, N.J. (JTA) — The brochure itself asks the question many have when they hear about plans for a new house of study in Israel.

"A Feminist Yeshiva in Jerusalem?" says the school's publicity material.

But that's OK, said Rochelle Robins and Rabbi Sarra Levine, organizers of Bat Kol, the first non-Orthodox women's yeshiva in Israel. Judaism teaches one to question, not to accept things at face value, they say.

The new school's first session will be held June 26 to Aug. 10. "We haven't started to [officially] enroll students," Levine said, "but [we have] a good 10 commitments" without any advertising. The program will be limited to 30 students to keep it personal.

Robins, a fourth-year rabbinical student at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in New York, is the school's director.

Levine, a Reconstructionist rabbi who is earning her doctorate in Talmud at New York University, is the spiritual leader of the school. Rabbi Rebecca Lillian of Philadelphia is dean of students.

Study at Bat Kol will use "a method of learning that allows women to find their voice within the tradition — to answer the question, 'What does Judaism mean to me as a woman?'" said Levine.

Torah study will be conducted in English in traditional beit midrash style, combining lecture and discussions in pairs.

Robins said the "amazing" faculty is a mixed one, men and women, from the Reform, Conservative, Reconstructionist and Orthodox movements.

Orthodox scholars have been "extremely excited" about the yeshiva's feminist structure because they see this as a way for

women to learn Torah within the boundaries of traditional halachah, or Jewish law, Robins said.

That the students will be able to draw information "from all the movements," Robins said, means that the students will have "exposure to different thinkers" and ideas.

In addition to traditional study, Bat Kol's beit midrash will incorporate "creative ways of study," said Levine, such as "bibliodrama" and exploring text through fine arts and creative writing, which will "help students explore the contemporary meanings" of Torah.

"We're also looking at integrating a secular agenda," Levine added, including discussions of modern Yiddish text, the Yiddish movement and the cultural aspects of Judaism. These discussions would "widen the understanding of what it means to be a Jewish feminist."

The six-week session will also include participation in community service projects and two weeks of touring Israel.

"We want our program to be just as experiential as it is academic," said Robins. Participation in tzedakah "is a prime example of where Judaism and feminism can be combined."

Although Bat Kol is geared toward women with basic Judaic knowledge, the founders are in the process of setting up a two-day workshop, to precede the program, which will give less-informed students a "crash course" in learning Torah from a text, Levine said.

Bat Kol's tuition will be \$1,500 to \$1,600 and does not include housing, though help may be arranged in finding a place to stay.

Bat Kol may be reached at (201) 746-4623 or via e-mail at batkol@sprynet.com. The Web site may be visited at <http://home.sprynet.com/sprynet/batkol>.

OU Plans to Fight Gay Group's Effort to Join the WJC

by Debra Nussbaum Cohen
NEW YORK (JTA) — The Orthodox Union is fighting to block the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations from joining the World Jewish Congress.

The gay and lesbian Jewish organization, which includes 65 synagogues, social clubs, social service organizations and student groups around the world, has been seeking membership in the WJC for nearly two years as part of its larger quest to become integrated into mainstream Jewish communal life.

The group recently was granted permission to participate in WJC meetings until the body's board of governors can formally review its application in the spring.

The O.U. adopted a resolution at its convention late last month condemning efforts "to portray homosexuality as the moral equivalent of heterosexual monogamous relation-

ships and as constituting a valid 'alternative lifestyle.'"

The resolution directed the WJC "to continue to forcefully resist all attempts" of such groups "to legitimize that which our Torah, our history and our traditions have deemed illegitimate."

Julius Berman, a New York attorney and honorary president of the O.U., said the effort to join the WJC "is part of a basic

within the WJC's board of governors to try to block the group's entrance, he said.

"If they become members of umbrella organizations it means they're accepted by the general Jewish community and we will not participate in legitimizing that type of lifestyle," Berman said.

Lee Walzer, vice president of the gay and lesbian Jewish group, said the O.U.'s position "is pure unvarnished prejudice which will only serve to weaken Jewish family life and alienate Jews from their spiritual home."

The organization represents gay and lesbian Jews "throughout the community, including Orthodox and haredi [fervently Orthodox] individuals," he said.

Walzer said an increasing number of his organization's member groups are joining local Jewish communal umbrella groups, and working with Orthodox community representatives "usually without incident."

... "we will not participate in legitimizing that type of lifestyle."

Julius Berman

campaign by the gays to become part of normative Judaism."

The O.U., which has a membership of about 750 Orthodox synagogues and an additional 25,000 individuals, will work

Flood of Russian Immigrants Slows

Statistics compiled by the Jewish Agency indicate that approximately 58,000 new immigrants will have arrived in Israel from the former Soviet Union by the end of 1996, a 12 percent drop compared to 1995, Ha'aretz reported.

Over a million potential immigrants remain in countries of the Confederation of Independent States.

The head of the Jewish agency's immigration depart-

ment, Uri Gordon, has estimated that immigration from the former Soviet Union in the coming years would continue to drop to an annual rate of 30,000 to 40,000.

King Edward's
CARPET CLEANING
732-9234

ATTENTION LANDLORDS AND HOMEOWNERS:

SOLVE REPAIR PROBLEMS

Carpentry • Painting • Wallpapering • Small Household Repairs

EAST SIDE PROPERTY SERVICES Call 24 hours ~ 725-4405

JACK M. MINKIN dba/Tile-Set
CERAMIC TILE INSTALLATION AND REPAIRS
Cleaning, Regrouting, Sealing — Leaks Fixed
ALL AROUND HANDYMAN
LEGAL COVERING OF ASBESTOS PIPES
All High Quality Guaranteed Work
"A TROUBLESHOOTER WITH IDEAS" PAGER # 763-6611
INSURED • R.I. LICENSE NO. 4210 • REFERENCES • 789-2322

GRASSLEY ROOFING AND CONSTRUCTION, INC.
RICHARD GRASSLEY
Roofing • Siding • Gutters • Slate Repairs
COMPLETE HOME IMPROVEMENTS
ALL TYPES OF CARPENTRY
LIC. NO. MA 110907 • LIC. NO. 554 R.I.
401-434-2049
30 Years of Business



ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Plenty to Choose From at First Night

The following is a rundown of the entertainment and activities offered at First Night Providence. First Night buttons are available for \$9. A button buys admission to nearly 250 concerts, plays, dances, acts, exhibits, workshops and events. For more information, call 521-1166.

Comedy

First Laughs, R.I. Convention Center, Exhibition Hall D, 8:15, 9, 9:45, 10:30, 11:15 p.m. (30-minute shows)

Improv Jones, URI Providence Center/Shepards Building, 10, 11 p.m.

Dance: Performance and Participation

Bop 'n Hop: Fusionworks and Sally Mayo & Company Dancing, URI Providence Center/Shepards Building, 6, 7 p.m.

Chinese Folk Dance Company: Peacocks, Pipas and the Sword Dance, R.I. Convention Center, Ballroom A, 2, 3, 4 p.m.

Dance Showcase: Providence Public School Ensembles, R.I. Convention Center, Exhibition Halls B&C

Perry Middle School Dance Ensemble: "A Stone in the Road," 2:15 p.m. (30-minute show)

Roger Williams Middle School Dance Ensemble: "The Hunchback of Notre Dame," 3 p.m.

Hope High School Dancers, 4:15 p.m. (30-minute show)

Devine's Diner: Irish Music and Dance to Go (see also Music), Beneficent Congregational Church Hall, 8, 9 p.m.

The Hewn out of the Mountain Musicians (see also Music), Kennedy Plaza Bus Shelter, 6 to 11 p.m.

Ibrahima (see also International Music), R.I. Convention Center, Ballroom A, 9, 10, 11 p.m.

Los Pleneros del Coco (see also International Music), R.I. Convention Center, Ballroom A, 6 to 8:30 p.m.

Macarena Dance Party, Beneficent Congregational Church Hall, 6 to 7:40 p.m. (continuous)

Magnolia Cajun Dance Band (see also Music), First Universalist Church Hall, 7:30 to 11:30 (continuous)

Street Tap (Brian Jones), R.I. Convention Center, Ballroom D/E, 6:30, 7:30, 9:30, 10:30 p.m.

United Puerto Rican Folkloric Ballet, R.I. Convention Center, Exhibition Halls B&C, 7:30 p.m.

Interactive

Banished Fools' Kazoo Kablam Wandering Orchestra (see also Strolling), Former Woolworth Building, gathering at 7:30 and 10 p.m.

Bell Atlantic NYNEX Mobile First Night Call Center, R.I. Convention Center, Entrance Level, 6 to 11:30 p.m.

Exodus, Featuring Miss Fanny's Soul Food Kitchen, Providence Black Repertory Company, 8 to 11 p.m. (continuous)

First Night Across America via the Internet, R.I. Convention Center, Exhibition Level West Lobby, 6 to 11:30 p.m.

First Night Community Sing, Mathewson Street Church Sanctuary, 9 p.m.

Ice Skating, Brown University Meehan Ice Rink, 6 to 11 p.m.

Imagination Market Workshops: (R.I. Convention Center, Exhibition Halls B&C, 2 to 4:40 p.m.)

— Maskmaking

— Wind Streamer Workshop

— Noisemaker Workshops

— Facepainting

Meditation Vigil: "Welcome Peace," Perishable Theater, 6 to 11:40 p.m.

Open Hoot, Stone Soup Coffee House, 6 to 7:30 p.m., 10 to 11:30 p.m. Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 15 Hayes St.

Revels from Around the World, Mathewson Street Church Hall, 6:30 to 9 p.m. (sessions begin every half hour)

Society for Creative Anachronism: Live Albuquerque, R.I. Convention Center, Exhibition Halls, B&C, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

United Fly Tyers of Rhode Island, R.I. Convention Center, Room 552, 2 to 4:45 p.m.

Magic and Vaudeville

Alexander the Jester, R.I. Convention Center, Ballroom B/C, 9, 10 p.m.

Blink, Veterans Memorial Auditorium, 6, 7 p.m.

Dexterity Brothers Comic Jugglers, R.I. Convention Center, Exhibition Hall D, 2, 2:45, 3:30, 4:15 p.m.

Tracy King, The Canoe Man, R.I. Convention Center, Ballroom B/C, 4, 6 p.m.

Kubinek: Master of the Impossible, Providence Performing Arts Center, 2, 4 p.m.

Magic is Prehysterical, R.I. Convention Center, Ballroom D/E, 3:30 p.m.

Robert Salafia, R.I. Convention Center, Exhibition Hall D/E, 8:30 p.m.

Peter Sosna Magic, R.I. Convention Center, Ballroom B/C, 7, 8 p.m.

John Stetson: "The Magic Guy," Fleet Center Lobby, 8, 9 p.m.

Music

A Capella and Choral

Gospel Jubilee, R.I. Convention Center, Exhibition Hall D, 6 to 8 p.m.

Mademoiselle, R.I. Hospital Trust Lobby, 8, 9 p.m.

Narragansett Bay Chorus, R.I. Convention Center, Exhibition Halls B&C, 8:30, 9:30 p.m.

Schola Cantorum, Grace Church, 10, 11 p.m.

Street Sounds, Providence Performing Arts Center, 6, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

University Glee Club, Mathewson Street Church Sanctuary, 6 p.m.

Classical

Dan Butterworth Marionettes: "The Soldier's Tale" (see also Puppetry), RISD Auditorium, 6, 7, 8 p.m.

Gregorian Concert Choir and Orchestra, Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul, 7:15 to 8:15 p.m.

Neponset River Opera Theatre: "The Telephone" (see also Theater), Fleet Center Lobby, 6, 7 p.m.

Performathon, Mathewson Street Church Sanctuary, 7 to 9 p.m. (sessions begin every half hour)

Rhode Island Philharmonic: Arias and Overtures, Veterans Memorial Auditorium, 10, 11 p.m.

Country/Cajun

Continuous Country w/

Cindy Lou and Snakebite, R.I. Convention Center, Ballroom Level, West Lobby, 2 to 4:45 p.m.

Continuous Country w/Electric Rodeo, R.I. Convention Center, Ballroom Level, West Lobby, 6 to 11:45 p.m.

Magnolia Cajun Dance Band (see also Dance), First Universalist Church Hall, 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. (continuous)

Folk and Popular

Acme Lute Movers, Beneficent Congregational Church Sanctuary, 8, 9 p.m.

Adler and Harris, Stone Soup Coffee House, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church Hall, 15 Hayes St., 8 p.m.

Lindsay Amore, Stone Soup Coffee House, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church Hall, 15 Hayes St., 7:30 p.m. (30 minutes)

Gemini 28, R.I. Hospital Trust Tower Lobby, 10, 11 p.m.

Good Friends, Providence Public Library, 8, 9 p.m.

The Hewn out of the Mountain Musicians (see also Dance), Kennedy Plaza Bus Shelter, 6 to 11 p.m.

Loco Dare, Stone Soup Coffee House, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church Hall, 15 Hayes St., 9 p.m.

The Mighty Wurlitzer Organ with Lincoln Pratt, Providence Performing Arts Center, 3:30 (30-minute show)

Parsons Plunkers Banjo Bank, R.I. Hospital Trust Bank Lobby, 6, 7 p.m.

Pendragon, Grace Church, 8, 9 p.m.

Erica Wheeler, Beneficent Congregational Church Sanctuary, 6, 7 p.m.

International

Eric M. Armour, R.I. Convention Center, Rotunda Room, 8, 9 p.m.

Bresler's Klezmer Hotshots, State House, 9, 10, 11 p.m.

Devine's Diner: Irish Music and Dance to Go (see also Dance), Beneficent Congregational Church Hall, 8, 9 p.m.

Ibrahima (see also Dance), R.I. Convention Center, Ballroom A, 9, 10, 11 p.m.

Inca Sapi, Mathewson Street Church Hall, 10, 11 p.m.

Los Pleneros del Coco, R.I. Convention Center, Ballroom A, 6 to 8:30 p.m.

Mariachi Guadalajara, R.I. Convention Center, Exhibition Level, East Lobby, 2, 3, 4 p.m.

William Manzano y La Banda Cero, Kennedy Plaza Big Top, 10 to 11:45 p.m. (continuous)

Music in the Galleries, RISD Museum, noon to 3 p.m.

Mystic Jammers, State House, 7, 8 p.m.

Sirius Coyote, Grace Church, 6, 7 p.m.

Trio Anoranzas, R.I. Convention Center, Rotunda Room, 6, 7 p.m.

Zafem, Kennedy Plaza Big Top, 5:30 to 6:15, 6:30 to 7:15 p.m.

Jazz

Greg Abate Quartet, Citizens Bank, 6, 7 p.m.

Tish Adams and the Willie Myette Trio, Providence Public Library, 6, 7 p.m.

Either/Orchestra, First Baptist Church in America, 9, 10, 11 p.m.

First Baptist Church in America, 6:30 p.m.

Little Bit of Dixie, R.I. Convention Center, Exhibition Level, East Lobby, 2:30, 3:30, 4:30 p.m.

The Moonlighters, Providence Post Office, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:30 p.m.

North Kingstown High School Jazz Ensemble, First Baptist Church in America, 7:30 p.m.

Rhode Island Youth Jazz, R.I. Convention Center, Exhibition Halls B&C, 6:30 p.m.

The Issi Rozen Trio, Providence Public Library, 10, 11 p.m.

Lisa Thorsen Trio, Fleet Center Lobby, 10, 11 p.m.

Rock/Blues/Funk

Alternative Rock Show, Lupo's Heartbreak Hotel, 6:30 to 10 p.m.

Best of R.I.'s Up-and-Coming Artists, AS220, 6 to 9:30 p.m.

Clean and Friendly, Beneficent Congregational Church Hall, 10, 11 p.m.

Funk and R&B Extravaganza, The Call, 6 to 9:30 p.m.

Motown Sounds with Manny Barros and Steve Palumbo, R.I. Black Heritage Society, 6:30, 7:30 p.m.

Squonk Opera (see also Theater), Trinity Repertory Company's Downstairs Theater, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30 p.m.

Sweet P. Blues, Kennedy Plaza Big Top, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

George Thomas Blues Band, Beneficent Congregational Church Sanctuary, 10, 11 p.m.

Outdoor

Banished Fools' Kazoo Kablam Wandering Orchestra (see also Interactive), Gathering at the Former Woolworth Building, at 7:30 and 10 p.m.

Ice Sculpture: Dancers Under the Burning Sun, Westin Hotel Lawn

Danny Kean's Raggin' Piano Boogie, Roving outside, 5 to midnight

Night Visions, Roving outside, 5 to 11:45 p.m.

Ring of Fire, Waterplace Park, at the Cove, 7 p.m. to midnight

White Figures, Freeman Park, 6:45, 9:15 p.m. (30-minute shows)

Puppetry

Arm-of-the-Sea Puppet Theatre: "Seed Story" (see also Theater), RISD Auditorium, 9:30, 10:30 p.m.

Dan Butterworth Marionettes: "The Soldier's Tale" (see also Classical Music), RISD Auditorium, 6, 7, 8 p.m.

Catskill Puppet Theater: "The Willow Girl," R.I. Convention Center, Ballroom B/C, 2, 3 p.m.

Chasing Away the Evil Spirits, The Procession, 5 to 5:30 p.m.

Storytelling and the Spoken Word

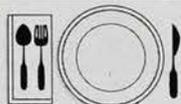
First Things First, Trinity Repertory Company's Downstairs Theatre, 10, 11 p.m.

Irish Tinkers' Tales and Tunes, R.I. Convention Center, Rotunda Room, 4 p.m.

Li Min Mo, R.I. Convention Center, Rotunda Room, 2, 3 p.m.

Living Literature, R.I. Convention Center, Rotunda Room, 10, 11 p.m.

(Continued on Page 13)



DINING GUIDE

Open New Year's Eve and New Year's Day

Emerald Inn

Restaurant

Szechuan, Mandarin & Hunan Cuisine
Exotic Drinks

20 Commerce Way, Seekonk, MA 02771

(508) 336-8116 ~ (508) 336-8351

湘苑

2 minutes from Showcase Cinemas - close to Lechmere

MADEIRA LIQUORS, INC.

Open 6 Days a week 10 am to 10 pm



All Types of Liquors
Kosher wines

Imported from Israel
Sabra Chocolate ~ Orange Liqueur

1080 Hope Street, Providence, RI 02903

272-5911

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT



'For Sentimental Reasons' Rings in New Year

For Sentimental Reasons, a nostalgic cabaret, will cap a successful year by performing on New Year's Eve at The Great House in Warwick.

Dinner seatings begin at 8 p.m. with a special New Year's show following at 10 p.m. A grand buffet is planned, and For Sentimental Reasons will join the audience in a champagne toast at midnight. Limited seating is available.

The show's setting is a "live" radio show being broadcast over the Armed Services Radio, circa 1944. "The White Cliffs of Dover," "Stuff Like That There" and other popular songs of the war era join Glenn Miller's hit songs, "Moonlight Serenade" and "Chattanooga Choo Choo," Irving Berlin's "Stage Door Canteen," and the Andrews Sisters' "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy."

For Sentimental Reasons stars Daniel F. Kirby and Edward Mastriano of Providence, Jenna Wims Hashway of Pawtucket, Stacey Geer of Attleboro, Lisa Ricci of Quincy, Mass, and Bob DeVivo of Belmont, Mass. This nostalgic show has been a regu-

lar feature in the Rhode Island area for the past two years.

While on tour, For Sentimental Reasons has brought the best music of the 1940s to The Homestead Resort in Hot Springs, Va., as well as to Orlando and Palm Beach, Fla.

Along with their regular appearances at Luigi's and The Great House, the group has appeared locally at Bumblebee's at the Boulevard, The Old Oyster House and Zenga's.

They will be featured for the second year as part of Providence's First Night celebration and have played special events such as the Quonset "Wings of History" Air Show, WLKW's Senior Expo, and the Bristol Fourth of July Parade.

Audience members may dance and sing along with some of their favorite stars of the 1940s. Tickets for this special New Year's performance are \$57 and include grand buffet, champagne toast, show, tax and tip.

Reservations may be made by calling 739-8600. The Great House is located at 2245 Post Road in Warwick.



THE SEVEN DWARFS welcome Snow White into their home with a celebration of song and dance in the all-new spectacular, "Walt Disney's World On Ice — Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs."

Fairy Tale Classic Comes to Life on Ice

The classic fairy tale of romance and adventure loved by generations the world over comes to life when "Walt Disney's World On Ice — Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" returns to the Providence Civic Center from Jan. 3 to 5 for 6 performances.

The production presents this familiar story of Snow White, the handsome prince, the evil queen and her magic mirror, and, of course, Doc, Sneezzy, Bashful Grumpy, Sleepy, Dopey and Happy in a spectacle on ice.

The accomplished cast of 45 internationally acclaimed figure skaters includes two-time Canadian national champion Karen Preston as Snow White, and Russian figure skating masters Serguei Tartykov as the

handsome prince, and pair team Serguei Boroda and Tatiana Tropina.

Audiences will delight to melodies such as "Heigh Ho!," "Whistle While You Work" and "Somebody My Prince Will Come."

Joining in this spectacular presentation as a special added attraction are other Disney stars — Mickey & Minnie Mouse, Donald Duck and Goofy, along

with friends from "The Jungle Book," "The Little Mermaid," "Beauty and the Beast," "The Lion King" and "Aladdin."

Tickets are \$10.50, \$12.50, \$15.50 with special rinksides seats available. To purchase tickets, stop by the Providence Civic Center's Box Office (no service charge) and all TicketMaster outlets, including Filene's. To charge by phone call 331-2211 or (617/508) 931-2000.

Just How Lazy Do You Want to Be?

Anyone can earn the title of "The Laziest Person Alive," unless of course they're too lazy to enter the Turkey Now! Laziest Person Alive Contest!

Shady Brook Farms is presenting a contest that rewards consumers for finding smart ways of avoiding unnecessary work and using Turkey Now!, Shady Brook Farms' new line of fat-free, fully cooked turkey products.

Turkey Now! can be used in delicious, simple dishes like salads and pastas that will taste as if you spent hours in the kitchen. Add Turkey Now! meatballs to your pasta and get smiles from the kids.

For those who are interested, Shady Brook Farms offers the *Lazy Cookbook*, available inside specially marked packages of Turkey Now! The cookbook contains six recipe suggestions using Turkey Now!, and they're so easy a person could make

them lying down.

Consumers can enter the Laziest Person Alive Contest by calling 888-WORK-NOT to reveal creative ways they've made life easier. (Example: Teaching your parrot to remind you to grab your keys on the way out.) Instead of filling out forms to enter contests (the hard way!), just pick up the phone and win (the lazy way!).

The contest runs through Dec. 31. The first prize winner will win a maid for one year; second prize winner will relax in a recliner chair; 25 third-prize winners will waste the day away in their new hammocks; and the fourth-prize winner will receive a clip-on tie to avoid any unnecessary work.

Shady Brook Farms uses the Assur-Rinse™ food safety wash which effectively eliminates potentially harmful bacteria, thus assuring enhanced product safety and quality.

First Night

(Continued from Page 12)

Poetry Slam, Mathewson Street Church Sanctuary, 11 p.m.

Poets of Providence, Mathewson Street Church Sanctuary, 10 p.m.

Sports Exhibition

Maximum Velocity Professional Freestyle Bicycle and In-Line Stunt Team, R.I. Convention Center, Exhibition Hall A, 2, 4, 7:30, 9:30 p.m. (20-minute shows)

Providence Turners, R.I. Convention Center, Exhibition Hall A, 3, 6:30 p.m. (20-minute shows)

The R.I. Sting Rays, RI Convention Center, Exhibition Hall A, 3, 6:30 p.m. (20-minute shows).

Warwick Figure Skaters Precision Teams, Brown University Meehan Ice Rink, 6:30, 8:30 p.m.

Theater

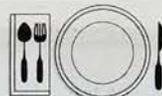
Arm-of-the-Sea Puppet Theatre: "Seed Story" (see also Puppetry), RISD Auditorium, 9:30, 10:30 p.m.

Neponset River Opera Theatre: "The Telephone" (see also Classical Music), Fleet Center Lobby, 6, 7 p.m.

Newgate Theater: "Last Night Cabaret," URI Providence Center/Shepard Building, 8, 9 p.m.

"The Secret of the Gifts," St. Francis Chapel, 8, 9 p.m.

Squonk Opera (see also Rock/Blues/Funk Music), Trinity Repertory Company's Downstairs Theatre, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30 p.m.



DINING GUIDE

Rhode Island Dining Rhode Island Dining Rhode Island Dining

Rhode Island Dining Corporate Rates
Fundraisers "The Ocean State and Nearby Massachusetts' Foremost Dining Club"

BUY ONE DINNER GET ONE DINNER FREE Reg. \$30 NOW \$17
655 Main Street, Suite 204, East Greenwich, RI 02818
Tel. (401) 886-7000 • Fax (401) 886-7017
Extended Dec. Hours: Mon.-Sat. 8-6, Sun. 10-6
WALK-IN • FAX OR PHONE ORDERS

Rhode Island Dining Rhode Island Dining Rhode Island Dining

Advertise Your Dining Specials on the Dining Guide Pages.

The **PURPLE CAT RESTAURANT**
IN CHEPACHET SINCE 1929
Fine Dining in a Relaxed Country Atmosphere

YOUR HOSTS, THE LAVOIE'S
Chepachet Village, R.I. (401) 568-7161
AT THE JUNCTION OF RTES. 44, 100, 102

Coffee Exchange
Roasting Coffee Daily

whole bean coffees • pastries
espresso • cappuccino
Mail Order / Gift Boxes
American Roast • Full City Roast
Vienna Roast • Espresso Roast
French Roast
Swiss Water Process Decals
Flavored Coffee

207 Wickenden Street
Providence, RI 02903
401-273-1198

Organic Coffees
Celebes
Kalossi
Columbian
Guatemalan
Kenya AA
Mexican
Peruvian
Mocha
Muttari
Ethiopian
Sumatra
Tanzanian
Costa Rican
Mocha Java
Hazelnut
Cinnamon
Vanilla
Orange
Blends

Barnsider's
Mile & a Quarter

Gift Certificates Available

Make Your New Year's Eve Reservations Early

375 South Main Street, Providence • (401) 351-7300

OBITUARIES

MYRON COHEN

CRANSTON — Myron Cohen, 58, of the University Fields Group Home, Kingston, died Dec. 16, at the Eleanor Slater Hospital in Cranston.

Born in Providence, he was a son of Anne (Ackerman) Cohen of Providence and the late Raymond Cohen.

Besides his mother, he leaves two brothers, Elliot Cohen of North Kingstown and Robert Cohen of Scottsdale, Ariz. He was a brother of the late Iris Cohen.

A graveside funeral service was held Dec. 20 at Lincoln Park Cemetery, Post Road, Warwick. The service was coordinated at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

BETTY GOLDSTEIN

WEST HARTFORD — Betty Goldstein, 87, of Farmington Avenue, West Hartford, Conn., formerly of Providence, an office worker at Aetna Insurance Co. in Hartford for many years, died Dec. 21 in the Brookview Health Center, West Hartford. She was the widow of Morris Goldstein.

Born in New York City, a daughter of the late Philip and Fannie Blitzer, she lived in Providence for many years before moving to West Hartford in the 1970s.

She leaves a son, Howard Goldstein of Florence, Oregon, and six grandchildren. She was the mother of the late Miriam Silverman.

A graveside service was held Dec. 23 in Lincoln Park Cem-

etry, Warwick. Burial followed. Service was coordinated by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

SAMUEL L. LIPMAN

NEW BEDFORD — Samuel L. Lipman, 89, of Burns Street, died at home on Dec. 13. He was the widower of Annette (Bagianowsky) and son of the late Isaac and Rose (Lefkowitz) Lipman.

Born in New York City, he came to New Bedford as a boy and lived in the area most of his life. He was a graduate of New Bedford High School and Northeastern Law School, class of 1929.

He was admitted to the Massachusetts Bar in 1932 and was a member of the New Bedford Bar Association. He was licensed to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court.

He was a member of Tifereth Israel Congregation, Congregation Ahavath Achim, New Bedford Jewish Convalescent Home, Jewish Federation of Greater New Bedford, and a board member of First Citizens Federal Credit Union.

He and his wife were the recipients of the Israel Bond Organization's Shalom Award for their work toward economic development in Israel.

Survivors include two sons, Martin A. Lipman of Dartmouth and Kenneth D. Lipman of Fairhaven; two daughters, Judith L. Sterns and Harriet S. Gottesman, both of Dartmouth; four sisters, Gertrude Nevins, Kate Hurwitz and Florence

Katz, all of New Bedford, and Ida Lipman of Jamaica Plain; and seven grandchildren.

He was also the brother of the late Eva Meyer.

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

GEORGE ORENBURG

WARWICK — George Orenberg, 75, of 257 Lawnacre Drive, a sales representative for toy manufacturing companies for many years, died Dec. 17 at Kent County Memorial Hospital in Warwick. He was the husband of Gertrude (Levine) Orenberg.

Born in Boston, a son of the late Rubin and Susan (Goldstein) Orenberg, he lived in Clark, N.J., before moving to Cranston 36 years ago.

He was an Army veteran of World War II. He was a graduate of Columbia University. He was a member of Temple Beth-El in Providence.

Besides his wife, he leaves two daughters, Sandra Greenspan of Housatonic, Mass., and Amy Orenberg of Cranston; two sons, Robert Orenberg of Pepperell, Mass., and Kenneth Orenberg of Warren; a sister, Naomi Cherny, and a brother, Arthur Orenberg, both of Lexington, Mass.; and three grandchildren. He was a brother of the late Sumner Orenberg.

The funeral service was held Dec. 19 at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Sharon Memorial Park, Sharon, Mass.

EVELYN SEDEROFF-KOVITCH

Evelyn Sederoff-Kovitch, 85, of Bourret, Montreal, died Dec. 20 at the Jewish General Hospital in Montreal. She was the widow of Samuel Sederoff. She also was the widow of Joseph Kovitch.

Born in Montreal, a daughter of the late Samuel and Etta Aber, she had lived in Providence from 1936 to 1945.

She had been a member of Temple Beth Israel, now Temple Torat Yisrael, in Cranston.

She leaves a daughter, Elaine Cohen of Montreal; a son, Louis Kovitch of Oshawa, Ontario; six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

A graveside service was held Dec. 22 in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Post Road, Warwick. Services were coordinated by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

HARRY SLAFSKY

PROVIDENCE — Harry Slafsky, 96, a longtime resident of Gloucester, Mass., died Dec. 17 at Hallworth House, Providence, where he had resided for the past four years. He was the husband of the late Ida (Pett) Slafsky.

Born in Gloucester, Mass., the son of the late Isaac and Sarah Slafsky, he attended the Gloucester public schools and owned and operated a gift and jewelry store with his wife in downtown Gloucester for many years. A founding member of Temple Ahavath Achim in Gloucester, he was the congregation's oldest living member. For most of his life he was an active saltwater and freshwater fisherman who provided friends and neighbors with his fried fish and fish salad.

He leaves a son, S. Frederick Slafsky, M.D., of Providence, two grandsons, John of New York and Ted of Washington, D.C. He was a brother of the late Leah Gordon and Jenny Anderson of Gloucester and the late Louis Slafsky of Brookline.

Funeral services were held at Temple Ahavath Achim, 86 Middle St., Gloucester on Dec. 20 with burial at Mount Jacob Cemetery, West Gloucester.

Funeral arrangements were handled by the Stanetsky-Hymanson Memorial Chapels, Salem, Mass.

(Continued on Page 15)

Remembering Uncle Murray J. Perlman

It is not a year since I lost my Uncle Murray, but December 25, 1996 being his and my Aunt Annette's 50th wedding anniversary, I thought this an appropriate time to remember him.

Uncle Murray, as I proudly and affectionately called him, was part of my life for much too short a time. While growing up I hardly had the opportunity to get to know him. As I grew older and more independent, I made it my business to become closer to him. Although as a child I had rare visits with him, I suspected all along that he was the loving, genuine man that I later realized him to be.

On my wedding day in New York City in August 1988, my Uncle Murray and Aunt Annette came all the way from Providence, RI, to share in my simcha. I was thrilled to have him there and honored that he had made the long journey in. When my first child was born in 1990, my uncle and aunt made a special trip to New York to see my new son. Again, at my son's first birthday party, my aunt and uncle were there to partake of this joyous occasion. Whenever I had happiness, my Uncle Murray tried to be there. I am grateful for his warm bond that we shared throughout the last several years of his life, because we compensated for the distance between us during my formative years.

My Uncle Murray was one of the world's best and most devoted fathers. In 1966, he up and absented himself from his livelihood in order to settle his young daughter, son-in-law and infant grandson in Israel. I always admired so much his ardent belief in his two daughters — it was at all times clear that they were his treasures. He continually put them before himself.

My Uncle Murray was an exemplary grandfather. The way his eyes would sparkle whenever he spoke of his grandchildren was proof of his adoration for them. As with his own daughters, their worries became his worries, their successes his nachas, and their joys his delight.

The indulgent man that was Uncle Murray likewise shared himself with others who needed him. Upon his retirement several years ago he became a busy conveyor of food to shut-ins on the Meal on Wheels Program. Remembering my uncle as a recreative man who enjoyed life, I can only surmise the good cheer as well as the sustenance that he brought to these people.

Today I am married to a wonderful man who embodies many of the midos (good qualities) that my Uncle Murray possessed. I believe that I chose my husband based on the qualities that my uncle showed me were important in a husband and a father.

My Uncle Murray was a prince of a man. I know that even though we will not meet again in person, the crown of his good name and his endearing individuality will remain with me for the rest of my days.

With Love,
Barbara L. Morris
Yonkers, NY

MAX SUGARMAN MEMORIAL CHAPEL

Over 100 years of professional, dignified and caring service to the Jewish community of Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts



Please call for your 5757 New Year calendar.
Call for our no-money-down, pre-need plans.



Certified by the
R.I. Board of Rabbis



Member of the Jewish
Funeral Directors of America

458 Hope Street, Providence
(Corner of Doyle Avenue)

331-8094
1-800-447-1267



Lewis J. Bosler

For over 40 years, the owner of Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel... Mitchell... has served Rhode Island Jewish families over 8,000 times... as a professional Jewish funeral director... as did his father and grandfather since the 1870s... with honesty and integrity.

One of the reasons why the majority of Rhode Island Jewish families call

MOUNT SINAI MEMORIAL CHAPEL

331-3337

825 Hope at Fourth Streets

Pre-need counseling with tax-free
payment planning available.

Please call for your
5757 New Year calendar.

From out of state call:
1-800-331-3337



Member of Jewish Funeral Directors of America
Certified by R.I. Board of Rabbis

Reunions Spur Joy, Anguish for Adoptees, Birth Parents

by Leslie Katz
Jewish Bulletin of
Northern California

SAN FRANCISCO (JTA) — In struggling to come to terms with being adopted, Deb Schwarz found herself turning to *The Painted Bird* by the late author and Holocaust survivor Jerzy Kosinski.

The story tells of a bird, lost during the Holocaust, who is found by a sadistic peasant. The peasant paints the bird's feathers. When the bird returns to its flock, the flock does not recognize its member and pecks at it until it falls from the sky.

The story struck a profound chord with Schwarz. While her birth father, George, has embraced her warmly since she first contacted him earlier this year, his wife has rejected her and virtually forbids her husband from maintaining contact with his newfound birth daughter.

"I felt almost like [Kosinski] was giving me a message from the grave," said Schwarz, a 36-year-old market researcher in San Francisco. "I was the painted bird being rejected from the flock."

But Schwarz's connection to the novel was to grow even stronger.

Through her search for her birth parents, Schwarz learned that Kosinski, the man whose story had inspired her, was in fact her stepgrandfather.

Raised Lutheran, "I always felt like I had some kind of Jewish ties," she said. "I kidded all my friends about it, because a lot of my friends are Jewish. I said, 'I just know I'm going to find something in my birth family.'"

Like most adoptees and birth parents who choose to seek their lost relatives, Schwarz had no idea what she would find when she embarked on her journey two years ago.

Those searching have been aided by the International Soundex Reunion Registry, a free non-profit international registry open to adoptees, birth parents, birth siblings and anyone else seeking to be reunited with family members.

Since it was established in 1975, the registry has helped reunite thousands of families, including more than 600 in 1995.

"I had fears about [my birth mother] not accepting me with all my flaws," said Nancy Ibsen,

a 41-year-old Seattle resident who put her name on the registry several years ago. "I just had this idea that I would have to measure up to something."

Instead, Ibsen found that meeting her birth mother, Berkeley songwriter-storyteller Nancy Schimmel, has given her life new context. "I could see another person who was like me, so it was easier to accept myself," Ibsen said. "We have similar values. We are both artistic."

In meeting Schimmel, Ibsen discovered another common link. Ibsen, who was raised in a Reform Jewish home in San Jose, Calif., found out that her birth mother also is Jewish.

In the United States, only Kansas and Alaska have open adoption record policies.

"I was happy that there was something in common between my birth family and my adopted family," Ibsen said.

Schimmel — who gave birth at age 20 while a college student in a dead-end relationship — has found equal comfort in her contact with Ibsen.

"I wanted to find my daughter both because I was curious and I wanted to apologize," said Schimmel, 61. "I had read a book about adoption that said adoptees often feel ungrounded because they don't have the first part of their story."

Deb Schwarz would agree. Establishing contact with her birth father, a published writer who works in market research as Schwarz does herself, "brought out the creative side of me — the writing, the theater," she said. "I was raised by a very conservative, stoic family. I kind of did those [creative] things underground."

In addition, Schwarz's search for birth relatives has opened her eyes to important medical information. Not only does her birth mother have breast cancer, so did her birth mother's mother. And her birth father's only sister died of breast cancer at age 36.

"Needless to say, I need to know that," said Schwarz, who recently had her first

mammogram.

In the United States, only Kansas and Alaska have open adoption record policies that allow adoptees to have access to birth certificates and court records upon reaching adulthood.

Tennessee passed a law to unseal adoption records but the legislation is now tied up in federal court. In Ohio and Michigan, adoptees can get access records but only if they were born before a certain year.

In the remaining states, adoptees can seek their birth parents only through mutually consensual registries such as the International Soundex Reunion Registry. A growing and vocal adoption reform movement is seeking to turn that around.

"It seems unforgivable to deny this category of human beings the right to their history," said Gail Steinberg, co-director and co-founder of Pact-An Adoption Alliance, a San Francisco agency that specializes in finding homes for chil-

dren. "This is the only group of people who don't have a right to know their genetic base."

Opponents of open adoption records say birth parents were guaranteed confidentiality when they gave their babies up and revealing who the parents are violates their right to privacy.

Some opponents argue that opening adoption records will encourage women to abort, rather than give birth and risk being sought later. Others say open adoption records can rip families apart.

Steinberg, who raised four adopted multiracial children in a Jewish home, understands the trepidation many adoptive parents feel about their children contacting their birth parents.

"Their basic fear is that [the adoptee's] connection with the birth family will somehow lessen the connection with the adoptive family," she said.

In recent years, as two of her sons set out to identify their birth

parents, Steinberg felt some of that fear herself.

"It's challenging," she said. "But there was no question that our feelings were secondary to wanting to be supportive."

As it turned out, the sons' experiences highlighted both the risks and rewards of re-establishing adoptee-birth parent contact.

One son's birth parents were unwilling to see him, a situation that proved "excruciatingly difficult" for the young man, Steinberg said. The other son's birth parents embraced him and have become part of his life.

In fact, when Seth Steinberg got married recently, three sets of parents stood by his side as he walked down the aisle — his adoptive parents, his birth mother and her partner, and his birth father and his partner.

The birth parents' presence "was an extremely non-threatening, wonderful, whole feeling," Gail Steinberg said. "We were thrilled to have them there."

Teen-agers Dread Serving in Military

by Michele Chabin
JERUSALEM (JTA) —

Abigail Hoffman, a student at Jerusalem's High School of the Arts, is feeling a lot of pressure these days.

By the end of the school year, Hoffman, a high school senior with dreams of becoming a professional dancer, will be drafted into the Israel Defense Force.

Hoffman admits that she is dreading military life.

"I'm a dancer, and I dance most of the week," she said. "Dancing once a week, when I have a break from the army, won't be enough."

Even beyond her professional goals, Hoffman does not want to spend the next two years in khaki — which is one year less than her male counterparts — for an additional reason.

"I grew up around people who believe in doing what they want to do. This generation isn't the generation of the Yom Kippur War," she said. "We appreciate our quality of life. I want freedom. I just want to have fun."

Torn between her personal desires and her legal responsibilities as an Israeli citizen, she said, "I'm not motivated to serve. There was a time when I definitely didn't want to go, but now I think maybe I will. I'm not sure what to do."

There is only one thing in this matter that Hoffman is sure of: "If everyone felt the way I do, it

would be very dangerous for the country."

Indeed, since the summer, when the Israeli media first publicized widespread motivation problems among teen-age draftees and reserve soldiers, the IDF has warned of dire consequences.

"This erosion in national motivation is dangerous," Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordchai told reporters earlier this fall.

"We not only reduce the national ability to defend ourselves, but we are sending a message of weakness to our neighbors."

According to opinion polls, the IDF has ample reason to worry.

Although the percentage of Israelis who actually serve — 82 percent — has not dropped significantly during the past five decades, the number of young men wishing to serve in combat units — the heart and soul of the IDF — has dropped significantly.

In interviews with teen-agers, it becomes clear just how many hope for an exemption on medical or other grounds.

"I'm hoping I won't have to go, first on moral grounds and also for practical reasons," said an Orthodox 18-year-old male who declined to give his name.

"I'll do anything I can, except for getting a psycho exemption,

because no one will give you a job if they think you're psycho."

Said 17-year-old Orly Nurany: "I'm not going into the army because I'm a pacifist."

"It's not easy being a pacifist in this country, and all my friends go into the army, but I just can't do it. I'm going to tell the draft board the truth, but if they still insist, I'll get off on the ground that I have mental problems."

In the most comprehensive survey on motivation to date, the Carmel Institute of Social Research reported recently that only 52 percent of Jewish high school students would opt for combat assignments, compared with 63 percent in 1988.

The study, which reflects data from 1994, found that religious students who are not fervently Orthodox tend to be more motivated than their secular peers.

While 67 percent of religious students would serve in combat units, only 48 percent of the secular respondents said they wanted to go into combat, compared with 60 percent in 1988.

Many attribute this trend to the fact that Israelis, who no longer fear annihilation from their Arab neighbors, have embraced many Western values.

"What has happened is that many Israelis are drowning in a sea of indulgence," Education Minister Zevulun Hammer recently wrote in a *Jerusalem Post* op-ed piece. "And the chief victim has been a widespread abandonment of our national and community responsibilities."

Army spokesman Oded Ben-Ami agreed. "The change can be seen in the openness of Israeli society."

"During the '50s, '60s and '70s, people felt the very existence of the state was in jeopardy."

"Since the mid-1970s, there has been no such fear, and individuals have been trying to improve their own personal situation," he said. "The state and security have taken second place on their priority list."

NEW YEAR'S EVE

DECORATIONS, INVITATIONS, HATS,
NOISEMAKERS, ETC.

ALL AT DISCOUNT PRICES

NEW YEAR'S PARTY KITS

FOR 10, 25, 50 AND 100 PEOPLE

25% DISCOUNT

NEW YEAR'S PRINTED

PAPER TABLEWARE

25% DISCOUNT

1/2 PRICE ON ALL CHRISTMAS SUPPLIES

(NOT IN CONJUNCTION WITH ANY OTHER DISCOUNT)

The "Only" Party Warehouse

310 EAST AVENUE, PAWTUCKET • 726-2491 • JEANNE STEIN

HOURS: MON.-THURS. 9:30 AM-6 PM,
FRI. 9:30 AM-7 PM, SAT. 9:30 AM-5 PM, SUN. 11 AM-4 PM

NEIL GREENFELD GENERAL CONTRACTOR

KITCHEN REMODELING

INTERIOR PAINTING/
WALLPAPERING/TILE

TAKING CARE OF ALL
YOUR BUILDING NEEDS

783-0519

Lic. #4200

