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Rhode Island Jewish HERALD

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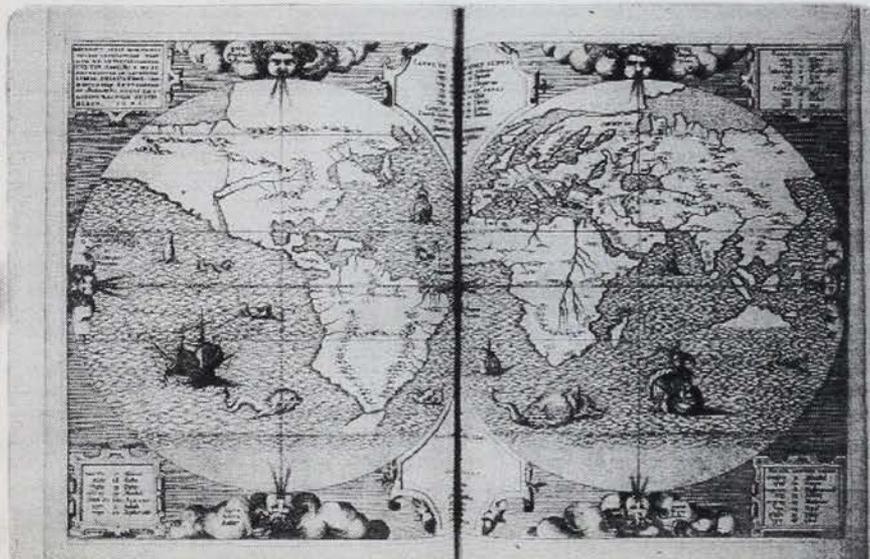
**Kids'
Summer Fun**
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Health & Fitness
PAGES 12 & 13

VOLUME LXVII, NUMBER 32

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Brown Conference Explores History of Jews in Americas



THIS WORLD MAP, entitled "Sacrae geographiae tabulam," was printed in volume eight of the Polyglot bible edited by the learned Spanish humanist Benito Arias Montano (Antwerp: Plantin Press, 1572). The numbered key on the map shows how the sons and grandsons of Noah were dispersed about the earth, with Ophir, Iobab, and Sepher located in North and South America.

Courtesy of the John Carter Brown Library at Brown University

Local Student Reports on Shavuot Violence

The following is an eyewitness account by David Suls of the violence that erupted at the Western Wall during Shavuot. According to the Jerusalem Post, a crowd of ultra-Orthodox Haredim attacked a group of non-Orthodox worshippers attempting to hold a Shavuot service near the Western Wall. The attackers spit on the worshippers and threw coffee grounds and garbage on them as they tried to pray.

Numerous Jewish organizations in the United States condemned the violence, including the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island.

I went to the Kotel at 4:30 on the morning of Shavuot. The Kotel and its plaza were packed. There was no room to even stand around. As I got closer to the Wall itself, there were more Haredim present. The Kotel and its plaza were filled with at least 50 percent Haredim.

At 6:30 I was standing in the very back of the plaza when I started to see some Hassidim run towards the outer limits of the plaza. They ran quickly and many at a time. They all organized around a group of about 50 people who were having a service. This group of people included women wearing tallit and others who did not look very religious. The group of Haredim numbered about a 100 now. Some of them formed a circle around the service and danced and sang around them loud

enough to disrupt them. Others stood close and yelled at the less religious Jews.

After about 10 minutes, fights broke out. I saw a member of the service begin to push away a Hassid. They started a fistfight and others broke out. Less than two minutes later a sect of the army came and pushed away the Hassids. This angered them more and some pushed around members of the army. The army made the other Jews leave the Kotel for the remainder of their service. When the Haredim tried to follow them, the army blockaded them. The army did not let any Haredim out of the Kotel whether they were involved or not. The Haredim were being harassed at the Kotel. My friend and I walked through the soldiers easily. We looked back and saw an ultra-Orthodox father and son being pushed back by the guards and being ordered to leave by another route.

I came to the Kotel two hours before this incident. The sun had barely risen yet I saw more Jews in one place than I have ever seen before. The Kotel was 10 times fuller than it is on any Shabbat. I was in awe by the beautiful sight. I looked around and saw Sephardic Jews, Ashkenazic Jews, Haredim and new immigrants all standing at the wall, all blurry-eyed from staying up all night studying. The Jews of Israel were side by

side and I was there, too, an American Jew. I felt like I belonged there.

Then I see this break in the people. Jews fighting Jews. On Shavuot, the day that God gave the Torah to all the Jews, there was a blatant example of Sinat Hinam, hatred amongst ourselves. I was deeply saddened and it hurt me, as a Jew, to see this. It was hard for me to keep my head up. There were no good guys or bad guys. The Haredim disrupted their service and did it with a vengeance. Yet, the other Jews insistently argued back at them, knowing that they were starting fights. Neither people like each other. The Jews have strived for generations to be a strong people and when we get a blessing of our state we split our new strength. The Jewish people cannot be a weak people for history has shown us that we will be oppressed. If the Jewish people continue to split, we will not survive.

The next day the incident was the front headline of the *Jerusalem Post*. The day after, there was no mention of it. Israelis just shrugged it off. A couple days later we heard that Jewish movements in America did not approve of the reaction in Israel.

David Suls is a high school student studying in Israel this summer. He is the son of Samuel and Susan Suls of Pawtucket.

by Emily Torgan
Jewish Community Reporter
In 1492, explorer Christopher Columbus made an historic voyage across the Atlantic ocean to the Americas.

In 1997, between June 15 and June 18, an international group of about 40 scholars came to Providence to attend "The Jews and the Expansion of Europe to the West: 1450 to the Revolutions for Independence in the Americas," a conference about Colonial Jewry organized by the John Carter Brown Library, an independently funded and administered organization at Brown University.

"The library specializes in the Western Hemisphere as a whole," explained Norman Fiering, director of the John Carter Brown Library, on June 18. "European expansion and its ramifications can be looked at in a lot of different ways. This time, we're talking about the Jews."

Over the three-day period, academics worked within 12 sessions created to organize vast amounts of material.

At these sessions, entitled European Backgrounds; Scriptural Views of the World; Colonial Latin America; Inquisitions; The Jews and Dutch America; New World Colonies & Atlantic Trade; The Jews in British America; The Revolutionary Era in South America and the Caribbean and North America, participants presented some 21 papers.

The varied papers explored topics as diverse as Iberian Jewish cartographers before 1492, the participation of crypto-Jews in the conquest and colonization of New Spain, the Jews and New Christians in the Atlantic slave trade, and much more.

"We wanted to gather people who do not ordinarily talk to each other but who have a common interest in the Jewish experience," said Fiering.

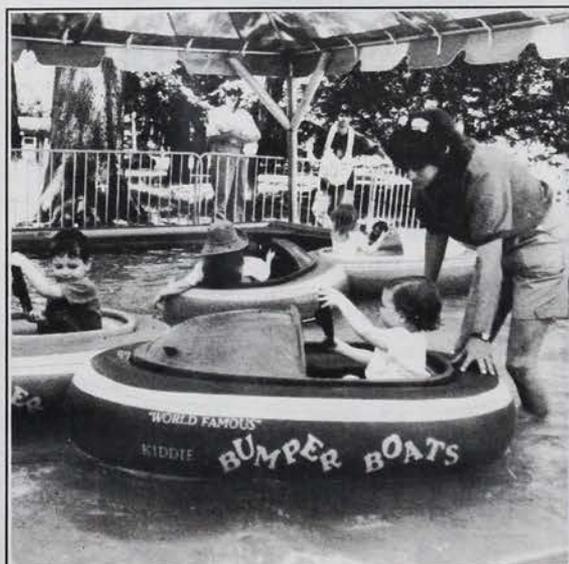
Fiering, who has worked to organize the conference for years, recognized a need for the event because he saw a great deal of the Western Hemisphere's historical materials sliding into chasms between scholarly perspectives and areas of specialization.

"We support a lot of research," Fiering said. "But frequently, scholars divide the hemisphere into North America or South America, or into British America and Latin America. That creates gaps. Scholars specializing in Peru may be unaware of the Dutch or French Americas."

According to Fiering, whose organization has worked with the Touro National Heritage Trust of Newport to sponsor research on the history of the Jews in the New World since 1989, Jewish history was particularly subject to lapses.

"Some of the Touro fellows were working on Latin America, while others were studying North America," Fiering said.

(Continued on Page 19)



School's Out, Surf's Up!

Tiny tots ride the Bumper Boats at Carousel Village in Roger Williams Park. See pages 10 and 11 to learn about fun summer activities for kids.

Herald photo by Sara Wise

HAPPENINGS

BCC Summer Course Registration Still Open

You can still start college this summer! Bristol Community College has two new sessions of summer courses to begin in July. "We offer convenient class schedules that let you fit college into your summer plans," said Dr. Ruth Sherman, dean of continuing education and community services. "If you want to fit in a course or two this summer, you still have time to do so, Sherman added.

There are two different options still available for this summer. The five-week option II begins July 14 and lasts until Aug. 14. This option offers Monday through Thursday courses in the morning and at 4 p.m.

The second option is the seven-week option II, which runs from July 14 until Aug. 26. This option offers day and evening classes twice a week. "Many students who attend other colleges find it useful to take courses here and then transfer them to their college. It can save a lot of money in tuition," said Sherman.

Registration is accepted by mail, fax, or in person at the Fall River campus. Registration is open Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Late registration begins one week prior to the beginning of the course, with a late fee of \$20.

Travel to the Berkshires

The South County Center for the Arts will be conducting a bus trip to the Berkshires on Aug. 10. The trip will include a visit to the new Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, the artist's home. More than 600 works are housed there. Rockwell's 60-year painting legacy features many of the residents of Stockbridge as subjects.

The trip will then attend a matinee performance inside the Koussevitsky music shed at Tanglewood. Starring in this concert with the Boston Sym-

phony Orchestra, will be world famous cellist Yo-Yo Ma. Music by Ravel, Haydn and Rouse will be played.

On the way back, travellers will dine at the Publick House, the famed 225-year-old inn in Sturbridge.

Due to advance ticket requirements, trip registrations must be received by July 3.

The trip also includes continental breakfast and lunch. Departure from the Arts Center is at 7:30 a.m., return time is 10:30 p.m. Call 782-1018 for information.

Calendar of Events For June 26-July 5

- 26 **World Scholar Athlete Games** at University of Rhode Island, Kingston and Newport, through July 1. Call (800) 843-9724 or detailed schedule.
- 28 **Perspectives Young Adult Group** meets at the Gallery Cafe on Hope Street for music with Stone Soup band. Call 863-9357.
The Bel Canto Opera presents Mozart's "Cosi Fan Tutte" at 8 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Auditorium, Providence. For tickets and information, call 942-6440.
Zoobilee '97 — Feast with the Beasts, 7 p.m. at Roger Williams Park. Annual fund-raiser for R.I. Zoological Society. Features area restaurants, caterers, entertainment and dancing. Call 941-3910.
- 29 **Jewish Federation of New Bedford** trip to Yiddish Book Center in Amherst, Mass. Leaves Ahavath Achim Synagogue at 10 a.m. Call (508) 997-7471 for reservations.
Create a Mizrah Papercut with Perspectives Young Adult Group. Call 724-7196 to reserve materials.
- 30 **Children's Day** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Astors' Beechwood, Newport. A day focusing on children's literature brought to life by the Beechwood Theatre Co. A Victorian theme day with hands-on activities. Call 846-3772.
R.I. Special Olympics Golf Tournament 12:30 p.m. at Potowomut Country Club, East Greenwich. Call 823-7411.
Contemporary Italian Cuisine with Clio at the Eliot Hotel at Rhode Island School of Design Culinary Arts Studio Kitchen, 7-10 p.m. Call 454-6200.
Anne Margaret Norcross exhibits her oil paintings of sea and land, June 30 to Aug. 1 at Cranston Public Library. Free and open to public. Call 943-9080.
July 1 Rose Island Lighthouse tours, July 1 to 31, Newport. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 847-4242.
Winslow Homer: Wood Engravings at Newport Art Museum, July 1 to 31. Call 848-8200.
James Fraser exhibits dramatic nature photography at Cranston Public Library, July 1 to 31. Exhibit is free and open to public. Call 943-9080.
An Exhibit of Nature and Travel Photography by Frank Moore. Opens at East Greenwich. Photo exhibit runs through July 31. Call 884-0220.
- 3 **Sea Kayaking**, The Westport River, July 3, 10, 14, 24, 31 at Sakonnet Boathouse, Tiverton. Watch for ospreys and other shore birds while paddling along the river. Call 624-1440.
Yoko Ono presents the artwork of John Lennon at the Providence Biltmore Hotel, July 3 to 6. Contributions will go for the R.I. Community Food Bank. Call (800) ART-1969.
- 4 **212th Annual Bristol Civic, Military and Firemen's Parade**, 10:30 a.m. A tradition dating to 1785. Parade forms at Chestnut and Hope streets, Bristol. Call 253-7215.
Suzu Bogguss performs at the Greater New Bedford Summerfest at 7 p.m. Call (508) 999-5231.
- 5 **17th Annual Arts and Crafts Guild Tour**, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Esta's Park, Block Island. Call 466-2982.

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Chai Jewish Singles Gather for July Fun

A Fourth of July Blast, dance party at the NYC Jukebox will be held on July 3, located at 275 Tremont St., Boston. Doors open at 8 p.m. and the dance will continue until 2 a.m. The cost is \$15 for members, \$18 non-members or \$10 before 10 p.m. with this notice. Plenty of garage parking directly across the street is available.

Boston's only Sunset Harbor Boat Cruise for Jewish Singles will be held July 27 at 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. and leaves from Mass Bay Lines behind Rowes Wharf Hotel Boston. Food will be provided by Trader Joes of Brookline. The cost is \$20 in advance and \$30 at the dock or mail checks to Chai Productions, P.O. Box 534, Sudbury, Mass. 01776. For info, call Barton, (508) 443-7834, or e-mail ChaiProd1@aol.com

JFS Holds Meetings for Prospective Adoptive Parents

Adoption Options, the adoption program of Jewish Family Service, is now offering informational meetings about adoption for anyone interested in exploring the choices. The meetings will be held the first Monday of every month from 6 to 8 p.m. at the offices of Jewish Family Service.

The next meeting will be held on July 7. The agency is located on the second floor of the United Way building at 229 Waterman St. in Providence.

The meetings are free and open to anyone interested in pursuing an adoption. Call Adoption Options at 331-5437 for information or to arrange a confidential consultation.

Fireworks and Pops Concert at UMass Dartmouth

There will be a pops concert and fireworks at University of Massachusetts Dartmouth campus, Old Westport Road, Dartmouth, on July 3, at 6 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. The third annual Pops Concert and Fireworks is part of the UMass Dartmouth Summer Centennial Series.

Entertainment includes Mike Antunes and his Cape Verdean Orchestra at 6:15 p.m., followed by Colonial Navy of Massachusetts, a fife and drum corp. and the New Bedford Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of guest conductor Maestro Royston Nash, and guest baritone Philip Lima, at 8 p.m. Fireworks start at 9:45 p.m. For information, call (508) 999-8012.

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THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Brave New World: An Overview of Jewish Beginnings in the Americas

by Emily Torgan

Jewish Community Reporter

In 1492, Columbus sailed the ocean blue," goes the jingle describing Europe's discovery of the Americas.

But there was another momentous event that year.

On March 31, only months before Christopher Columbus embarked upon his voyage, Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand signed a decree expelling all Jews from Spain.

Ironically, Isabella and Ferdinand never realized that by sponsoring Columbus and forcing Spain's Jews out, they were sowing the seeds for the largest and most privileged Jewish community in Diaspora history.

Certainly, their ban on Jews was not Europe's first.

Between the 12th and 15th centuries, Jews were barred from England and France, and were subjected to horrible persecutions in the countries that permitted them.

Murdered during the Crusades, held accountable for the black death, and massacred by the thousands as infidels, the Jews were decimated during the Middle Ages.

Since 1378, the Jews of Spain had suffered the horrors of the Spanish Inquisition. Later, the royal order to leave rendered some 100,000 of them stateless.

Some went to Moslem lands, Italy and France, but most of the refugees went to Portugal, where they would soon face conversion and the Inquisition.

Only four days after Spain's last professing Jew was forced to leave, Columbus set sail for the New World.

Ironically, Luis de Torres, an expedition member and a Converso, or converted Jew, was the first European to set foot in the New World.

Jews in the Americas

When the Europeans came to the Americas, they brought Jewish Europeans with them.

Although Jews and Conversos were legally barred from Spain and its colonial possessions, Jews were a part of European life that took hold in the New World as inevitably as European languages, cultures, and diseases.

Despised by the Spaniards as impure, potential heretics in the early stages of colonization, many lost all or most of their Jewish faith. Alternately, some of the New World's Conversos were eventually able to present themselves as Jews to the Dutch and English colonial governments, which came to compete for Jewish settlers because of their commercial skills.

In her essay "Imagining Idolatry," Professor Judith Laikin Elkin wondered what originally drew the Conversos to Spain's early colonies, where the Inquisition loomed.

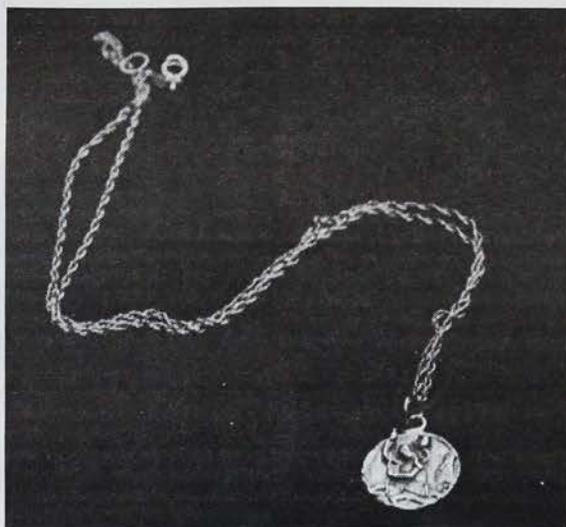
"New Christians, like their Old Christian countrymen, were eager to take part in the great adventure of the age, with its promise of gold and glory. Many must have hoped that by removing to the perimeter of the empire, they could escape the notice of the Inquisition."

Using loopholes in the law and making payments to the crown, which sold emigration rights to those it officially excluded, Iberian New Christians were able to make their way overseas.

But by the 16th century, wrote Jacob R. Marcus in *The Colonial*

favorable conditions.

The Dutch valued Jews and Conversos, for they believed that their fears of the Inquisition would make them loyal allies in the Dutch campaign against Spain. Also, perhaps even more importantly, they perceived Jews as competent tradesmen



American Jew, the Spanish church knew that there were hundreds if not thousands of Marranos in the colonies.

"To eliminate this threat of spiritual infection, an Inquisitorial tribunal was established at Lima, Peru, in 1570, another in Mexico City in 1571, and a third at Caragena, New Granada, in 1610," he wrote. "All three tribunals operated actively with their agents in every one of the Spanish American possessions until the mid-1700s."

According to Elkin, scholar Seymour Liebman had identified 1,744 individuals of both sexes who were tried between 1522 and 1709. Of them 378 were convicted of Judaizing and subjected to old-world punishments.

"The most frequent punishments for this 'crime' — in addition to the expropriation of property exacted from all prisoners — included public lashing (up to 400 blows), the wearing of a penitential garment that provoked public contumely, perpetual imprisonment, labor in the galley, death by garroting followed by burning, and death by burning," she wrote. "Beyond the penalty exacted from prisoners, all these punishments brought instant impoverishment to their families and in-eradicable shame to their descendants."

According to Marcus, these torments drove the Marranos of New Spain so far underground that they lost any sense of community.

But in other lands, the Conversos fared better.

Even after Portugal and its colonies became part of the Spanish Empire in 1580, some Brazilian Conversos continued to practice in secret.

In the 1600s, when the Dutch entered the colonial fray, overt Jewish life burst out in the Americas.

Under Dutch rule, Brazil's Jewish settlers briefly enjoyed

who knew the land and its language.

In the Dutch-controlled city of Recife, some renounced their Converso status, and the first synagogues in the New World sprang up.

Despite a lack of political rights and anti-Semitic resentment from Christian business competitors, the Jews prospered in Brazil's sugar-based plantation economy.

But in 1645, Recife fell as Portugal waged a war to regain the lucrative colony.

After the battle, some relapsos were executed, some were taken to Lisbon for trial, some returned to Holland, and some emigrated to New World territories such as the Guianas, Dutch Curacao, English Barbados, and the French Islands.

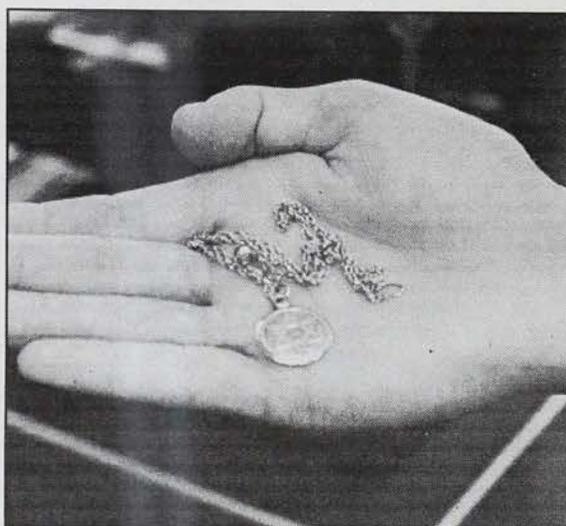
By 1654, the Brazilian Jews, familiar with the Caribbean industries of sugar and slaving, were starting to establish themselves in Guadeloupe and Martinique.

Despite Jesuit opposition and demands for legislation that would drive them out as commercial competitors, Jewish merchants in the French West Indies were welcomed by French statesman Jean Baptiste Colbert, who saw them as an asset to his plans to bolster the island's economy.

By 1671, Colbert had obtained a royal decree declaring the economic rights of individual merchants as well as permission for Jews to meet for private prayer sessions, perhaps an incentive to remain in the islands, where they were seen as commercially beneficial.

During the next century, these sugar-producing islands became the colonial world's most profitable territories, and Colbert repeatedly praised the Jews for their contributions.

However, the life of Martinique's Jewish community, always tenuous in the Catholic colony, halted when the



THIS NECKLACE BELONGED to my late grandmother, Ana de Brandel, who emigrated from Poland to Honduras before World War II. As she explained to me, the front of the medallion is a picture of Saint Christopher, the Catholic patron saint of travelers. On the back, the medallion bears a Star of David. This, she said, was a reminder of how the Jewish experience began in Central America. My grandparents practiced their Judaism openly. She wore it always.

Herald photos by Emily Torgan

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OPINION

Stop Punishing Israel

To the Editor:

President Clinton is no Pharaoh, and he certainly may be regarded as a friend of Israel. However, the Clinton administration, in a continuing pattern, appears to be "punishing" Israel, and tends to support the Palestinian efforts to pressure Israel to stop its activities in Jerusalem and in all Israel. This is a continuation of the Bush ("Read my lips") legacy.

Let us go back in history approximately eight or nine years ago. The Bush administration refused to guarantee the \$10 billion loan sought by Israel from private sources, at no cost to this country. President Bush was "punishing" Israel.

Several years before that time, in 1982, President Carter also "punished" Israel, because he, too, was unhappy with Israel's treatment of the benevolent Yassar Arafat and his Palestinians.

Menachem Begin was then prime minister. Undoubtedly his soul has now joined other immortal greats in our own Gan Eden, the celestial abode of righteous souls.

I quote his exact words spoken and written in 1982 in *Time* magazine.

"You declare you are 'punishing' Israel. What kind of talk is that? Are we a vassal state? Are we 14-year-old boys that if they don't behave they have their knuckles smacked? You have no moral right to lecture us. You cannot and will not frighten us with 'punishments and threats.' Threats will fall on deaf ears. You are trying to make Israel hostage to the memorandum of understanding. No sword of Damocles will be hanging over our heads. The people of Israel have lived for 3,700 years without a memorandum of understanding with America and it will continue to live without it for another 3,700 years. You have imposed upon us pecuniary sanctions. What do you want to do? Hit us in the pocket? Nobody will succeed in intimidating American Jews by anti-Semitic propaganda. They will stand by us. This is the land of their forefathers — they have the right and duty to support it. The word rescind is a concept from the time of the Inquisition. Our forefathers went to the stake rather than rescind our faith. We are not going to the stake. You must have forgotten that Jews do not kneel but to G-d. Nobody is going to preach to us humanitarianism."

I equate those words with the immortal speech of Abraham Lincoln at Gettysburg.

I am a true and loyal American and have willingly fought in the great war on foreign soil, some half century ago. America is my country — right or wrong. But Israel is also a great and important part of my life.

Harry Kolodney
Providence, RI

Pickles and Devil Dogs

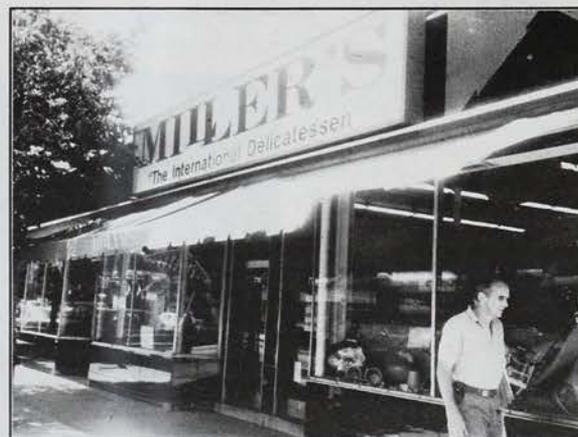
by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

I'm not the food shopper in the family. I only pick up a few items to fill out the menu: a pair of pickles or a box of teabags. But I remember when Miller's first opened its doors. With those onyx black tiles and the fancy windows, it made you proud of the Jewish diet. In those days, the entire Jewish community was in league to make me gain weight. What a repulsive idea "fat-free" would have seemed to my larger family. Fattening me up ranked high priority in Providence. Every store on Hope Street was in on it, trying to tempt me from creamy ice cream at a counter to boxes of chocolates in the candy shoppes, to the knishes in the bakeries. But Miller's ranked very high on the daily routine for kosher luxuries that made bland Yankee taste look pale and wan. Meat had to sing even without mustard sting. Pickles should be steeped in sharp garlic and vinegar. From barrel, never jar. Perhaps I'm not the perfect man to rave about the flavors of the Miller's smorgasbord of delights. You'll read better gourmand accounts and records elsewhere. I can only report here on a lifetime lived around the daily corner from this wondrous emporium.

I could never walk home from school without stopping for a snack to bring home, a "devil dog" or a sour tomato. I thought Jewish food was healthy because it packed some punch. I can't adequately convey my contempt for low calo-

rie concerns. You get fat because of modern machinery! The car, the computer, the touch tone phone, these are the high-tech, high-cost culprit-gadgets that make you gross, and then you

Orms neighborhood sold and also served your hot Rumanian pastromi, while Miller's was where you went to set up your own brunch in the Summit world. I was never a big fresser,



Herald photo by Tara V. Liscandro

take it out on the delicious tidbits that should make your day happy and full of spirit. Feh.

Miller's closes up for all the reasons that should have kept it open. My very first job was working for its neighbor delicatessen, Hy Diwinsky's. I reached for the high shelves with that wondrous stick with the pinchers. You had to have a good eye to catch the can as it fell. I also packed and drove the truck around the neighborhood.

But Miller's was broader and brighter than Hy's place. Yet they co-existed on the East Side. The Star Deli in the Douglas

but I knew this was the gourmet center of my Jewish world.

Well, when any Jewish business closes down, you grieve and sit your own shiva in review of the good times you shared. Accident or Design also closes its doors in the same season. That's where you could get the most gorgeous and witty Chanukah, New Year or Pesach cards. At its Going Out of Business sale, I had my eye on a small piratical treasure chest that made me think of the Sweet-Touch-Nee crimson and gold tin of teabags or loose leaves from

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HAVE AN OPINION?

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

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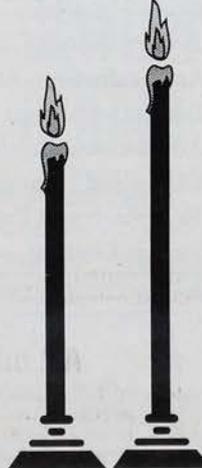
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Candlelighting

June 27, 1997
8:07 p.m.



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

Facing the Future

by Sara S. Lee

The narrative of the 12 scouts in *Shelach-Lecha* (Num. 13:1-15:41) conveys a compelling but troubling incident in the journey of the Israelites from Egypt to the Promised Land. Moses, at G-d's command or, as reported later in Deuteronomy, at the people's insistence, sends leaders from each of the tribes to explore the Promised land. Their commission is rather straightforward: to report back on the people, the land, the cities, and the natural resources. Upon their return, 10 of the scouts offer a series of observations, mixing objective reporting with dire warnings about the perils that lay ahead. Only Caleb (Num. 13:30) offers hope that the Israelites can indeed fulfill their destiny and possess the land. The people, however, lose faith and challenge the leadership of Moses and Aaron to the point where they cry out for a return to *Mitzrayim*. The outcome of these events is tragic. G-d destroys the 10 scouts who incited the community, sparing only Caleb and Joshua. The generation that has lost faith, over and over, is never to see the Promised Land but to endure wandering and death in the wilderness. Only the next generation will be privileged to

fulfill the destiny of Israel.

Traditional commentaries point out that the sin of the 10 scouts and the sin of the golden calf are regarded as the two most serious breaches in the relationship between G-d and the Israelites. In each case G-d initially threatens to destroy the people and relents only after Moses' intercession. The incident of the golden calf is about idolatry, and, therefore, the seriousness of the sin is self-evident. What is the sin of the 10 scouts that warrants such dire punishment?

Nehama Leibowitz points us

to Rashi's commentary on *mimenu* in Numbers 13:31. The customary understanding is that the people in the land are too strong for the Israelites to conquer. Rashi suggests that *mimenu* does not refer to the Israelites but rather to G-d. Leibowitz then suggests that the sin of the 10 scouts was that they repudiated trust in G-d, suggesting that divine help could not enable the Israelites to prevail against the inhabitants of the land. The 10 scouts also re-

puted the leadership of Moses and Aaron, as well as Caleb and Joshua, for these leaders had placed their confidence in G-d and the power of divine providence. If we understand the sin of the 10 scouts as the denial of G-d's power, the repudiation of G-d's promise, and the rejection of leaders committed to G-d's providence, we can appreciate why this sin and the sin of the golden calf are regarded as equally destructive.

We all face an uncertain future as individual human beings, as Jews, and as a Jewish people. What questions may we draw from this narrative of the 10 scouts? Can faith and belief allow us to see beyond the apparent difficulties and barriers to imagine and achieve a distant, but highly desired, goal? how can those charged with responsibility for leadership of the community provide both truthful knowledge about the difficulties ahead and inspired guidance for confronting those difficulties? In our own personal perspective on the Jewish future, are we one of the 10 or Caleb?

Sara S. Lee, MAJE/RJL, is director of the Rhea Hirsch School of Education at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Los Angeles, Calif.



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Lost Boundaries

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

"Will you buy a lady a drink?" She's a familiar and colorful poolside and East Side figure. With a flashy straw hat and a large floral print bathing suit, she packs a lot of presence. "I'll just have a club soda," she orders at the little oasis bar.

There are rules at this world the French call "le zinc." You can't say no. But you're supposed to respect somebody else's space. "Write a book about me and my life. It'll be a best-seller, I promise," this lady declares. She had found me earlier in the week among the Brown bookstalls and made the same request. "I write poetry, but I can't do prose," she says. "But I

boundary disputes. I've had shock treatment. I try to work it out. I need your honesty."

The barkeep and the bouncer have put her up to this encounter at High Noon. They smirk with mock politeness. The Quiet Lunch has rap and chat today instead of the usual peaceful stillness and silence. Okay. I feel a little like Isaac Singer—stories come at you and unfold like mystical pages in the sky. Might as well give in and go along.

So I confront her: "My honesty won't do you much good. We're too old to change and learn. It's always too late. You're born knowing what you know. You've got your son getting



WHERE SOULS and glasses touch.

Herald photo by Mike Fink

can't ghost-write," I answered then and repeat now under the midday glare. "Anybody with the right credentials will do. Can you find somebody else for me?" she asks.

Now this gal regularly reads the *Herald* and tells me what she thinks. "You're getting better," she says with a smile. She likes my sense of the past and my respect for the homeless. But she knows by now that I need a quarter of an hour to myself in the hot tub or at the lunch counter to gather my thoughts, or just to brood like an animal in the shade. Nevertheless she fills me in on her own past, her home and her solitude. "I have lots of emotions and issues. Women's rights, mental health, the elderly, abortion rights and limits, depression, medication..."

I fight back for my territory. "I don't do issues. Poetry is not about emotion or politics. It's about words. Spelling right is more important than a social right." Then, fearing my noon wine is spoiled, I think of the motto, "in vino veritas": truth in your glass. In other words I choose plainspeaking. I say, "It's hard to be kind and frank at the same time, but I'll try. I know we went to the same schools, shared the same teachers, and live in the same community. But why don't you let me get a word in? Why not ask me a question? It's selfish to just take over."

"It's part of my condition. I have aggression problems,

married, on his way to a good life. You're all cleared to be yourself. The homeless, too, are free. You can look at anything in different ways. What was the happiest day of your life?"

My companion thinks and selects. "The day my son was born. I had toxemia. I even had a post-partum breakdown. But it was still the greatest moment. But by the time he was 9 he had already turned against me. I just had too many problems he couldn't deal with. My husband was going to leave me. My best friend called only the other day and said she couldn't afford to stay in touch any more. I know I drive people away. But I also help people and reach out."

The teacher we had shared—in different years—taught a junior high course called "Special English." She encouraged writers she spotted who had a message or a mission. "The kids made fun of me. I had a weight problem even then. But she was always good to me." That teacher's spirit is what keeps me rooted to this spot with the strange lady in town. I find myself waxing fancy: "Life is like a forest of burning candles. I try to protect each fragile flame. I value gentleness although it goes out sooner or later. But nice and easy does the trick. Don't come on too strong."

Within the hour I put on my trunks and swam a cool lap or two. I think I turned the tables

(Continued on Page 15)

Best Things in Life

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

"Everybody hopes to get in on the soaring stock market. But I remember 1929. To me it's a warning sign when things go up too high. They have to come down." Charles Swartz called me to share a few thoughts and memories. "On another topic, everyone says such great things about Jonathan Levin, the heir to a fortune who chose to teach in city schools. He was robbed and killed. The kids say he was sweet and good. Don't Christians realize that Jesus was a Jewish person with the gentle values of his faith?"

I told my former neighbor that I had never heard that statement made with such clarity.

We get so caught up in the quest for glitter that even Jews associate their culture with things too much of this world. But our elders recall values that aimed higher, or in a different direction. You didn't have to strike it rich, just have *parnosseh*, work to live by. You didn't have to shine in the spotlight, just give back something to society. I thank our reader for phoning in his insights and ideas.

I'm trying to relate the details of my calendar journal to each other, to a common theme. One of my weekly companions of late has been my camera, a simple Olympus that works for me. There was this guy who was delivering heavy furniture, uphill, on an old-fashioned bi-

cycle. I tracked him down for a snapshot, but he vanished down a side street. I lost my dada image. This morning I spotted an old fellow riding a bike on route 95! Of course, I couldn't grab a glimpse of him in the thick of traffic. And then, one of my street artist friends was sketching and modelling in the morning light with a blue puddle behind him, some bright green grasses around the tree trunk at the sidewalk, and a wee three-legged table before him. What a Buddhist portrait that would have made. But I hated to disturb him, so I let it pass. There are pictures you don't take. There are thoughts you don't put to the pen. There are moments that pop like bubbles into thin air. So be it I guess. Then, parking for a picnic in the Hope field to close the Little League season, pockets loaded with extra eyeglasses, hands occupied with a dog on a leash, I left my trusty camera, under a towel, in a car with windows slightly ajar to let the breeze flow through. After the potluck supper, I returned to find the friendly little tool of my trade gone! Oy vey. For days afterward, I looked at lovely images and realized, words are worth as much as images, and memory as much as print.

Last night a shy chap I know asked me to deliver a letter to a pretty girl in a bookstore, asking humbly for a date at Ben and Jerry's. "I'm seriously dating somebody already," she told me

to let him know. I could see at a glance why he chose her. She was radiant, serene, a dream girl, with an Asian cast of features like an exotic movie star of yore. My cafe chum was really reaching too high, but then, why not try? Some things are just not meant to be. Adventure comes to us like opportunity, like accident or design. You have to see the charm of the moment, every day. A call, a note, a word, a look, a memory. Let it move along.

My daughter is working for Bob Mann, the unique lawyer in town who defends and helps the friendless. When my college girl once served ice cream at Newport Creamery, the cook who taught her the ropes turned out to be none other than the recently failed bank robber. He called Mann's office and talked to his former fellow employee. There is no lack of stories. I store them up like a clunky computer. Press the right key and it's all there.

What I look for in a Jewish story is the motif of simple kindness, spiced with a touch of chutzpah, salted with a swim or a tear, garnished with a dash of *menschlichkeit*. I find some tales along the Canonchet shore among the bathers. Others I recall as I grab a quick chilly dip all alone on a lonely beach by myself in early morn or late afternoon. Thanks for sharing these fragments of late June with me, my loose-leaf diary of details.

Happy Havens on the Horizon

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

Now that the longest day has crested, you have to lay out your plans to get the most from the weeks of light and warmth. Sometimes summer hems me in. I hate hot traffic and bright noontimes. My myopic eyesight makes the drives to beaches a strain. And yet, "this is as good as it gets" suits the season of gardens and glades, lakes and iced drinks on a patio. You hope to stop time before time stops you. Maybe you have to go somewhere else to find your place in the sun. It never seems easy to me.

My wife goes to her annual August conference on breastfeeding issues. I take a weekend to pursue my academic research topic of the year. This year she flies to New Orleans. I am heading for twin islands off the coast of Canada, which belong to France, her last outposts in North America. These departments are called Miquelon and St. Pierre. They used to serve as fishing ports and farming settlements. By now they mostly serve tourists though local agents never heard of it and can't find it on maps and in tomes.

Nevertheless, it's hard to cram into the planes and ferries that crowd visitors in for the few weekends of July and August, before the fogs and chills leave these flat retreats alone again to the natives. I eke out one seat in mid-August dog days.

They have a Breton past. I'm

interested in exploring whether there were divisions among the pro-Vichy and pro-de Gaulle factions in the war. I wonder if Jewish bootleggers left a legacy behind in some nook or cranny of local history. What's it like to be French in so isolated a region among puffins and albatrosses?

As it turns out, I know a number of people who have set foot on St. Pierre and Miquelon. Some call them dull. Others find them strange and wondrous. All I know is, for some reason a committee of my colleagues funded the flight in hopes I'd come up with an interesting story to write and tell about my annual leave northward and outward bound from classroom and studio.

My wife claims she, too, will be by herself in a steaming southern city, ensconced in a lovely, cool old hotel among people she doesn't know.

There's still one more pilgrimage I'm trying to put off till the final equinox of the year, come the chill times. My mother's last, only pleasure trip

abroad was a cruise to the Bahamas. She already wasn't well, but I have a slide of her in a pink bathing suit on a sunny strand with a straw hat against the glare. I want to follow her footsteps upon that shoreline. Yes, Columbus landed among the Bahamas. Yes, the Duke and



Duchess of Windsor ruled in sweltering Nassau, an exile from the war he had utterly misread. Yes, there is a bootleg and pirate romance about this buccaneering Bahamian bandit republic. But mostly I hope to catch some charming vista and pretend my mother also saw the same sight more than thirty years ago. Yes, I have a former student living and working in Nassau, a relative of the present governor general.

Idle ambitions as the days of daisies and lilies rush by, bringing us moments of happiness and despair.

Art on the Patio

Create a mizrah papercut with Perspectives Young Adult Group. The mizrah, a Jewish art form is rich in symbolism, abundant in historical and traditional references and diverse in character, style and place of origin. Placed on the east wall of the home, the mizrah plaque serves to orient the home on a symbolic axis toward Jerusalem.

The activity will take place on June 29 at the home of Perspectives co-chairwoman Merav Minkin at 3 p.m. at 146 Pidge Ave. in Pawtucket. Call 724-7196 to R.S.V.P. to reserve materials.

THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Sharp Wits Gather to Roast and Toast Mark Weiner

by Sara Wise
Herald Editor

National and local politicians were on hand last Tuesday night to watch the barbs fly as political insider Mark Weiner took the hot seat at a "Weiner Roast" fund-raiser for Amos House that drew more than 600 people.

Friends of Weiner's from all over the country came to the Westin Hotel to watch luminaries such as the Rev. Jesse Jackson, political gurus James Carville and Mary Matalin, National Baseball League President Len Coleman, and other local journalists and politicians take turns roasting a man known for his connections and ability to bend the ears of the rich and powerful.

The roasters mocked Weiner's talent for fund-raising, his penchant for name-dropping and rubbing elbows with political big wigs and his enthusiasm for eating.

They also took a few jabs at each other, and sometimes even themselves.

Providence Journal political columnist M. Charles Baskt started the evening's bout by saying that because Weiner spends so much time around politicians, he's taken on some of their characteristics. "He's got all Bruce Sundlun's warmth, Claiborne Pell's flair for dress-

ing, Jackvony's taste in furniture, Jeff Pine's electricity and Mayor Cianci's humility," said Baskt.

Commenting on Weiner's Jewish background, Baskt said, "Mark, don't ever be ashamed that you're Jewish, it's enough that I'm ashamed that you're Jewish!"

Rev. Jackson chose "not to roast Mark, but to toast Mark." In the wake of Baskt's comments on being Jewish, Rev. Jackson said that he was certainly not going to mention anything along those lines, "I am not that suicidal, I've been down that road before."

Rev. Jackson instead used his time to draw attention to the monopolization of wealth in our country and the needs of the poor. "By the end of the day, our character is measured by how we treat the homeless and the hungry," said Rev. Jackson.

Amid the jokes and good-natured teasing, the presenters never strayed too far from the evening's serious purpose. Each mentioned the importance of Amos House and many paid tribute to Mark's father, Irving Weiner, to whom a rehabilitated men's shelter will be dedicated with some of the event's proceeds.

Master of ceremonies Richard Oster, president of Cookson

America and a corporate patron of the roast, said that he hoped to make the fund-raiser an annual event, "It's important that we recognize why we are here tonight. In these times of cutbacks, nothing is more important than helping the poor," said Oster.

After about three hours, Mayor Cianci finally showed up at the Westin, his ninth stop of the day. He apologized for his tardiness, "I was late because I came by gondola." He then took verbal shots not just at Weiner, but at each of the roasters as well.

Organizer Malinda Howard said that more than \$100,000 was raised for Amos House, the largest soup kitchen in the state. The money will help provide food, shelter and social services to needy Rhode Islanders.

According to Executive Director Deborah Brayton, Amos House has particular fund-raising needs in the summer because many children that would normally receive a meal through school lunch programs don't have that option during summer vacation and may go hungry.

Founded in 1976, Amos House was named after the Old Testament prophet Amos, who preached against social injustice. For more information about Amos House, call 272-0220.

Be a Part of 'Breakfast and Books' Discussion

The Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island will host "Breakfast and Books," July 9, 16 and 23 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island in Providence. A series of three workshops will be offered to the community. Reading materials for each session will be available at the BJE/RI, Temple Torat Yisrael, Temple Sinai and Temple Emanu-El one week prior to each session. Each session costs \$5 or \$12 for all three. The distinguished teachers of "Breakfast and Books" are:

Susanne Shavelson, faculty coordinator for continuing education for the Hornstein Program at Brandeis University. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Michigan. Her thesis is titled "From Amerike to America: Language and Identity in the Yiddish and English Autobiographies of Jewish Immigrant Women."

Penney Stein, director of admissions and resource coordinator at the Alperin Schechter Day School. She is a graduate of Syracuse University and received her Ph.D. in French literature from Tufts University.

David Jacobson, professor of Judaic studies at Brown University. He is a graduate student of the University of Chicago and received his Ph.D. from the University of California at Los Angeles. He has taught at the University of Michigan, Ben Gurion University, the University of Pennsylvania, and Wesleyan College. David's book, *Does David Still Play Before You: Israeli Poetry and the Bible*, will be published in the fall.

lished in the fall.

Toby Rossner, director of Media Services of the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island. She is a graduate of the University of Chicago and has a MLS degree from the University of Rhode Island. Toby taught Yiddish short stories at the BJE Yiddishcamp and has taught courses in Jewish film and short stories for numerous adult groups.

Richard Fein, professor emeritus of English at SUNY, New Paltz, where he was also director of the Jewish Studies Program. He has published several books of poetry which include translations and imitations of Yiddish poems. He currently resides in Cambridge, Mass., and he is well-known at the Workman's Circle.

The schedule for "Breakfast and

Books" will be as follows:
July 9 — Women Authors of Yiddish Literature — Susanne Shavelson, "American Women Yiddish Authors: An Historical Retrospective" and Penney Stein, "Stories by Yiddish Women Authors."

July 16 — I.B. Singer: Life and Stories — David Jacobson, *I.B. Singer: A Life* (Biography Review) and Toby Rossner, "Singer Short Stories."

July 23 — Yiddish Poetry, Then and Now — Richard Fein, "Poetry Reading" (in both English and Yiddish) and Yiddish poetry discussion.

For registration, reading materials and information, call Toby Rossner or Ruth Page, 331-0956.



Florida Program Assists Jewish Seniors

Jewish Women International and Family Extensions, Inc. have teamed up to ease your mind about your aging parents in Southeast Florida. Jewish Women International has added Family Extensions, Inc.'s services to its portfolio of benefits available to members.

"Watching our parents grow old is one of the most difficult challenges that we, as adult women, face," said Donna Perline, International President of Jewish Women International. "I am thrilled to offer Family Extensions' services to those member who worry about aging relatives in South Florida."

"The population of Jewish se-

nior citizens in Broward, Dade, and Palm Beach County, Fla., is in the millions. Many of these people live far away from their relatives," said Maxine Wallach, president of Family Extensions, Inc. "Together, Family Extensions, Inc. and Jewish Women International, are able to preserve and strengthen Jewish family values for seniors in South Florida and their concerned relatives throughout the U.S."

Founded as B'nai B'rith Women in 1897, Jewish Women International has at its heart the desire to help members lead meaningful Jewish lives and to transmit the legacy of our heritage to future generations.

Through educational programs, holiday celebrations, Passover baskets for the elderly — and more, JWI creates opportunities for a Jewish connection that might otherwise be missing.

Family Extensions, Inc., is a national organization providing peace of mind to adult children far away from their aging parents in South Florida. They are professional "visiting neighbors" who make sure that the client's parents have their needs met. Family Extensions, Inc., provides warm, caring and secure services to loved ones far away and keep the family informed of the aging parent's status.

Scientists Expand Genetic Study of Ashkenazi Jews

Johns Hopkins researchers studying the genetics of schizophrenia in Ashkenazi Jews have expanded their study to include families in Great Britain and Israel.

"We are looking for families with two siblings affected with schizophrenia," said Ann

Pulver, Sc. D., an associate professor of psychiatry and director of the study. "We would like to interview the affected siblings and their parents. No travel is necessary, and all participants will be paid."

The study is designed to help researchers find genes that may contribute to schizophrenia. Locating such genes will help scientists learn more about what goes wrong in schizophrenic brains and what can be done to treat it.

Pulver said the Ashkenazi Jewish population is ideal for the study because they tend to marry within their faith.

"This leads to a more genetically homogenous population, and that's a great advantage for scientists seeking to identify genes that cause disease," she explained.

There is no indication yet that schizophrenia occurs more frequently in this or any other ethnic, racial or religious population.

Researchers will interview participants regarding current mental health status and family history of mental disorders, and also take blood samples from the participant and immediate

(Continued on Page 19)

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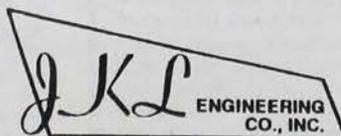
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THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Operatic Cantor Incorporates Love of Arts Into Work and Play

by Sara Wise
Herald Editor

What do going to the theater and going to synagogue have in common?

Quite a bit, if you ask Cantor Robert Lieberman, who draws clear parallels between the synagogue and the theater. "The synagogue is really sacred theater; there are certain choreographies, certain designated movements, but everything that we do is based on text. The singing is supposed to be an outpouring, a reflection and bringing to life of those words."

Lieberman, a full-time cantor at Temple Torat Yisrael in Cranston, has managed to combine his work as a cantor with a love of the arts, which includes a relatively new-found interest in opera. He is currently performing the title role in the Ocean State Light Opera's production of "The Mikado" at the Wheeler School Theater.

"If you think about it, opera, whether it's Gilbert and Sullivan or Verdi or Puccini, is all based on language and text. What do you think we do in the synagogue?" It's all musical interpretation of text. I see an awful lot of parallels there," said Lieberman in a recent interview.

Now finishing his second year as the cantor at Torat Yisrael, Lieberman graduated from the Jewish Theological Seminary with a bachelor's in sacred music in 1987, but worked in real estate while his wife, Vicki, attended rabbinical school. When she graduated in 1993, they moved to Woonsocket where Vicki is the rabbi at Temple B'nai Israel. The Liebermans have two children, Tovah, 9, and Joshua, who is almost 5.

Despite his brief dabbling in the private sector, Lieberman said that becoming a cantor was a childhood goal that stemmed from his experience growing up in Benton Harbor, Mich., a small town about 90 miles south of Chicago.

"We never had a cantor and I always felt something was missing." The temple would have a guest cantor on High Holidays, but Lieberman said that he was never impressed. "Sometimes we had a guy who could sing, but didn't know Hebrew, and then we got a guy who could read Hebrew, but couldn't sing. I always thought, 'I should be

doing that,'" so eventually he went to school and learned how to do it. (Coincidentally, the young rabbi in that small lakeside community where Lieberman grew up and was bar mitzvahed was none other than Temple Emanu-El's own Rabbi Wayne Franklin.)

A few years ago, he started studying voice seriously with seasoned cantor Richard Wolberg of Temple Beth El in Fall River. Realizing at that point that he really did have the training to be cantor, he took a year off from working to concentrate on his voice. "I am lucky to have the gift of the voice and so when the opportunity arose to be at Torat Yisrael in Cranston, I applied and auditioned and that's where I am," said Lieberman.

A Cantor's Life

Lieberman's work as a cantor keeps him very busy. "Part of being a cantor entails working on your voice, keeping it in tip-top shape, but it also means looking over cantorial music and constantly exercising the different music patterns you can use within the framework of traditional synagogue music," said Lieberman of his work.

He has also been busy recently with lots of bar mitzvahs and assisting with the ongoing rabbinic search at Torat Yisrael. Like a rabbi, the cantor gets very involved with bar mitzvah families, especially the kids. He also has some interaction with families during funerals and shiva calls. As time passes and he and the congregation get to know each other better, Lieberman suspects that their interaction will become more personal.

In that regard, he organized an impressive AIDS education program with high school students at Torat Yisrael a few months ago that included tzedakah, a presentation by a Jewish AIDS activist, and moving skits by the students. A segment of the AIDS quilt was displayed in the temple for the special service. The cantor also accompanied teens in his congregation on a recent Jewish leadership program in Washington D.C.

From Temple to Opera Stage

Prompted by a baby sitter who heard him warming up his

voice around house, Lieberman contacted Marilyn Levine who produces the Ocean State Light Opera's Gilbert and Sullivan productions. (She was also a teacher at the baby sitter's school). Levine asked him to come down and sing for her between classes at the Wheeler School, so he mustered up the courage to go sing a few bars of "Surrey with the Fringe on Top" from "Oklahoma." "That's great," Levine told him, "but do you know any opera? Learn some arias and I'll use you in the restaurant."

So after studying up on opera, which he had never liked, Lieberman joined the rotation at Opera at Audrey's, a Johnson and Wales-run restaurant in Seekonk that features opera. He also began working on three arias that year and pursued the Bel Canto Opera competition.

By summer of 1995, he auditioned for the lesser-known Gilbert and Sullivan show "Ruddigore" and landed a leading role. "Marilyn gave me a tremendous opportunity; I had never done any stage work before and I conquered it. I got bit by the bug and there's no turning back."

Since that summer, Lieberman has appeared with OLSO as Private Willis in "Iolanthe," and performed as Falke in "Die Fledermaus" and Danilo in "The Merry Widow" and "Holiday Ball." Last year he was a finalist in the Bel Canto Opera scholarship competition.

Being both a cantor and an opera performer requires tricky scheduling. Lieberman notes that the director has been very respectful and accommodating to his unique constraints. "Accepting my participation means double-casting me because I won't do Friday nights." For the performances that fall on Shabbat, the Mikado will be played by Edgar E. Edwards.

Lieberman explained the difference between regular opera and light opera. "Light opera is parody based on clever phrasing that is meant to be fun and comical, unlike opera where the storyline is often very serious. Gilbert and Sullivan, for example, loved to jumble up language." Lieberman sang a bit of the fast-paced witty lyrics that Gilbert and Sullivan are known for. These rhyming "patter"

songs flutter on one long breath at a rapid pace.

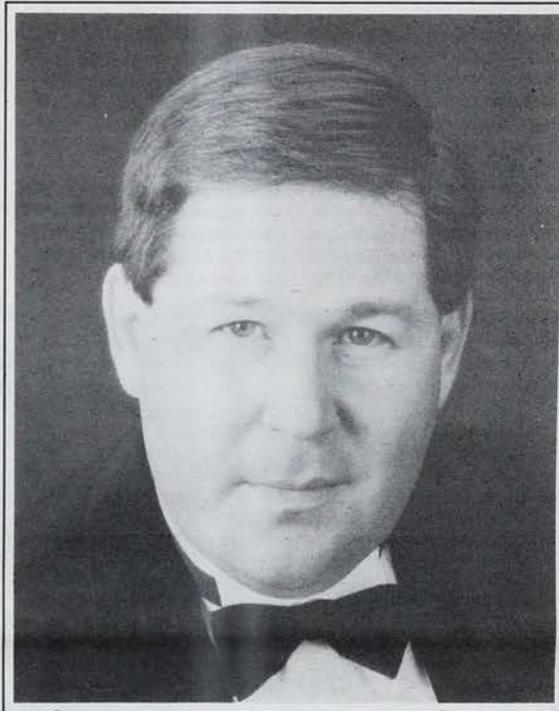
For someone who just a few years ago hated opera, Lieberman has fast become a devotee. "Two years ago we went to 'Madame Butterfly' at the Met, which was just amazing. I got Vicki into it, and even got her to go back this year to see 'Aida.'"

In addition to his love for opera, he is a big supporter of the arts in general and feels that Rhode Island needs to invest more in the arts and has a cultural responsibility to do so.

He has been active in organizing musical events such as the Hawthorne String Quartet performance for Yom HaShoah and a recent concert honoring his teacher, Cantor Richard Wolberg.

For this cantor, music isn't just his job in the synagogue, it's an integral part of his life.

"If I can develop the voice enough to be strong enough and good enough to sing with the best of singers, that only makes me more effective in the synagogue, it's a total package."



CANTOR ROBERT LIEBERMAN performs in "The Mikado" at the Wheeler School on June 28, 29, July 3 and July 6.

Photo courtesy of Bérge Ara Zobian

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German Insurance Firm Hires U.S. Scholar to Probe Nazi Ties

by Deidre Berger

FRANKFURT (JTA) — A leading German insurance company has named an American historian to research the firm's past ties to Nazi activities.

Gerald Feldman, director of the Center for German and European Studies at the University of California at Berkeley, will investigate the Allianz Group's cooperation with Nazi officials and institutions during World War II.

Allianz is one of seven European insurance firms named in a multibillion dollar class-action lawsuit filed in March

in New York. The suit alleges that the companies never paid surviving family members claims due on life insurance policies.

Publicity surrounding the suit prompted Allianz to set up international hotlines to answer questions about possible unpaid claims on policies taken out before the war.

More than 700 people have called the hotlines, but most have too little information for the company to locate old policies immediately, according to an Allianz spokesman.

Allianz, which was the larg-

est insurance company in Germany in the 1930s, has also commissioned the auditing firm of Arthur Andersen to search company records for evidence of unpaid policies.

Allianz has not yet made a decision on possible compensation. It has asked Feldman to investigate the company's role in compensation negotiations between West Germany and Israel in the 1950s and 1960s.

Feldman's study is expected to be completed by 1999.

Allianz said it will publicize information prior to the completion of the final report.

THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

New Israel Fund Presents Anti-Conversion Bill Letters

In one of the largest manifestations of concern ever directed at the Israeli government by North American Jewry, the New Israel Fund has collected more than 5,000 petitions protesting the Israeli government's support for a pending law that would nullify non-Orthodox conversions in Israel.

The letters, in baskets representing the harvest festival of Shavuot, were delivered to the office of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu by a delegation led by Dr. Yoram Peri, NIF vice president in Israel. The delegation included representatives from the Israeli Reform and Conservative movements, HEMDAT: Public Committee for Science, Religion, and Culture in Israel, and the NA'AMAT

women's movement.

The letters read, in part: "I am personally hurt by the Knesset bill to nullify non-Orthodox conversions. I am alarmed by numerous acts of religious extremism, including death threats against members of the Supreme court, physical attacks on 'immodestly dressed' women, and grotesque and inflammatory denunciations of Reform and Conservative Judaism by leading ultra-Orthodox figures." Each of the signers called upon the prime minister to withdraw his support for "any legislation that would call the legitimacy of my Jewish beliefs and practices into question and divide the Jewish people."

"The huge outpouring of anger and concern over this issue

is unprecedented," said NIF executive director, Norman Rosenberg. "The signatures we gathered represent a core group of North American Jews who are deeply committed to support of Israel. Their feelings are shared by hundreds of thousands more. Yet the Israeli government is not doing enough to prevent this pernicious legislation, which threatens not only religious freedom in Israel but also the unity of the Jewish people itself."

The petition drive is part of a long-term NIF campaign to foster a pluralistic environment in Israel, which includes support for more than a dozen Israeli grassroots organizations working for religious freedom.

Survivor Becomes Teacher

In 1944, during World War II, Ruth Kapp was a hidden child in Nazi-occupied France. Today she devotes a good part of her life to teaching children about the Holocaust.

Ruth met and married Harry Hartz in 1958 and moved to the Philadelphia area where they have raised two children. Ruth was a teacher of French language and culture for more than 22 years at Springside School in Philadelphia, Pa. A biographical book, *Your Name is Renee*, came about as the result of a former student's interest in Catholic involvement with the French resistance movement.

Stacy Cretzmeyer, the author, formerly was one of Ruth's prize students and had, for some time, been considering writing a book about the experiences of Jewish refugee children and the involvement of the Catholic church with the resistance movement.

When she returned to visit her former teacher for some guidance, Ruth revealed that she herself had been a hidden child. Cretzmeyer was intrigued, and changed the focus of her book from a novel to the true account of one child — Ruth. Cretzmeyer interviewed Ruth extensively, and also traveled to France to retrace the experiences of the Kapp family through interviews with family members and with people who helped to shelter the family.

The book includes Kapp family photographs and historical appendices on the Nazi occupation of France and the French resistance. All historical background has been researched in

detail to insure accuracy.

Since the publication of her memoir, Ruth has dedicated a great portion of her time to sharing her childhood experiences with others. Now a member of the Pennsylvania Holocaust Education Task Force, Ruth has been lecturing at numerous organizations and schools throughout the country. While addressing one group of students she said that she and other former hidden children, "...are the last witnesses of that period. We have to hope and really put our trust in you so that you will teach the lessons of the Holocaust and be against any type of persecution."

Ruth lectures because she believes in the importance of teaching students tolerance. She believes that the best way to prevent an event as horrible as the Holocaust from ever happening again is to educate the coming generations now.

A student at Jenkintown Elementary School in Pennsylvania commented on Ruth's lecture to his class, "This was so much more powerful than reading about the Holocaust in a textbook."

Many, many students who have listened to Ruth tell her story have written her letters to express their gratitude and state how much they learned from her talk. A student at Roosevelt Elementary School, Pa., wrote, "I learned that you should be nice to all people and that people come in all colors."

For information, contact Your Name is Renee Institute, 512 St. James Place, Elkins Park, PA 19027; phone: (215) 782-1397; fax: (215) 782-1084.

Schechter Goes Broadway With 'Oliver'

The annual fourth-grade Hebrew play is a much anticipated Alperin Schechter Day School tradition. This year's first performance was once again held in a dinner theater format. Parents, family and friends delighted in the delicious food, effervescent atmosphere and spectacular singing, dancing and acting.

The cast included: Shira Adler, Benjamin Beraha, Narkiss Pressburger, Alex Bondarenko, Hannah Pitt, Hannah Mellion, Jimmy Rotenberg, Maia Masuda, Naomi Winkler, Adam Bram, Tanya Goman, Max Goldin, Bruce Kaufman, Zachary Matusow, Ruth Furman, Jessica Spellun, Molly Goodwin, Miriam Klein, Samantha Weinschel, Callie Rothermel,

Aaron Abrams, Chloe Licht, Anna Siradzi, Rustam Dinov and Joshua Zuckerman.

This production was prepared and supported by faculty directors, Wendy Garf-Lipp and Rina Wolfgang; student director, Gina Goldenberg; choreographers, Molly Goodwin and Gina Goldenberg; lighting director, Joshua Zuckerman; curtain, Adam Bram and props, Alex Bondarenko, Ruth Furman, Max Goldin, Molly Goodwin, Bruce Kaufman, Chloe Licht, Hannah Pitt, Narkiss Pressburger, Callie Rothermel, Anna Siradzi and Samantha Weinschel.

Special thanks to Mark Bram, Shelley Katsh and Ezra Lipp for providing the music and to Kotaro Masuda for the scenery and programs.



A DELEGATION LED by the New Israel Fund presents to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's advisor on Diaspora affairs 5,000 petitions from American Jews protesting a proposed law to invalidate non-Orthodox conversions in Israel. From left, Rabbi Einat Ramon, spokeswoman of the Religious Affairs Bureau; Hillel Shuval, director of HEMDAT; Dr. Yoram Peri, Israeli vice president, New Israel Fund; Rabbi Uri Regev, director of Israel Religious Action Center; Bobby Brown, prime minister's adviser on Diaspora affairs.

Photo courtesy New Israel Fund

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Stanley

THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Yiddish Book Center Enters New Era With Home of Its Own

by Debra Nussbaum Cohen
NEW YORK (JTA) — The National Yiddish Book Center has finally found a home, but in a setting about as far from the shtetls and cities where its books were penned as could be.

The recent dedication of a new, \$8 million facility in the bucolic New England college town of Amherst, Mass., marked a new era for the center.

In 1980, Aaron Lansky, then a graduate student in Eastern European studies at McGill University, founded the center to save the Yiddish-language books that he saw being thrown — literally — on garbage heaps.

Lansky realized that something precious was being destroyed as the people who read and collected Yiddish books passed away and their children and grandchildren, having no use for entire libraries in a language they neither spoke nor read, threw them out.

He expected to devote two years to his rescue effort.

All the time, experts estimated that there were a total of 70,000 Yiddish volumes in the entire country.

Lansky put the word out to the then-nascent contemporary network of young Yiddishists. Soon the calls started coming in.

The phone would ring and Lansky would set off in his battered van — even in the middle of the night — to collect books from the dumpster where they had been discarded or the basement where they sat moldering in boxes.

Within six months Lansky and other volunteers saved 70,000 books from incineration, storing them in an unheated factory loft.

For years, the books were stored wherever Lansky could find cheap room; for a while in an old spice warehouse, then in a defunct schoolhouse, later in an empty roller rink.

Today the National Yiddish Book Center owns more than 1.3 million volumes of Yiddish literature.

Another 1,000 pour in each week from people who hope that their beloved, now-unused volumes, will find a home and a future.

"We want to give Yiddish an address, and provide people a place to come to understand that Jewish culture is not lachrymose, not sentimental, not about the Holocaust, but to understand it on its own terms," said Lansky in a telephone interview.

"It was chutzpadik of us to launch a \$7 million campaign three years ago when the largest gift we'd ever gotten until then

was \$10,000, but the response was astonishing.

"Our own members, more than 9,300 individual contributors, sent in \$2 million in contributions," Lansky said, ranging in size from \$2 to \$1 million.

The center has 30,000 members who contribute at least \$36 a year, Lansky said, making it one of the largest Jewish cultural organizations in the country.

Much of the collection, and all of the 32 staff members, are settled into their new facility on the campus of Hampshire College in Amherst. The building's 37,000 square feet house a state-of-the-art auditorium, amphitheater, seminar rooms and a kosher dairy kitchen.

Nine thousand square feet of exhibit space will be devoted to showing collections of art and artifacts, and open to the public in September.

Today there are more than 400 universities and national libraries with significant collections of Yiddish literature, located from Washington, D.C., to Japan and China.

Lansky expects 50,000 visitors in its first year alone to come to the new center, which sits tucked into an orchard of apple trees at the foot of the Holyoke range of mountains.

The 40,000 pounds of apples the orchard produces each year will be donated to a local food bank, he said.

The center will also run programs on various aspects of Yiddish culture year-round and continue to provide literature to the burgeoning number of Yiddish research collections.

When Lansky began his work, only six Yiddish language research collections existed at university and other libraries.

Today there are more than 400 universities and national libraries with significant collections of Yiddish literature, located from Washington, D.C., to Japan and China.

As long as they are there, Lansky said, there will be people studying Yiddish who can ensure that the 1,000-year-old mother tongue of European Jewish culture finds preservation — and even, possibly, a new life.

Ride the Bus From New Bedford to the Center

The Jewish Federation of Greater New Bedford and Ahavath Achim Synagogue will sponsor a community trip to visit the National Yiddish Book Center in Amherst, Mass., on June 29.

The National Yiddish Book Center, located on the campus of Amherst College, was founded in 1980 by Aaron Lansky when he was only 24 years old. During the past 14 years, the center has won international recognition for its dramatic campaign to rescue unwanted and discarded Yiddish books and return them to active use.

The center was recently featured in the *New York Times* when the center's new home was officially opened earlier this month. It was described in the *Times* as "37,000 square feet of interconnected work, exhibition and performance spaces designed to resemble a 19th-century shtetl."

A special highlight of the trip will be a Torah presentation to the center by Ahavath Achim Synagogue in honor of Aaron Lansky who will address the group at 2 p.m.

The cost of \$15 includes round trip coach and admission to the Yiddish Book Center. The bus will leave Ahavath Achim Synagogue at 10 a.m. and return home by 7 p.m. Vegetarian and dairy lunches will be available in the cafeteria at Amherst College. For reservations, call the Jewish Federation of Greater New Bedford at (508) 997-7471.

ASDS Names 39 Students to Honor Roll

Thirty-nine Middle School students at the Ruth and Max Alperin Schechter Day School have been named to the honor roll.

Grade Six — Shirley Bar-On, David Braverman, Tanya Doria, Rachel Furman, Jonah Gabry, Noah Jablow, Elina Kaplan, Elana Kieffer, Rebecca Levine, Aaron Matusow, Benjamin Matusow, Ilan Mitchell, Limor Nevel, Noga Nevel, Daniel Newman, David Radparvar, and Sandy Schneider.

Grade Seven — Adam Beraha, Victoria Bronshtayn, Sanda Budinsky, Anna Cable, Mychal Feingold, Margarita Golubkyh, Yelena Kashina, Paige LaMarche, Brooke Odessa, Ari Savitzky, Elana Snow, and Artem Staviskiy.

Grade Eight — Daniel Abrams, Jessica Fain, Taya Feldman, David Greenberg, Ari Heckman, Eitan Hersh, Peter Shapiro, and Sam Stein.

Feinstein Grants to Fund Community Service Programs

The Feinstein Foundation is offering \$60,000 each to two Rhode Island school districts willing to establish pilot programs requiring community service as a requirement for high school graduation.

In a letter to all Rhode Island school superintendents, Feinstein cited a recent poll, conducted by the *Journal Bulletin* and WJAR-TV, which reported that more than four out of five Rhode Islanders favored requiring

community service for high school students.

"Thousands of our elementary, junior high, and high school students, along with thousands of our college and university young men and women, are presently actively engaged in enriching their communities through a variety of service projects," said Alan Shawn Feinstein. "All of our students should be given this same opportunity."

Open Meeting to Discuss Jewish Boys' High School

A combined board of directors meeting of the New England Academy of Torah and the Rhode Island Federation of Orthodox Jewish Organizations will discuss the need to reopen the Boys' High School at a joint historic meeting on June 29 at 8:20 a.m. at the Sons of Jacob Synagogue, 24 Douglas Ave., Providence (near the Providence Marriott Hotel).

The meeting will be held immediately following morning prayers at 7:30 a.m. Nearly \$150,000 in cash and pledges have already been raised to re-

build the high school.

The meeting is open to the public.

The following topics will be on the agenda:

1. Rebuilding the Boys' High School (Jeffrey M. Berman Memorial Boys' High School)
2. Transfer of 262 Blackstone Boulevard in Providence to New England Rabbinical College
3. Outreach Program to non-practicing Jews
4. Tour program of R.I. Jewish historical sites
5. Reopening the Jewish Home for the Aged.

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Kids' Summer Fun

Join the Scavenger Hunt

Be a part of the Great Blackstone River Treasure Hunt, a summer-fun adventure for kids 12 and under to do with family members.

There are 10 activities listed, most of which are free. These activities can easily be done by children 6 to 12 years old either by themselves or with an older sibling, parent, grandparent, other relative, or youth group.

To enter, complete at least six of the listed activities by Sept. 1, and send answers and drawings to: Blackstone River Scavenger Hunt, Sierra Club, Rhode Island Chapter, 10 Abbott Park Place, 4th Floor, Providence, RI 02903, 762-0440.

Make sure when you send in your entry to include your name and address and the name of the person who helped you with the scavenger hunt.

Every completed entry will receive a free sticker with the scavenger hunt logo and be eligible for the random drawing of some really cool Blackstone River-related prizes.

Activities

1. How far is your house from the Blackstone River? Tell us how you figured it out.
2. Trace or draw two differ-

ent kinds of leaves from trees that grow by the river.

3. Write down the names of two factories in your town that are near the river and what they make or once made.

4. Talk to someone fishing in the Blackstone River. Ask them what kind of fish they have caught in the river. Send in the names of two kinds of fish caught in the Blackstone.

5. Take a hike or picnic in a park on the river. Write down the name of the park and draw or write about the coolest thing you saw along the river.

6. Take a ride on the Blackstone Valley Explorer Riverboat. Call 724-1500 for a reduced price coupon. Ride the boat and draw a picture of what you saw along the river.

7. Included is a list of books about rivers. Read one of these books or some other book about a river. Send the name of the book you read and the name of the author.

8. The Blackstone River used to be very polluted. Ask an older person in your neighborhood about what the river used to look and smell like. Write a comparison between how it used to look and smell and how it is now.

9. Visit the Slater Mill. Call the Slater Mill Historic Site, 725-8638, to obtain a reduced price coupon. Write about what you

learned there.

10. Too many people throw trash near the river. Take or draw a picture of some trash and then clean it up. Take or draw a picture of the same place after you have cleaned it up. Send us a copy of both pictures and the location where you cleaned the river bank.

These are some suggestions for books to read about rivers. Read either one of these, or another of your own choosing to fulfill the requirements of Activity 7. All of these books can be found through any Rhode Island library. Ask your librarian for help finding the right book for you.

- *A River Dream*, by Allen Say
- *Letting Swift River Go*, by Jane Yolen
- *A Wind in the Willows*, by Kenneth Grahame
- *River*, by Lionel Bender
- *This is a River*, by Laurence Pringle
- *Rivers and Lakes*, by Laurence Pringle
- *Rivers and Valleys*, by Philip Sauvin
- *On the Waterway*, by Malcolm Dixon
- *Let's Explore a River*, by Jane R. McCauley
- *Where the River Begins*, by Thomas Locker
- *Three Days on a River in a Red Canoe*, by Vera B. Williams

Make it Rain!

On a rainy day try to imitate nature by creating your own rain stick. Some creativity, imagination and household items are all it takes!

A rain stick is a family favorite. The rain stick is originally from South America, made out of dried cactus with seeds inside which make the sound of falling rain.

Here's how to create your own: For best results, use a 2-inch wide medium-length mailing tube from the post office or for a smaller rain stick, use a clean potato-chip container.

Decorate the tubes using paint, stickers or wallpaper decals. If your tube has metal end caps or stoppers, muffle the sound they will make by cutting out a piece of felt or fabric and gluing it inside. Glue one end cap to the tube.

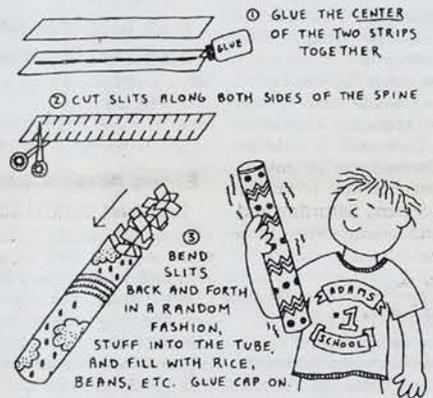
Make a "spine" to place inside the tube. Cut two long strips of posterboard the length of the

tube. The width of the strips should be the diameter of the tube plus a half inch. Squeeze a thin line of white household glue down the center of one strip. Place the second strip on top. The two strips should be glued together down the center portion only. Let dry.

Cut slits (about 3/4"), one-inch apart down both long sides of the "spine" making sure you don't cut through the center. Alternately bend all the cut slits back and forward in an irregular fashion. Stuff the "spine" into the tube.

Pour spoonfuls of dry rice, beans or popcorn kernels into the tube. Each one will create a unique sound. Test the rain stick by covering the open end with your hand and tilting it slightly to hear the contents trickle through the maze.

Glue the remaining cap over the open end and you'll be ready for a kid-friendly indoor shower.



Illustrated by David LaRochelle

Mystic Seaport Underground

Can You Dig It?

After a successful summer of shoveling, sifting and surveying last year, Mystic Seaport is seeking volunteers to dig even deeper at this year's archaeological dig, July 7 to Aug. 1. In cooperation with Connecticut College and under the direction of Dr. Harold Juli, Ph.D., archaeologist, department of an-

thropology, volunteers will continue to excavate the land surrounding two of Mystic Seaport's historic buildings within the museum's grounds along Route 27 in Mystic.

Last year's dig unearthed pipe stems, plate chards and a mysterious configuration of cow

bones nicknamed "Bonehenge."

This year's work will continue to uncover the mystery of these bones and their curious positioning. Volunteers will also expose the newly found foundations of two 19th-century buildings, one of which is believed to be a laundry area.

No special experience is required. Participants must be seniors in high school or older and willing to work several days a week for a two-week period. All volunteers must attend a training session either on July 3 or July 18, beginning at 9 a.m. at the dig site. Tools and all necessary equipment will be provided, but volunteers should bring lunch, water bottles, sun screen, rain gear and a wide-brimmed hat. While physical in nature, archaeology is more like gardening than trench digging and participants may work at their own pace. Call (860) 572-5378 to volunteer.



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W. Alton Jones Campus Offers Summer Expeditions for Teens

The University of Rhode Island's W. Alton Jones Campus is gearing up to offer a variety of wilderness expeditions this summer for teen-agers ages 12 to 17. Each expedition is six days long and includes canoeing, kayaking, backpacking, mountain biking, or rock climbing.

Many of the trips take place in the state forests and on the waterways of Rhode Island and nearby Connecticut. Also offered are expeditions to the White Mountains of New Hampshire, Mount Greylock—the tallest mountain in Massachusetts, and the Berkshires of northwestern Connecticut. Some trips include caving and river rafting. All of the expeditions begin at a base camp on the W. Alton Jones Campus.

While expeditions are out, teens camp out in tents and help cook their own food over camp stoves. All of the trips teach conservation, no-trace camping techniques, and an appreciation for the natural environment.

The W. Alton Jones Campus also offers an Environmental Overnight Camp for ages 8 to 12. The camps are located on the 2,300-acre former W. Alton Jones estate, which features a private lake for swimming, a working farm, and a knotty-pine dining lodge. Both the Teen Expeditions and the Environmental Overnight Camp begin June 29 and run through late August and are accredited by the American Camping Association. For information or to receive a full-color brochure, call 397-3304, ext. 6043.

Explore The Bay

It's a family affair, July 28 to Aug. 23, educational summertime fun designed for both children ages 6 and up and adults in Wickford. Experience Narragansett Bay aboard Project Oceanology's 70-foot research vessel, EnviroLab III. While aboard, you'll haul in a net full of marine life, learn about water quality and discover the important relationship we all have with the bay.

Make your reservations by calling Save The Bay's education department at 272-3540. **FREE TICKETS!** Do you want to help Save The Bay and have fun at the same time? Volunteer for one of Save The Bay's fund-raisers and have a great time in the process! If you'd like to volunteer for any of the Save The Bay events, call Kathryn King at 272-3540.

Kids' Summer Fun

Local Hot Spots

Listed below are just a few local areas of interest for kids and families to try out this summer.

Newport Aquarium

Easton's (First) Beach. 849-8430, 849-1340. Hands-on exhibits with emphasis on animals found in Narragansett Bay. Daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Special programs held noon to 1 and are free. Meet at aquarium. Registration not required. All children must be accompanied by adult. Beach parking fees apply.

June 29, Aug. 10. Narragansett Bay Discovery

July 27. Easton's Beach Scavenger Hunt

July 13, Aug. 24. Guided beach walks.

Roger Williams Park Zoo

Roger Williams Park, Providence. 785-3510, 751-0203 (TDD). Madagascar: Island Lost in Time, Plains of Africa, African Pavilion, polar bears, California sea lions, black-footed penguins, Arctic foxes, red wolves, Tropical American Building, farmyard, Rhode Island wetlands, baby alligators, much more. Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday and holidays 9 to 6, May to October.

Butterfly Zoo at Newport Butterfly Farm

Located on Aquidneck Avenue, Middletown. 849-9519.

Photograph butterflies in natural environment. Number of species and quantities of wild butterflies seen is tied to temperature, amount of sun and time of day. Warm, sunny windless days have largest number of species flying. Daily 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., May 17 to Sept. 30. Closed rainy days.

Newport Fun Center

Ryan Family Amusements, 268 Thames St., Newport, 846-5774. Kiddie rides, air hockey, pool tables, skeeball, video games, daily 10 a.m. to midnight, May 25 to Sept. 1.

Water Wizz

Atlantic Avenue, Misquamicut Beach, Westerly, 322-0520. 35-foot-high giant waterslide, 50-foot-high speed slides, and beginner slide. Lockers/changing facilities available; certified lifeguards; daily 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., June 15 to Labor Day.

Adventureland

Point Judith Road (across from Super Stop & Shop), Narragansett. 789-0030. Bumper boats, miniature golf, go-kart track, batting cages, driving range; daily 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. from June 15 to Sept. 1, weather permitting.

Atlantic Beach Park

Misquamicut Beach, Atlantic Avenue, Westerly. 322-0504.

Ferris wheel, kiddie amusement park, carousel, miniature golf. Daily 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Enchanted Forest

Route 3, exit 2 off Route 95, Hope Valley. 539-7711. Go-karts, mini-golf, batting cages, petting zoo, amusement rides, storybook exhibits, nature trail, tree house, little roller coaster, game room, picnic area, refreshments; daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., mid-June to Labor Day.

Carousel Village

Roger Williams Park, Providence. 781-8008, 785-9450. Carousel, pony rides, themed miniature golf course, kiddie bumperboats, trolley ride. Daily 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Easton's Beach Carousel

First Beach, Newport. 847-6875. Saturday and Sunday, noon to 4 p.m., June to Sept. 1, daily noon to 8 p.m.

Fall River Carousel

Battleship Cove, Fall River, Mass. (508) 324-4300. Saturday and Sunday, noon to 4 p.m., June 2 to June 29; daily 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., June 30 to Sept. 1.

Flying Horse Carousel

Bay Street, Watch Hill, Westerly. Oldest in America, used prior to 1879. Horses are not attached to floor but are suspended from a center frame, swinging out or flying when in motion. Monday to Friday, 1 to 9 p.m., Saturday and Sunday and holidays 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. (children only), June 15 to Sept. 1.

Charles I.D. Loeff Carousel

Bullock's Point Avenue, Riverside, East Providence. 433-2828, 435-7518. Wednesday to Sunday noon to 8 p.m., late June to Aug. 31.

May to August. Saturday evening cruise nights, featuring classic and antique cars, 6 p.m. July 13. Crafts Fair. Home-made baked goods, pony rides. 423-3795.

July 23 to 25. Report Card Days. Bring your report card for free ride for every A.

Sept. 19 to 21. Celebration Weekend. Food booths, entertainment, block party, pony rides petting zoo, face paintings, children's events.

Slater Park's Loeff Carousel

Slater Park, Armistice Boulevard, Pawtucket. 728-0500, ext. 257. Built in 1910. July 1 to Sept. 1, daily 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

BCC Expands Kids College Offerings

Make this summer an exciting time for your kids to have fun while learning something new. Kids College at Bristol Community College provides kids of all ages with a special learning experience each week. Classes begin the week of June 30, with each session lasting two hours.

This year, daily schedules can be arranged to allow students to attend half day (with classes running from 9 to 11 a.m.) or on a full-day (9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.) basis on one or more days per week. "This year, we scheduled the courses back-to-back to provide a full day of activity for kids," said Cheryl Cawley, assistant dean of community services.

Many different courses for many different interests are offered. Some of the courses by grade level include:

Grades One Through Three

- **Introduction to Dance** will introduce dance education to your child, including ballet and jazz. (This class is also offered for grades four through six.)

- **Math Madness** will explore innovative, invaluable and fun methods to reinforce mathematical concepts.

- **Sign Language** is designed to teach American Sign Language using a city theme. Each week students will "visit" a city spot to learn A.S.L. vocabulary in a meaningful way. (Also available for grades four through six.)

Grades Four Through Six

- **Art Makes the World Go "Round"** teaches art from different cultures allowing children to discover why art is the universal language.

- **Be a Publisher: Join the Kids College "Summerbook" Team!** Learn how to put together a publication by creating the Kids College Summerbook.

- **Kids and Computers** will expose your child to the exciting world of computers.

- **Photography and Dark-room Techniques/Introduction** will teach your child how to use the 35mm camera, and how to develop their own black and white photographs. A camera needs to be provided, along with two rolls of black and white film.

Grades Seven Through 12

- **Basic Electronics** will discuss various electronic components and their effects in circuits.

- **Creative Capers** is an arts and crafts course designed to develop a creative mind through fabric painting, stenciling and sponge painting on T-shirts, canvas bags, clay pots and much more.

- **S.A.T. Preparation** will help your child prepare for the Scholastic Aptitude Test.

- **Study Skills: Learn How to Learn** will help your child get more out of school and improve their school work.

There are many new Summer Day Camps, which are one week of a special-interest camp. They include: Basketball Camp for students from ages 8 to 18. **Catch the Criminal Camp** will allow your child to solve a crime that has been committed. The children simulate actual crime-solving methods. **Horseback Riding Day Camp** at the Sakonnet Equestrian Center in Tiverton will teach the basics of horseback riding including: grooming and tacking principles,

riding lessons, horse management and general stable maintenance. **Puppetry Camp** will teach your child the art of puppetry and performance art in a creative one-week program. Your child will create his or her own puppet and develop short skits that will be performed on the last day of class. Lastly, **Summer S.A.M. Camp** will have your child exploring how science, art and storytelling can combine to explain everyday phenomena using Native American myths as a starting point.

There are many more courses for each of the grade levels.

For schedules, registration and information or a course listing about Kids College, call (508) 678-2811, ext. 2270.

Camp Jori Celebrates 60th Birthday

In celebration of its 60th birthday this year, Camp JORI will host a special open house at its Narragansett campgrounds on July 13 from 2 to 4:30 p.m. This event will give prospective campers and their parents the opportunity to see the camp in action, tour its facilities, and share in the celebration of JORI's anniversary. The open house will coincide with the camp's traditional visiting day so that parents of prospective campers will also have a chance to meet the parents of this season's campers.

Camp director, Ronni Guttin, said, "We think this is a really good way for the parents of prospective campers to see how we

operate, learn more about Camp JORI and have a good time. We've planned activities for the kids, too, so they'll have a lot of fun during their visit. It's going to be a terrific chance to get acquainted with the camp and enjoy a birthday party at the same time."

Both Camp JORI's overnight camp and its day camp will begin on June 30. Registration is open to all. This summer has begun with a record enrollment. In addition, the Leaders in Training program, which trains 14- and 15-year-olds for future leadership, is fully enrolled and has a waiting list.

For more information on Camp JORI, call 521-2655.

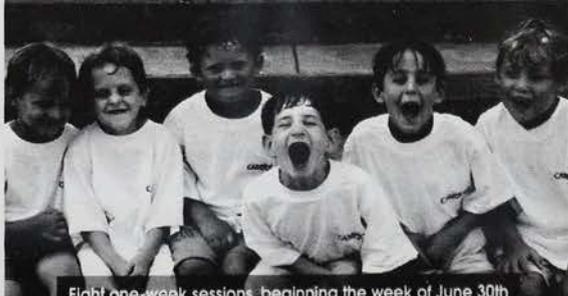
60th season

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You Can Canoe

Learn about canoeing at the upcoming You Can Canoe! Day set for June 29 from noon to 4 p.m., at Johnson's Pond, Raynham, Mass. Twenty different canoe models will be available for demonstration and free "test drives" for anyone wanting to try out a canoe. This on the water clinic, presented by Palmer River Canoe and Kayak and Mad River Canoe, is an excellent opportunity to experience canoes designed for general recreation, river cruising, riding whitewater and fishing. The event is free to the public. Call (508) 336-2274.

HEALTH & FITNESS

Head to Toe Touch Ups

by Tara V. Lisciandro
Herald Editor

Keeping fit and trim can often be a chore. But hard work, a little sweat, a few less sweets and dedication do pay off. As part of your healthy habit practice (as well as to reward yourself for a good workout!), make a trip to the salon as well. Food, exercise, work and daily routines all have an effect on our bodies. "It all eventually has an effect on our hair too," said Jacquie Kapanakis, owner of the Jacqueline Philip Salon in Wayland Square. "People's needs and wants change," continued Kapanakis, who opened her new salon only three weeks ago. Kapanakis previously worked in other salons in Rhode Island, but is originally from New Jersey. She has followed in her family's footsteps as they have been in the beauty salon business since their daughter was born. Kapanakis attended the Capri Institute in Bricktown, New Jersey. She then went for

advance training in various institutes in New York, Los Angeles and Toronto. Currently she works with a new-age French color company and acts as their national educator. "I get a lot of education from them and I like teaching a lot," said Kapanakis. Writing newsletters and giving workshops, for as few as 10 and as many as 300 people, are just part of her position with the company. She has brought many new and modern techniques to her salon with the help of this French company. They create products that don't damage hair, use fewer chemicals and make hair and skin healthier. Kapanakis is always on top of the newest and most natural products. She also plays her part in trying to help the environment. For example, she uses re-usable plastic shells instead of foil to highlight hair, a

European technique that has just recently been introduced to the United States.

She began working for her mother, and learning the "old-fashion way." Besides intensive schooling, Kapanakis was brought up with her mother's European style of training. "They had to be an apprentice for at least four years over there," said Kapanakis. She and her director, Jason Testa, and her stylist, Rebecca Long, agree with the old European method, experience leads to excellence.

To begin, a thorough consultation should be part of your visit to the salon. Kapanakis makes her clients feel at home by offering a variety of beverages as she talks to them about their individual lifestyles. "What people do and what they live with day to day has an effect on every part of their physical self," said Kapanakis. The consultation should include what stresses impact your daily life as well as your needs and wants.



JASON TESTA, Jacquie Kapanakis and Rebecca Long are hard at work at the Jacqueline Philip Salon.

Herald photo by Tara V. Lisciandro

It should also include the amount of time and money you will be spending and the maintenance of your haircut, color and treatment. "You may want to be a blonde, but if it means coming in every other week and spending a lot of money and time maybe you don't want to be a blonde that bad," joked Kapanakis. In fact, consultations can help clients understand their needs even better and help get the natural look they desire.

"You don't always have to get the same old haircut, it can be fun to experiment and try new things too," said Kapanakis. Consultations also are useful for those who are constantly asking, "what will I look like afterwards?" Salons, like Jacqueline's, should be able to help you find the look that suits and flatters you. They should consider your skin tone, color and type. They should also look at your face's features and structure. And most of all, a quality salon will be able to help find a cut and/or color that is easy and affordable to maintain. After the consultation, it's up to you to try something new and do the experimenting!

A top-notch salon doesn't stop with haircuts and color. Other salon experts include a nail technician, who can help create beautiful hands and nails. Hands tell a lot about a person and, like the rest of our bodies, should be kept in shape. Pedicures, makeup and facials can usually be performed at salons as well. You may want a consultation and some ideas as to the facial that is right for you and the make-up and colors that suit your skin color and your wardrobe. Makeup artists can usually help create a line of colors and products that conform to your needs and lifestyle.

And some salons include special body care and treatments. Jacqueline's, for example, offers a seaweed body wrap. This special natural mixture aids the skin, moisturizes, tones and helps create firmer and healthier skin.

Don't forget that the "special treatments" play an important role in keeping healthy. Physically, a good haircut and some color or a perm may help us look a little better; but they also help boost self-esteem. A visit to the salon promotes the healthy habits we look to follow, and rewards them as well.



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HEALTH & FITNESS

What You Should Know About Overuse Injuries

by Amy Westrick, D.C.

Overuse injuries are a result of an accumulation of micro-traumas or mini-stresses. Running, aerobics, and other repetitive exercises which are considered preventive health measures, if overdone, can lead to health problems.

Some common overuse injuries such as plantar fasciitis, shin splints, and iliotibial band syndrome are described below. Treatment advice is also included. If, however, you do not show improvement within a reasonable period of time, you are strongly advised to see your doctor.

Plantar fasciitis is due to the overstretching or partial tearing of the plantar fascia. This fascia is the elastic covering on the soles of the feet. If you have plantar fasciitis, you will feel the pain particularly upon arising or after sitting for a prolonged period. The treatment is to rest the feet as well as use of an arch

support or a heel pad to help prevent further stretching of the plantar fascia. Icing the foot will also help alleviate pain. If needed, electrical stimulation or ultrasound can be used to reduce pain and enhance healing.

Shin splints can be felt on the front or on the inside of the lower leg. This is where the muscle that is responsible for raising the arch of the foot is located. The most common causes of shin splints are: 1) inward turning of the foot (pronation), 2) mileage increase, and 3) running on hard surfaces. To treat shin splints first try to SLOWLY increase mileage and walk or run on grass or other soft surfaces. Do stretching exercises for the calf muscles. After exercising, wrap the lower leg in an icy towel and elevate the leg. If the shin splints do not respond to these treatments, you may need an x-ray to rule out a stress fracture. You may also

need orthotics to correct excessive pronation.

Iliotibial band syndrome can be caused by running excessive mileage, poor running technique, or a biomechanical foot abnormality (check shoes for wear pattern). The iliotibial band connects the lateral or outer thigh muscle to the outer part of the knee. It works when you extend your hip backwards. To treat, apply ice to the area and do stretching for the outer thighs. If needed, electrical stimulation or ultrasound can be applied to the outer thigh in order to decrease the inflammation and speed healing.

Exercising is excellent for both the mind as well as the body. But don't overdo it! Pick something you enjoy doing and remember to warm-up, cool-down and drink plenty of water.

Dr. Amy Westrick is a chiropractic physician and practices at Eastside Chiropractic Center at 291 Waterman St., 453-2225.

Personalized Exercise Program for Adults

Meeting Street Center/Easter Seal Society of Rhode Island offers enrollment now for the next series of the individualized 12-week fitness/exercise program for adults. Classes will begin in July at 667 Waterman Ave. in East Providence.

Developed by clinical exercise physiologist Mark Cutrali, director of health and wellness programs of outpatient rehabilitation services at Meeting Street Center, this two-day per week program is designed to help mature adults over the age of 50 work toward better health and wellness.

Once enrolled, each participant is evaluated in order to determine cardiovascular function, muscular strength, muscle endurance and flexibility, in addition to nutritional status and body composition. The outpatient gym is equipped with top-quality exercise equipment including

treadmills, stationary bicycles, rowing machines, stair stepers, a universal gym and free weights. Participants also have the opportunity to engage in exercise classes that are both enjoyable and effective. While each class includes stretching, exercise and equipment use, classes may also involve yoga, low-impact aerobics and relaxation exercises.

"The program is designed to help adults, who may not initially feel comfortable going to youth-oriented health clubs, safely ease into an exercise program for better health and well-being," noted Jessica Robins Miller, vice president, clinical services at Meeting Street Center.

People interested in July programs can enroll in Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday classes at 5 p.m. or 6:30 p.m. For information, contact Cutrali at 438-9500, ext. 287.

Fitting Fitness Into Your Life

With bathing suit season approaching, now's the time to get in shape. If you can't seem to fit exercise into your busy schedule, here's some encouraging news. Fitness can become part of your daily routine in the environment where you probably spend the majority of your day — the workplace.



Desk Exercises

- When seated, stretch your hips, shoulders and back by raising each hip towards the shoulder.
- If you hold the telephone between your shoulder and ear, switch sides periodically to work both sides of the neck.
- Hug yourself. Wrap your arms around your torso and twist.
- Stretch your leg muscles by keeping your back straight and arms on armrests. Lift your foot until your leg is straight. Hold it

for a few seconds. Repeat with other leg.

Tips for Sitting

- Don't slouch. It restricts breathing and impedes circulation.
- Uncross your legs.

Crossing reduces blood flow to the calves and feet, misaligns your pelvis and puts pressure on your lower back.

- Remove items from back pockets to reduce lower back pain.

(Continued on Page 19)

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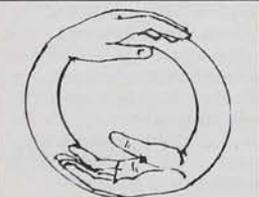
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FEATURE

Rescue and Resistance

Keeping Their Spirit Alive Part II

by Tara V. Lisciandro
Herald Editor

Only recently have we become more familiar with the acts of rescue and resistance during the Holocaust. Within the past few years more attempts have been made in the United States to recognize the horrors of the Holocaust. More films have been created and more books have been released about the Holocaust and its various themes. The Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. has also assisted in creating more awareness and keeping alive a vital part of world history. The victims, the survivors, the children and only recently, those responsible for saving individuals and attempting to resist Nazi persecution are also being remembered.

Certainly, not everyone was capable of saving hundreds of lives but many, collectively,

tions. Museums across the world are collecting photos, documents, letters and forming detailed archives. Monuments are being placed in various parks and town squares.

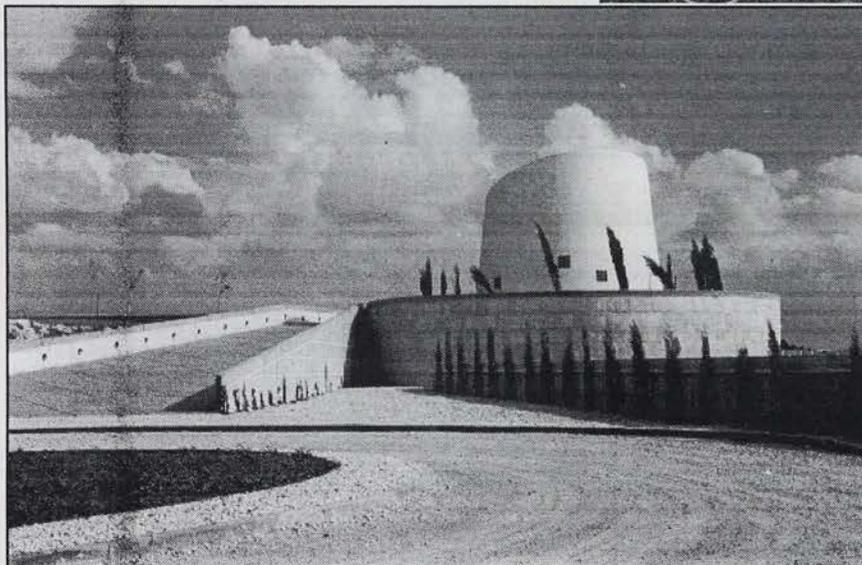
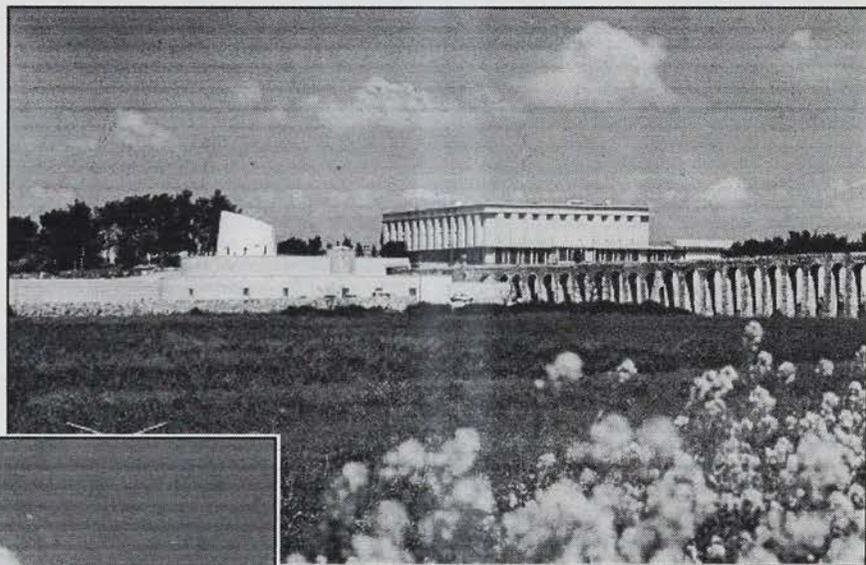
Those who care are joining forces and creating organizations like the Jewish Foundation for the Righteous. More importantly, these organizations are also creating great educational programs for schools in every part of the world. Another organization, American Friends of The Ghetto Fighters' House, formed in 1980 in Teaneck, NJ, assists in the pursuit of educating students about the Holocaust, and, in particular, about those who resisted. A board of volunteer members, including Elie Wiesel who acts as honorary chairman, assists the American Friends of The Ghetto Fighters' House in creating educational programs based on those in their central museum in Israel.

formed with the help of The Ghetto Fighters' House in Israel. The two work together teaching the lessons of the Holocaust. The Ghetto Fighters' House is a different museum, focusing on the history of Jewish resistance. On the 6th anniversary of the Warsaw uprising, the museum was estab-

and walk on the railroad tracks that brought trains to death camps." Simha Stein, general director of The Ghetto Fighters' House, said it took five years to create the children's museum, "we have to deal with questions children have about the Holocaust when the child is young."

tional tour brings students from Israel to Poland.

Stein emphasized the important role computers play in today's world of technology and communication. "We would like everyone to visit the museum, but not just physically," said Stein. By the year 2000 the museum will be fully computer-



THE GHETTO FIGHTERS' HOUSE and Yad Leyeled, the Children's Museum, in Israel.

Photos courtesy of the Ghetto Fighters' House

were able to make a difference. Thanks to courageous individuals thousands of children and adults were saved from Nazi death camps. Today, their stories are being recorded on video and audio cassettes. Some survivors and rescuers are kind enough to go into classrooms and auditoriums and share their stories with younger genera-

Teaching students about the Holocaust through the eyes of those who rescued and resisted brings a more familiar story to young people. Those who acted as rescuers and those who resisted were often very young, from their early teens to their late 20s.

American Friends of The Ghetto Fighters' House was

lished in 1949 by survivors of the Jewish resistance movement, the ghetto uprisings, and the concentration camps. It is one of the largest Holocaust and Jewish resistance museums and documentation centers, the second largest in Israel, visited by 130,000 people every year. The 6,000-square-meter center contains an art museum; a documentation and film archive with more than 1,200 Holocaust-related films and 50,000 photos; an education department in which seminars and educational programming are developed; a Russian department which not only educates but completes research and projects dealing with the survivors in the former Soviet Union; and Yad Leyeled, a special museum dedicated to the children. Yad Leyeled was designed for young visitors from ages 9 to 15. "It's main goal is to introduce children in a sensitive and age-appropriate way to the private world of the child who experienced the Holocaust," states the museum, "The young visitors walk next to ghetto walls, enter ghetto homes

Stein has been the proud director since 1982, "This is my life," said Stein. Born after World War II in Tel Aviv, Simha, Hebrew for "happiness," believes he is carrying on "something that the deceased weren't able to do but would have." As a second-generation survivor, Stein feels a deep sense of dedication to his country and people. "Some founders are still active in the museum. We keep the spirit of the founders alive," stated Stein. While recently visiting New York for the Conference on Holocaust centers, Stein said everyone was busy sharing and exchanging ideas. He also wanted to let the United States know about the new educational programs The Ghetto Fighters' House is busy creating. "Just to tell the story of the Holocaust isn't enough, students don't

oriented and anyone will be able to log on to their educational web site.

As a part of its educational and commemorative efforts, the museum initiated "The Children Without Identity" project one year ago. Hundreds of "children without identity" currently live in Israel and other parts of the world. Many children, who were born during the Holocaust, were hidden; and by the end of the war, they became orphans without a trace of real family history.

Almost five years ago, Leah Balint, a researcher, began collecting information and materials from Europe and Israel to assist survivors in finding their true identities. Balint joined forces with The Ghetto Fighters' House and developed the project with the museum's staff. With help from the "Coordinastia," lists of hidden Jewish children developed by the Zionist movements in Europe after the war, true identities are often discovered. A state-of-the-art computer system, which will go on-line within a few months, also assists researchers with new data. There have been more than 30 people who have already discovered their true identity thanks to the "Children Without Identity" project.

The Ghetto Fighters' House has also developed the first CD-ROM about the Warsaw ghetto. In November the English version of this disk will be available, for now it is available in its original French version.

The Ghetto Fighters' House can also be found in Canada, England, Sweden, and France. They also have collections in Switzerland and Holland. "People around the world would like to know more about this enigma," said Stein, "I'm not sure how to do it. We are

(Continued on Page 19)

Thanks to courageous individuals thousands of children and adults were saved from Nazi death camps.

have sympathy," said Stein. The museum has developed a series of biographies about the resistance fighters to implement in school systems. "We are dealing with life. We want to emphasize that Jews didn't go like sheep to the slaughter. We tell how they fought in the ghettos and the camps," added Stein. As part of the education program The Ghetto Fighters' House will offer 18 seminars this summer and already has a long list of students from the United States that will be visiting. The Ghetto Fighters' House is also active in the March of the Living. This annual educa-

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30 Years of Business

Stars of David Reaches Out to Jewish Adoptive Families

by Sara Wise
Herald Editor

How hard is it to adopt a Jewish child? Will my child really be Jewish? How do I raise a converted child to feel part of my Jewish heritage? These are questions many Jewish parents face when they adopt a child.

In Rhode Island, Jewish adoptive families can turn to the Stars of David to meet families with similar questions and discuss the unique issues they face raising their children.

"It's a support group," said Roberta Schneider who founded the Rhode Island chapter four years ago. "But we don't do anything too heavy, it's mostly social, so that kids can meet other kids, and the parents can get together and talk."

Founded in Massachusetts in 1984 by two Jewish adoptive mothers, the Stars of David is a grassroots, non-profit information and support network for Jewish and partly Jewish adoptive families. Through Stars of David's network of chapters, Jewish adoptive families across the country can share valuable ideas and information.

Schneider got involved with the organization through a workshop she attended more than nine years ago before she adopted her first child. "I had a lot of questions about how my being Jewish would affect my chances of adopting. Would it matter? Could I adopt a Jewish baby? Would my child be Jewish? They were discussing all these issues."

Although there was no Stars of David chapter in Rhode Island at the time, Schneider got on the mailing list which she found to be a great help when she adopted her first child. "Just having a newsletter with other people like us going through similar experiences was very important to me."

Four years ago she decided to start a chapter in Rhode Island. "I looked at a newsletter listing all the members in the state and we were one of two families on the mailing list, and I knew there was no way that there were only two Jewish adoptive families in the state of Rhode Island," said Schneider. Figuring that other families probably didn't know about Stars of David, she looked into starting a new chapter.

With the help of Jewish Family Service, Schneider was able to get the new chapter started. According to Julie Gutterman,

director of Professional Services at Jewish Family Service, the volunteer organization operates independently of JFS, but does receive assistance with publicity and mailings. "They've brought in interesting speakers and run a lot of fun social events. We share a lot of the same goals and refer our clients to them when appropriate," said Gutterman.

Schneider said that after four years they now have a core group of about 20 families. Group social activities include a Chanukah party at the Jewish Community Center and a Shabbat barbecue in the spring where they light candles outdoors, say the kiddish, and discuss the different Shabbat traditions that each family observes. There are also evening discussion sessions where featured speakers address different adoption-related topics.

But the most important element seems to be the sharing of ideas that shows each family that they are not going through the adoption experience alone.

"For me there were a lot of religious questions about being Jewish and adopting a child. Such as, will my child really will be considered Jewish if they were converted? How many Jewish children have been adopted? Sometimes the rabbis don't always answer all your questions the way you need them to be answered, and it's nice to have other people you can turn to for help with those questions," said Schneider.

Because the chapter is young, most of the children in it are young. Schneider's oldest daughter, Lindsay, 10, is one of the oldest in the group. "It's amazing to watch the children grow and to have new people come in the group. Soon we'll need to think about what issues we'll face as the kids grow into adolescence and adulthood."

To gain some insight on the coming years, the local Stars of David chapter brought in a panel of college-age Jewish adoptees and asked them questions on how they felt about growing up as converted Jews. Schneider said that she was surprised that they all overwhelmingly felt that they really were Jewish. "In fact the research shows that if you make the kids feel connected to Judaism and bring them up with a positive experience, then most will feel Jewish, regardless of whether they were converted or born Jewish," said Schneider.

The conversion process for

an adopted child is actually quite simple, explained Schneider who now has three children, all of whom were adopted. Jewish law requires that the child be formally converted to Judaism through submersion in a mikvah. "It's very fast, a few prayers are said." The timing and nature of the conversion varies under different Jewish traditions. Some chose to go to

many questions about conversion, which is one of the main reasons that Schneider got involved in Stars of David. "I felt that adopting a child that wasn't Jewish and going through the conversion process was a huge issue so I wanted to speak to other adopted parents who had been through this," said Schneider.

"I needed to know what it ac-



ROBERTA SCHNEIDER with her daughter, Sarah, and son, Justin.
Herald photo by Sara Wise

the mikvah when the child is an infant, others wait until the child is old enough to understand the ritual and child is asked whether they want to be Jewish. There is also a bris for infant boys and naming ceremony for both boys and girls.

Despite the seemingly straightforward process, Jewish adoptive parents often have

usually meant. If I go to synagogue with my child and people know she's adopted, would my temple feel she is less Jewish than somebody who was born Jewish? I really had those questions. My Judaism is important to me and I wanted us to feel that our family was the same [as others]. I wanted that normalcy."

For many adoptive families,

practicing the Jewish rituals is most important for creating that sense of normalcy. Lighting candles on Friday night is such a part of the Schneider's lives that little Sarah, their energetic toddler about to turn 2, raced inside to get a yarmulke when they were lighting a citronella candle in the porch recently. "She closed her eyes and made arm motions to bring in the Sabbath," said Schneider. "It shows how they're never too young to be exposed to Judaism. It's the traditions that are important."

Although there is less of a stigma now surrounding adoption, some parents are still concerned that their kids will be treated differently. "There's still that fear that someone might think your family is different, but the more you educate people and talk about it, they'll realize that you're no different than anybody else," Schneider. Stars of David helps strengthen that fabric of their [the children's] identity; it helps them to feel really good about who they are."

For more information on the Rhode Island Stars of David, contact Roberta Schneider at 431-0678, or call Toby Zaitchik, adoption coordinator, Jewish Family Service at 331-1244.

List of resources available for Jewish adoptive families:

...and Hannah Wept: Infertility, Adoption and the Jewish Couple, Michael Gold, Jewish Publication Society.

Raising Adopted Children: A Manual for Adoptive Parents, Lois Ruskai Melina, Perennial Library.

When Friends Ask About Adoption: Question and Answer Guide for Non-Adoptive Parents and Other Caring Adults, Linda Bothun, Swan Publications.

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Lost Boundaries

(Continued from Page 5)

on the staff who watched our body language from their courtly distance. Maybe she won and I have written a chapter of her biography after all. "You know, they say she was a beautiful girl," the lifeguard declares, building our local legend.

I studied a book called *The Tao of Synchronicity*. It argues that coincidence comes from within, not outside. I invent the woman who sips soda, and she made me up in her turn for her use. It's a privilege to be up and about in fair weather with souls to

touch and be touched by.

Since that spot of sun and putting some words to the meeting of minds, I went out of my way to find her again and learn a little more about her routines. She was a popular part-time volunteer teacher, encouraging youngsters to explore their feelings in verse. She really does bring and bear the gift of giving. Sometimes it's a mitzvah to receive. Chassids see every meeting as mystical. I offer a few words of respect and affection to the girl with the twist of lime in a sparkling glass of clear water.



ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Dinner Theatre Holds Auditions

City Nights Dinner Theatre announces open auditions for its opening show of its 14th season, the outrageous comedy, "Home is Where Your Clothes Are." The show is produced by David Jepson and directed by Bruce W. Lackey. Auditions will be held at the theater on July 7 and 8 at 7 p.m. Four women ages 20 to 50s and four men, 20 to 50s are needed.

Performance dates for "Home is Where Your Clothes Are" are Sept. 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28, Oct. 2, 3, 4 and 5.

City Nights provides a stipend payment to all cast, crew and production staffing. Inquiries are always welcome for all areas of participation. Apprentice positions are often available.

Those auditioning for the first time are encouraged to bring, if possible, a résumé and a recent photo to be kept on an active file (or a form and photo can be taken at the theater). Auditions for new shows are approximately every six weeks.

City Nights is located at the

center of downtown Pawtucket, next to the *Pawtucket Times* newspaper building with easy access from Route 95 by Exit 29. The theater is on the left side of Exchange Street at the intersection of Broad Street, with several parking lots on the right side of Exchange Street across from the theater and one diagonally behind the newspaper building.

For more information, call 723-6060 and leave your name and number. All calls will be returned.

Exhibit of Marc Chagall's Art Opens in Minsk for First Time

by Lev Krichevsky

MOSCOW (JTA) — After many years in forced oblivion, Marc Chagall's art is becoming a cherished part of national culture in his native Belarus.

Recently, citizens of Minsk got a chance to see the works of their famous countryman for the first time, when a collection of 70 of the artist's lithographs, watercolors and gouaches went on display in the Belarussian capital.

Chagall was born in 1887 in Vitebsk, a city about 150 miles east of Minsk. He studied art and became a member of the avant-garde movement that flourished in this mostly Jewish town during the early part of the century.

Chagall was not the first member of his family to become an artist. His grandfather, Chaim, was known for a mural in a synagogue in the Belarus town of Mogilev. The synagogue was destroyed by Bolshevik authorities in the 1930s.

Chagall left the Soviet Union for Western Europe in 1922. He spent most of his life in France, where he died in 1985.

For many years Chagall's work was criticized in the Soviet Union, often in an anti-Zionist context. Despite the fact that Chagall often uses the images of his childhood and early adulthood in much of his work, not a single work by him was on display in Belarus.

As the Soviet Union began to crumble, Chagall began to earn recognition. In 1991, an international art festival bearing his name — now an annual event — was organized in his hometown. Soon after, some of his works went on display.

In 1992, a statue honoring him was unveiled in the city.

The artist's granddaughter, Meret Meyer Graber, who brought the current exhibition to Minsk from two French museums, says it took her several years to organize the exhibition in the former Soviet republic.

Now, however, her work is paying off. Her grandfather is gaining official acclaim in the country he long dreamed of seeing again.

Belarus' culture minister, Alexander Sosnovsky said on the opening night of the Minsk exhibition that "Chagall has come home after many years of oblivion."

Last year, during his trip to Vitebsk, Belarus' president, Alexander Lukashenko, called Chagall one of the greatest representatives of Belarussian culture — words that no official in the country would utter when the Soviet Union existed.

Vitebsk will see Chagall's works again in a few weeks, when the exhibition moves from Minsk to Vitebsk. In addition, a one-story Vitebsk house that belonged to the Chagalls will be opened as a museum during this year's Chagall festival.

The annual festival has turned into the main event in the cultural life of Vitebsk, said Arkadiy Shulman, editor of *Mishpacha*, a Jewish literary and historical magazine published in the artist's native city of 250,000.

"It is great that Chagall has been officially recognized as part of our country's culture," said Larisa Spiegel, an art student from Minsk. "I think this should make Belarussian Jews more proud of being Jews and the rest of our citizens more proud of living in the land of Chagall."



OSLO Presents 'The Mikado'

This amusing tale in which young love cleverly triumphs over adversity and bureaucracy is one of Gilbert and Sullivan's most famous operettas. Ocean State Light Opera performs "The Mikado" June 19 through July 6 at the Wheeler School Theatre. Call 331-6060 for information.

Photo courtesy of Ocean State Light Opera

Rhode Island Philharmonic Presents Free Summer Pops Concerts

The Rhode Island Philharmonic will perform Summer Pops Concerts at various locations throughout the state this summer. Each of these concerts will be performed outdoors and each is free to the public. The concerts will be conducted by Philharmonic Assistant Conductor Francisco Noya and feature a program of Broadway show tunes, popular patriotic music, some seasonal selections and light classics. Each concert lasts about two hours with a brief intermission.

On July 5 at 8 p.m. the Philharmonic will perform at the Town Beach in Narragansett. (Rain date is July 6 at 8 p.m.) The

Summer Pops Concert in East Greenwich will take place on Aug. 30 at 7:30 p.m. at Eldredge Field, next to the Eldredge School. If the weather is inclement, the concert will take place at the same time but at an alternate indoor location. Check with local officials for the rain site.

The final Summer Pops Concert will take place in Bristol on Aug. 31 at 7 p.m. outdoors on the Guiteras School grounds. (Rain date is Labor Day, Sept. 1, same time, same location.)

For directions to a particular concert site, contact the town offices in each community. For information about specific music, call the Philharmonic at 831-3123.

'The Proper Ladies' Come to New Bedford

In period costume, The Proper Ladies sing 19th-century songs and parlor ballads that reflect the lives of the women left at home by sailors and sea captains... and a few who sailed along. These songs, unearthed out of dusty archives and mostly published right here in Massachusetts, were favorites not just in the sea captains' homes, but across the country. Young women sang feelingly of great sea battles, of brave men lost at sea, of the dilemmas of the women left behind.

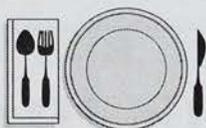
Travel back to 19th-century New Bedford with The Proper Ladies, and enjoy the songs that were sung in the parlors and music halls in the 50 years that followed the incorporation of the city. Listen to and join the singing of songs that reflect the

lives of the women left at home by sailors and sea captains in the 1840s as well as the songs our grandparents and great-grandparents sang in the 1890s.

Sing along with old favorites such as "Old Oaken Bucket," "Annie Laurie," and "Long, Long Ago," published in the 1830s, to "Sweetest Story Ever Told" and "Sweet Rosie Grady," published in the 1890s. Discover beautiful, but forgotten gems such as "Larboard Watch," the exquisite "Evening Song to the Virgin," the haunting "Three Fishers," and the humorous "The Baby on the Shore."

The Proper Ladies will be at the New Bedford Whaling Museum on July 10 at 8 p.m. Admission is \$5 per person. For more information, call (508) 997-0046.

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MILESTONES

ASDS Science Teacher Wins Presidential Award

Elaine Mangiante, science coordinator of the Alperin Schechter Day School has been chosen as a state winner of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science teaching. This program is designed to identify outstanding teachers of mathematics and science who will serve as models for their colleagues and form a leadership core to help advance the major reform movement in these areas.

Mangiante is one of three teachers chosen to represent Rhode Island elementary science teachers at the national level. A national selection committee comprised of prominent mathematicians, scientists, educators and past awardees will review the supporting documents for the three Rhode Island candidates and recommendations will be made to the National Science Foundation. The Presidential Awardees will be notified by the White House in the fall.

Mangiante has been noted for her dynamic leadership and creativity. She is a role model to both faculty members and stu-

dents, and has elicited enthusiasm for science study and respect for the work of the scientist, through her imaginative, hands-on curriculum.

Through her efforts, a new science curriculum has been implemented at the Schechter school, according to the recommendations of the National Science Standards and the Benchmarks for Scientific Literacy, which stress that students learn the process of scientific inquiry through hands-on experiences.

The most unique feature of this program is the use of performance assessments in the form of "Challenges." At the end of each unit of study, students are given an open-ended "challenge." For example, after studying electricity, heat and light, students were asked to build a structure that could keep a tomato plant alive during the month of March. In this way students apply what they have learned in a creative way. This assessment approach also helps to build students' confidence in their ability to think independently and solve a problem on their own.



THIS BEE GETS AN "A" — Elaine Mangiante, ASDS science specialist, is dressed for success while explaining the life and times of bees to a third-grade class. Photo courtesy of ASDS

Local Karate Students Earn Top Scores

The following students from Dave Durning's Martial Arts Center, located in East Greenwich, competed on June 14 at the First Impressions Martial Arts Open held in New London, Conn.

The results are as follows:
Leah Dorfman — first place in 9/10 novice forms, second place in 9/10 novice/intermediate girls fighting.

Vicki Dorfman — first place senior all ranks weapons, second place senior novice/inter-

mediate forms; 2nd place senior women fighting

Jim Palmisciano — first place men's beginner forms, first place men's beginner fighting

Jim Thompson — second place men's beginner fighting

This is Leah Dorfman's third first place in her forms division and she is ranked in sparring as well. Palmisciano has three second place wins in sparring but this is her first first place in sparring.

Wallick Made Scout of the Year

The committee, officers and members of Troop 7 Buttonwoods, sponsored by Saint Rose of Lima Church, announced that Adam M. Wallick has been named as the 1997 recipient of their Raymond W. Maker, Jr. Scout of the Year Award.

The award is named after Ray Maker, Jr. who was a member of the troop's committee and had been active with the scouting program for more than 40 years.

To earn this award Adam had to meet a number of criteria that had been set by the troop committee and leaders. This criteria included participation in troop meetings, camping trips, fundraising efforts and in service projects. Advancing in rank was also a requirement. The way he lived up to the Scout Oath and Law at and away from scout

events was also a factor in his selection as Scout of the Year.

Adam joined the troop two years ago, coming from Pack 1284 Warwick, after earning Cub Scouting's highest award, the Arrow of Light.

During the past year Adam has advanced four ranks and presently holds the rank of Life Scout.

During the summer of 1996, he was awarded the Knight of Baden Powell Award while camping at the Yawgoog Scout Reservation's provisional camp, Baden Powell. This award, given out only several times during the summer, is given to those scouts who exemplify the Scout Oath and Law while at camp.

Also at camp that summer he earned the Jewish Scouting Award. At home he is a member

of Temple Beth-El, in Providence where he attends religious school and is an officer of one of their youth groups.

Adam is a seventh-grade student at Aldrich Junior High School where he maintains high honors. He is an active member of the student council and participates in the enrichment opportunities program.

In the troop he holds the leadership position of librarian and also serves as a den chief for the parish-sponsored Cub Scout pack, Pack 7 Buttonwoods.

On June 11, the scouts of the troop elected him to the Order of the Arrow. This is a national brotherhood of Scout honor campers.

Adam is the son of Marc and Bobbie Wallick of Squantum Drive, Warwick.



ADAM WALLICK, center, receives the 1997 Raymond W. Maker, Jr. Scout of the Year Award from Scoutmaster Cal Wilcox (left) and Ken Andrade, organizational representative (right).

Photo courtesy of Marc Wallick

Providence Biltmore Hotel Turns 75 This Month

The year was 1922. F. Scott Fitzgerald spun tales of beautiful flappers and dashing aristocrats. Crowds danced to the hot licks of cool jazz musicians like Louis Armstrong. Secret speakeasies and backyard stills sprung up in the wake of prohibition. Women swooned at the images of Rudolph Valentino and Douglas Fairbanks on the silver screen. The discovery of King Tut's tomb gave the public a glimpse of the awesome riches of ancient Egypt.

In Rhode Island, this year of glitter and glamour was epitomized by the opening of the Providence Biltmore Hotel. A front-page story in the June 6, 1922 edition of the *Providence Journal* reported on the banquet and ball that would officially open the Biltmore, predicting that it would be "the most elaborate social event ever to be held in this city. For the occasion, the building was illuminated from top to bottom with more than 25,000 lights.

The original owners, New York entrepreneurs John Bowman and Louis Wallick, envisioned the Biltmore as a state-

of-the-art luxury hotel. It was designed by New York architects Warren and Wetmore, whose other commissions included Grand Central Station. The building's unique V-shaped design afforded all guests an outside room.

The 600-room hotel included a drugstore, printing shop, carpentry and upholstery shop, and a photo lab. The Biltmore of the '20s also featured rooftop gardens and chicken coops. Guests were offered a choice of six different restaurants. Shortly after its opening, the *Journal* hailed it as the "new tourist and social center of Providence."

The hotel continued to be Providence's hot spot during the big band era of the 1930s and '40s.

The stately building has weathered the worst of the notorious New England weather. It has survived numerous hurricanes, including the famous storms of 1938 and 1954. The 1954 hurricane flooded the building, with water pouring down into the elevator shafts. Couches floated through the Falstaff Room, drifted out into the lobby

and just stopped short of the revolving doors. A plaque, high up on the lobby columns, commemorates the high water mark.

The Providence Biltmore is to this day, the preferred place in Rhode Island for the daughters of the socially prominent or upwardly mobile to be married. Second only to brides, politicians consider the Providence Biltmore their special hotel in Rhode Island. John Kennedy came before he was elected, as did Lyndon Johnson, Estes Kefauver and Nelson Rockefeller.

The Biltmore closed in 1974, only to be renovated and reopened in 1979. It was then that the beloved glass elevator was installed. The ornate lift provides a dramatic vertical tour of Providence, ascending 17 stories on the outside of the hotel.

Over the past 10 years, the Providence Biltmore Hotel has undergone several additional renovations, restoring it to its 1922 charm. The hotel now has 241 guest rooms, which includes 18 suites and two ultra-luxurious suites.

The building was purchased (Continued on Page 19)

OBITUARIES

MARTHA-SUE HOFFMAN
CRANSTON — Martha-Sue Hoffman, 45, of 115 Rangeley Road, and of Canton, Mass., a speech pathologist, died June 21 at home in Cranston.

Born in Providence, she was a daughter of Marilyn (Manekofsky) Hoffman, with whom she lived, and the late Jacob Hoffman.

She was a graduate of Boston University, where she earned a bachelor of science degree and a master's degree in science.

She was a speech pathologist at Lawrence General Hospital in Lawrence, Mass., and Tufts New England Medical Center in Boston for 13 years. She was a self-employed speech pathologist throughout New England. She taught summer courses at Emerson College in Boston for the last five years. She was a member of the Massachusetts and American Speech-Language-Hearing Associations. She was a member of Zamir Chorale in Boston for many years.

Besides her mother, she leaves a brother, William Hoffman of Providence.

The funeral service was held June 23 in Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. Service was coordinated by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

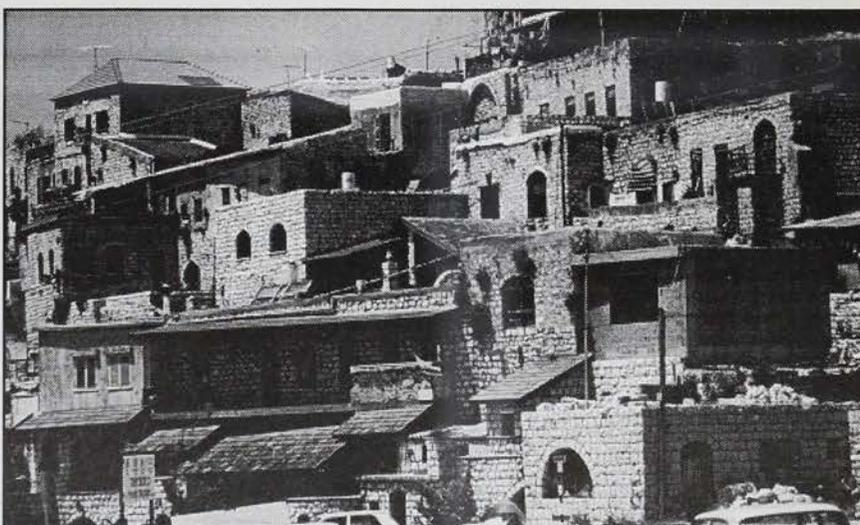
JANETTA KHMELNITSKAYA

PROVIDENCE — Janetta Khmelnitskaya, 64, of Charlesgate Nursing Center, 50 Randall St., died June 19 at Women & Infants Hospital. She was the wife of Boris Gorbachevsky.

Born in Russia, a daughter of the late Volf and Zerna (Sverdlin) Sverdlin, she lived in Providence since 1992, previously living in Russia.

Besides her husband, she leaves a daughter, Olga Gurvich of Barrington; a son, Alexander Khmelnitskaya in Israel; a sister, Ellen Khmelnitskaya in Russia; and three grandchildren.

The funeral was held June 22 at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Post Road, Warwick.



Provençe in the Galilee

Safed, the highest town in Israel, is a city of pedestrians-only lanes, picturesque old synagogues, artists' galleries, small hotels and flower-bedecked courtyards. Safed first reached prominence in the 16th-century and is considered one of the four holy cities of Judaism.

Photo courtesy of Israel Ministry of Tourism

New Israel Bonds President Sees Investment in Jewish State Vital

by Cynthia Mann
NEW YORK (JTA) — To attract immigrants over the next decade, Israel will need to expand its infrastructure, argues Gideon Patt, the new president of the State of Israel Bonds.

The capital provided by Israel Bonds will be vital to that endeavor, argues Patt, especially after U.S. loan guarantees come to an end.

U.S. loan guarantees of \$10 billion have paid for the absorption of a huge wave of immigrants from the former Soviet Union and have left Israel with "a more or less easy situation," said Patt.

Such a "no-strings-attached" source of credit meant Israel got a better deal when it came to borrowing money it needed from banks.

But that flow is slated to end in two years, he points out.

At the same time, in order to maintain its current economic pace and standard of living, Israel will have to mobilize more than \$2.5 billion a year for the foreseeable future, said Patt.

Bonds will prove indispensable, said Patt. After the loan guarantees, they are seen as "the next most reliable source" of capital, he said.

They provide \$1 billion a year for infrastructure development and help secure countless more investment dollars, and investment is the key to Israel's future.

Only by "doubling its infrastructure in the next 10 to 15 years" will Israel "be a place Jews will be attracted to," Patt said.

Only then will it be in a position to take in the 1 million Jews who remain in the former Soviet Union who could be enticed to come "if they look and see their brothers and sisters are doing well."

Patt, an economist who served in the Knesset for 26 years and has held a Cabinet post in the Begin, Shamir and Peres governments, speaks with authority and ease about the importance of bonds, more than \$17 billion of which have been sold over the years, he noted.

It is a subject he knows well, having been a staple on the Bonds speaking circuit over the years.

A graduate of New York University, his Manhattan office is also familiar turf.

In a recent interview there, Patt drew on his pipe and digressed with evident relish to talk about the changes he has witnessed over the years in the

relations between American Jews and Israelis.

He made it clear that he will exert his influence not to let the politics of the Israeli religious pluralism debate rear its head at Bonds, as it has in other Diaspora organizations.

Besides, "politics," he said, matter far less in bonds sales "than interest rates."

He boasted of the cooperation in Bonds' rabbinic cabinet, which represents the multiple Jewish streams, and said, "If you're mad at Shas, you can't take it out on immigrants or ports or roads."

Shas is the Orthodox party sponsoring conversion legislation in the Knesset, which has sparked the ire among non-Orthodox Diaspora Jewry.

Bonds, he added, are "very positive cement" in the relationship between the American Jewish community and Israel.

"To detach from Israel is to detach from something which is the center of Judaism."

Patt also talked about the changes he aims to implement in the organization during his stewardship, whose length "depends on me," he said.

In choosing the focus of Israeli speakers for Bonds events, "I'm moving away from just politics and security problems," he said.

"It's very important to have military and political figures to come and explain Israel's problems, but I'm branching out. It's not enough. It's not the fiber of Israel."

"I want this organization to be the best informed on a variety of issues."

Patt noted the transformation of Israel Bonds over the years and that its appeal, formerly limited to a Jewish market, now reaches far beyond it.

"Twenty or 30 years ago, most buyers were Jews who felt they had to do it because they wanted Israel to be better off. "Non-Jewish buyers were reluctant to buy bonds because they were not sure Israel would be in existence to pay them back.

(Continued on Page 19)

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Jews Were Not Slave Profiteers, Says Drescher

by Emily Torgan
Jewish Community Reporter

During colonial times, the Jews made a lot of money trading African slaves. Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan has shared this notion with the public. But according to Seymour Drescher, a professor of history at the University of Pittsburgh, the notion is incorrect.

At "The Jews and the Expansion of Europe to the West: 1450 to the Revolutions for Independence in the Americas," an international conference held at the John Carter Brown library between June 15 and 18, Drescher presented a research paper proving that Jewish and New Christian involvement in the slave trade was "too ephemeral, too localized and too limited to have made an appreciable difference."

Drescher begins by saying that in three and a half centuries of colonization, more than 11 million Africans were transported to slavery in the New World.

Although the tens of thousands of participants in this human migration involved Muslims, Christians, Jews and those of other religious affiliations, the history of the slave trade is usually structured by geography and state sponsors.

Politically, says Drescher, it is organized into a series of national entities working as suppliers, carriers, and purchasers.

Between 1450 and 1800, a small number of nations dominated the European enterprise.

Between the late 15th and the early 17th centuries, Iberian slavers dominated the Atlantic,

Drescher explained, for Portuguese-licensed slavers worked in Spanish and Portuguese empires.

When the Iberians lost control of transportation and distribution, the Netherlands, England and France stepped in.

Towards the end of the 17th century, said Drescher, Britain had replaced Portugal as the main carrier of slaves.

Although participants in the slave trade are not usually categorized religiously, Drescher said such mechanisms left little room for Jews or New Christians.

Pointing to the numerous expulsions of the Jews from European nations in the 15th and 16th centuries, Drescher showed that by the time that significant numbers of Africans were being exported to the Americas, most of Europe's Jewry had been forced eastward to Poland, Lithuania and the Ottoman empire.

None of these nations, said Drescher, were involved or interested in the Atlantic slave trade.

Drescher also showed that Jews were not permitted to live along the Atlantic seaboard when the slave supply systems were initiated, and hence were prohibited from openly helping to found the institutions of the slave trade.

The second phase of the slave trade, which took place between 1604 and 1700, did not present many opportunities for Jews either.

Then, governmental agencies or quasi-public companies dominated the trade.

"The closer one approached the heights of official power in any European polity, the less

likely was a Jewish presence," wrote Drescher. "It was legally impossible after Columbus' voyages for Jews to hold the principal managerial positions in official slave-trading entities."

Still, New Christians who suffered pressures from the Inquisition in Portugal were drawn to the slave trade, which offered them asylum from Europe and a point of economic entry. Some New Christians, wrote Drescher, managed to gain a sizable share of the Portuguese slave trade during the first phases of the system.

Although some Amsterdam Jews chartered slaving vessels, the Jewish interest in the slave trade constituted a small part of their interest in African and Brazilian trading with Europe, Drescher said.

In the 1600s, the Dutch West India Company acquired a chartered slaving monopoly.

"Jewish investment in the West India Company was remarkably low," Drescher wrote. "... It never rose above 1.3 percent."

But later, between 1636 and 1646, Brazilian Jews played a role as slave distributors. But in the late 1640s, this role ended when the Dutch lost Brazil to the Portuguese.

During the 18th century, the peak of the Atlantic slave trade in terms of human numbers, Jewish participation declined rapidly.

"Jews may have represented about one percent of British slavers in almost three thousand slaving voyages," Drescher wrote.

Drescher believes that Jewish participation in the slave trade was very low.

"It is unlikely that more than a fraction of one percent of enslaved Africans were purchased or handled by Jews," he wrote. "At no point... were the Jews numerous enough, rich enough, and powerful enough to significantly affect the structure, flow, or the sufferings of the transatlantic slave trade."

Summer Travel Tough on Vehicles



For millions of Americans, the traditional automobile vacation remains a perennial favorite. But your dream trip could be ruined by automotive problems.

To help lessen the chances of mechanical troubles, the non-profit National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence offers the following advice:

- Start preparing your vehicle well ahead of your vacation. Automotive components already weakened by last winter's driving could fail in summer's heat and stop-and-go traffic.

- Make automotive maintenance and service a year-round investment. Your vehicle will last longer, and you will gain peace of mind. Read the owner's manual, follow recommended service intervals and keep good records.

- Find a shop with a courteous staff, qualified technicians and modern equipment. Reward good service with repeat business. Ask friends for their recommendations and check the reputation of the shop with your local consumer organization.

- Look for repair facilities that employ one or more ASE-certified technicians. These tech-

nicians have taken national exams to prove their competency to their employers and to you.

- Inspect your vehicle periodically for unusual sounds, odors, changes in performance and handling, leaks, drips, etc. Be prepared to mention these symptoms to your auto technician.

- A summer inspection should cover the following: air conditioning system, condition and tightness of belts and hoses, engine performance, and fluids. Also check the radiator, brakes, tires (including spare), suspension and steering, all lights and bulbs, the battery, and windshield wipers.

- Carry some basic tools, road flares, a cellular phone or CB radio, and a flashlight for emergency use.

The experts at the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence have prepared a consumer brochure on summertime auto maintenance. For a free copy of *Getting Your Vehicle Ready for Summer*, send a self-addressed, stamped, No. 10 envelope to: ASE Summer Brochure, Dept. NU-S97, 13505 Dulles Technology Drive, Suite 2, Herndon, VA 20171.

Travel Around the World This Summer

A series of slide/travelogues will be offered at the Barrington Public Library this summer on Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. The series begins on July 10 with a presentation by Bob Darling called "From Kent to Cornwall: The South of England." Darling notes:

"The broad sweep of England is probably the area most visited by tourists — London, Bath, Stratford-on-Avon, Oxford and Cambridge. Yet outside these "hot" spots are the small towns, the deserted castles and the neighborhood pubs — the byways of England.

"Our journey travels from Chartwell, a surprisingly livable

estate to Rye, then continues with stops at a couple of "stately" homes, and a visit to the Victory. We'll see Broadlands, the home of Mountbatten, but also Trerice and Cotehele. We'll check out Stonehenge, but also the armada at the Fleet Air Arm Museum. A cathedral or two, from functioning Wells to the ruins of Glastonbury. From these busy areas, we'll travel to the wilds of Dartmoor, made notorious in the novels of Kenneth Roberts, and to the open farmlands and craggy coasts of Cornwall. Plus there are gardens everywhere. Join us for a trip staying at B & B's and driving on the 'B' routes."

The remainder of the schedule for the summer is as follows:

- July 17 — "Sailing Through Patagonia" by Monica Allen
 - July 24 — "A Villa in Tuscany" by Herb Single
 - July 31 — "My Mother's Village: a Czech Journey" by Walter Nebiker
 - Aug. 7 — "Breton Adventures: a Journey to Brittany, France" by Mike Fink
 - Aug. 21 — "The Glories of China" by Elsa Grieder
 - Aug. 28 — "Gardens of England" by Sandi Tinyk
 - Sept. 4 — "The Emerald Isle: Ireland" by Betty Marsden
- These programs are free and open to the public. Call 247-1920 for information.

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Edited by Michele Keir

December 2009

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Susan Leach DeBlasio

Happy Chanukah to our many friends and supporters of the Jewish Seniors Agency of Rhode Island. During this holiday of miracles and rededication, we reflect on what we, as Jews, can do to promote light, happiness, and peace in our community. At JSA, an ambitious network of programs creates ordinary miracles on a daily basis by putting life into living for Jewish seniors throughout the state. Learn more about what's new in these pages and discover what JSA has been doing to ensure our seniors live productive and dignified lives. You may also find a meaningful opportunity to volunteer.

Among the most significant core values of the Jewish Seniors Agency are our eagerness to connect, engage, and honor seniors in our community. Our approach has always been a multifaceted one. Recognizing that spirituality is critical to the well-being of seniors, JSA's Jewish Eldercare Outreach Program helps Jewish residents in nursing homes, assisted living residences, hospitals, and Jewish home-bound community members observe Jewish traditions and holidays, religious services and programs.

Our To Life Center Adult Day Services at JSA continues to meet a community need and enrolls new clients every month. Participants enjoy activity-packed days, social connections, and nutritious meals in a large, light-filled environment.

Shalom and Shalom II Apartments have again received national attention with the awarding of the only Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Energy Grant under the federal government's Stimulus Funding Package in Rhode Island. Acquiring this grant was no easy task and remains a challenge day by day as the government decides which components of the recommended green energy projects to fund. The true recipients of these efforts are the seniors who enjoy life at Shalom.

The Phyllis Siperstein Tamarisk Assisted Living Residence exemplifies the collaboration of many committed, hard-working individuals. This year, we have added *Celebrations*, an adult day program component to our operations at Tamarisk. This effort accommodates more participants at Tamarisk and provides an additional option to families who are experiencing the challenges of managing a loved one's dementia.

Through the collaborate efforts of other local Jewish agencies, The Full Plate, Rhode Island's first Kosher food pantry, has evolved to meet the growing needs of the community. Through the generous support of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, private donations, and a core of volunteers, we are meeting a need that has far exceeded our expectations and those of the community. AgeWell Rhode Island, founded in 2006, is the common link of these coordinating agencies.

Chanukah reminds us, at the darkest time of the year, that our actions can help light up every corner of our community. Remember that feeling of amazement as a child on the last evening, with all eight candles ablaze in the Hannukiah. At JSA, we are trying to rekindle the flicker of those candles for the seniors in our community. As a core agency of the Rhode Island Jewish community, we hope the dignity, kindness, and ordinary miracles we deliver throughout the year will be our guiding light through this Festival of Lights and beyond. A little Chanukah gelt will help, too!!



JSA Milestone Cards and Certificates

Now you can mark life's milestones and help enrich the lives of our seniors with donations to Jewish Seniors Agency of Rhode Island.

*See the back page for
choices and order
information.*

TO REACH US

Jewish Seniors Agency of Rhode Island

Paul R. Barnette, Executive Director
pbarnette@jsari.org

To Life Center Adult Day Services at JSA

Jennifer Minuto, Director
jminuto-cadca@jsari.org

Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island

Susan Adler, Director
sadler-jen@jsari.org

Shalom & Shalom II Apartments

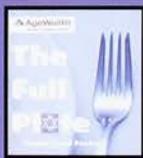
Bonnie Sekeres, Executive Director
shalom@conversent.net

The Phyllis Siperstein Tamarisk Assisted Living Residence and Celebrations Adult Day Services at Tamarisk

Roberta Sinapi, Executive Director
robertas@tamariskri.org

JSA's Women's Association

Sylvia Brown Marcia Gerstein
Co-Vice Presidents
jsa@jsari.org



Located at JSA
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Providence, RI 02907

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Tuesdays
and Fridays*

Call anytime: 621-5374

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THE PHYLLIS SIPERSTEIN TAMARISK ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENCE

TAMARISK TRAINS STAFF TO TEACH ALZHEIMER'S CARE

Tamarisk is always trying to stay ahead of the trends in resident care, and so Roberta Sinapi, Executive Director, recently enrolled her registered nurses, Denise Dorman RN, Resident Care Director, Audrey Flanagan RN, Charge Nurse, and Rhonda Rapone, Renaissance Memory Support Program Director, to become certified to train the staff at Tamarisk in Alzheimer's care.

The **Train the Trainer** course is offered by the Alzheimer's Association RI Chapter at its headquarters on Waterman Street in Providence, and covers all aspects of Alzheimer's care, from the pathology of the disease and other causes of memory loss, to communication techniques and support for the caregiver. This course has been instrumental nationally in getting a much larger number of caregivers and healthcare professionals certified to care for those with dementia.

Statistics show that 50% of persons over the age of 84 experience memory loss and that percentage increases with each additional year. The average age of those living in assisted living is 82 years. "It will become more and more important for professional caregivers such as nurses, nursing assistants and medication technicians, as well as dining and maintenance personnel, to be well versed in caring for those with memory loss as part of their professional skill set," states Sinapi. "We want to be sure that all of our staff at Tamarisk have the 'tools' they need to provide exemplary care and to be sensitive to the needs of all of our residents, no matter what challenges they may be experiencing."

Denise, Audrey and Rhonda have completed their training and will start by teaching and certifying any Tamarisk staff member that has not been through the course. Staff members who are hired to work in the Renaissance Program are required to have completed this certification, but now the entire staff will hold this credential.

A plan is being put together to provide the training to all new staff members and any family members who wish to gain this valuable information. Each person who completes the course receives a certificate endorsed by the Alzheimer's Association of RI. Yearly refresher courses will be held as part of our annual in-service training regimen.



Train the Trainer participants (L-R): Audrey Flanagan, Denise Dorman, and Rhonda Rapone

PROGRAMS

Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island

100 Niantic Avenue
Providence, RI
02907

Tel: 401-621-5374
Fax: 401-421-5905

Jewish Seniors Agency of Rhode Island

100 Niantic Avenue
Providence, RI
02907

Tel: 401-351-4750
Fax: 401-421-5905

Shalom and Shalom II Apartments

1 and 2 Shalom Drive
Warwick, RI 02886

Tel: 401-738-4414
Fax: 401-738-2490

The Phyllis Siperstein Tamarisk Assisted Living Residence and Celebrations Adult Day Services at Tamarisk

3 Shalom Drive
Warwick, RI 02886
Tel: 401-732-0037
Fax: 401-921-0602

To Life Center Adult Day Services at JSA

100 Niantic Avenue
Providence, RI
02907
Tel: 401-351-2440
Fax: 401-421-5905

TAMARISK'S HEALING TOUCH

It was a beautiful October afternoon. The classical music played softly in the background and the scent of jasmine wafted through the air, as Tamarisk residents, and staff alike, excitedly toured our new Massage Therapy Studio for its grand opening. This wonderful new amenity complements Tamarisk's holistic approach to enriching the physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual lives of our residents.

The Massage Therapy Studio is the culmination of a dream that began over two years ago when Tamarisk began its association with Karen Burns, Nationally Certified Licensed Massage Therapist. The longtime owner of The Comfort of Touch in Massachusetts, she is also a Reflexologist, Reiki practitioner, and Registered Nurse. Karen came to Tamarisk through the recommendation of one of our residents and has quickly become one of the *mishpocha*.



The healing touch of Karen Burns with client

When looking at the well-appointed new Massage Therapy Studio with its massage table, soothing aroma, soft music and lighting, it's hard to remember that this all began by offering chair massages to residents and staff for three hours, one day a week. We were using our Salon during one of its off days. Back then, we did not know what would happen, but we believed that over time, our residents would come to appreciate and desire the benefits derived from the healing power of touch. From these modest beginnings, the demand for Karen's services grew to the point where she needed her own space: A space that would provide for complete privacy and allow Karen the opportunity to offer the full range of her services.

Now, Karen's massage services are available every Thursday from 8:30 am - 4:00 pm. She could be massaging the joints of a resident with arthritis at 9:30 am, performing reflexology on the feet on an employee at 11:00 am, or working on the lower back pain of one of our Renaissance Memory Support Unit residents at 1:00 pm. Thursday has now become Massage and Reflexology Day at Tamarisk.

Karen is always educating herself about the latest techniques to reduce aches and pains, and relieve stress and tension. Recently, she introduced the Trager technique to some of our residents. This technique, which gently vibrates joints and muscles, is helping our residents to loosen their bodies, and participate in the activities they enjoy with less pain and greater freedom of movement. Karen and Tamarisk share a belief in the physical, psychological and spiritual benefits resulting from the skilled touch of massage. We are all looking forward to many years of relaxation and comfort.

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JEWISH ELDERCARE OF RHODE ISLAND

VOLUNTEERING IS A FAMILY AFFAIR

Volunteering is truly a family affair at Jewish Seniors Agency of Rhode Island. As parents, we know it is our responsibility to show our children and their children the value of volunteering. The world that we are currently living in is sometimes referred to as a "fast food" society with everyone in such a hurry to digest all that is put in front of them. We grumble that our kids and grandchildren are so busy that they have no time to spend with us.

Jewish Seniors Agency has many opportunities for families to volunteer together to further that bond while helping others. As a family, volunteers can:

- Lead Bingo at The Phyllis Siperstein Tamarisk Assisted Living Residence along with making Hamentashen at the annual mitzvah day.
- Make crafts at The To Life Center Adult Day Services, as well as lead a current events discussion group.
- Become a CHAVER volunteer and visit the elderly in nursing homes and assisted living facilities.
- Volunteer to lead Shabbat Services or light Hanukkah candles in nursing homes or assisted living facilities.
- Volunteer at The Full Plate Kosher Food Pantry

Susan Leach DeBlasio, President of Jewish Seniors Agency, often says that the apple does not fall far from the tree, as she learned about volunteering from her parents, the late Max and Muriel Leach. She encourages all families to volunteer. Bernice Weiner, Chairperson for the JERI Oversight Committee, and Marcia Gerstein, Co-President JSA Women's Association have been volunteering side by side for years with time spent together stuffing envelopes, attending CHAVER reunions and packaging gifts for nursing home residents. Dr. Jack Nassau, JSA Second Vice President and Chairman of the TLC Oversight Committee, has been volunteering with his family for several years, first with gift deliveries to nursing homes and now at The Full Plate. Teaching our children about giving back to the community is very important to Dr. Nassau.



If you would like to become a volunteer for Jewish Seniors Agency, please contact Ethan Adler at eadler3@cox.net, or 621-5374 ext. 110.

The Full Plate volunteers, Debbie Blazer and her daughter, Alicia Blazer

JERI volunteers, Marcia Gerstein and her daughter Neicie Weiner



**JERI
SATELLITE
OFFICE
HOURS**



**Chanukah
Entertainment**

**Temple Shalom in
Middletown**

December 10
10:30-12

**Congregation B'nai
Israel in Woonsocket**

December 10
2:00-3:00

**Brightview
Commons
in Wakefield**

December 14
1:00-2:30

**The Phyllis Siperstein
Tamarisk
Assisted Living
Residence in Warwick**

December 17
1:30-3:30

**Sakonnet Bay
Manor
in Tiverton**

December 21
10:00-11:30

CHAI/LIFE

In a happy coincidence, gift items from Temple Sinai's 18th Anniversary in 1975 surfaced last year when Richard Blackman was planning the synagogue's 50th anniversary. His wife, Michele Keir, found this treasure trove a few months ago in their basement. With the approval of Rabbi Stein and Sinai President, Dr. David L. Fried, a wonderful mitzvah has happened. The gift items, including Chai pins and necklaces, were generously donated to Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island (JERI), a program of Jewish Seniors Agency of Rhode Island, for use as gifts to nursing home residents. Michele has already given out several Chai necklaces as birthday gifts to people she visits as a staff member of JERI with very happy smiles and kisses given back in thanks. It's a community mitzvah to "Life."



Birthday girl, Anna Simon,
shows off her "Chai" necklace

For information about this and other JERI programs please contact Susan Adler, Director of Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island at 401-621-5374, or email her at sadler-jeri@jsari.org.

SHALOM AND SHALOM II APARTMENTS



Jane Natale, a tenant at Shalom Apartments, was recently honored by Rhode Island's Senior Agenda Coalition for her work in helping to save the state's Rhode Island Pharmaceutical Assistance for the Elderly (RIPAE) program. Ms. Natale was awarded this honor at the Senior Agenda Coalition's annual conference, held on October 30 at the Crowne Plaza. (Jane Natale (L) with friend Bob Potter)

MAILING LIST



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TO LIFE

Ellis Waldman and Jim Galkin, Co-Chairs of the Jewish Seniors Agency's "To Life" campaign, report that they are actively engaged in bringing the campaign to a successful conclusion. To date, the campaign has 85% of its goal pledged. They continue to follow up on multi-year pledges and the process of educating prospective new donors. More good news to follow.

TO LIFE CENTER ADULT DAY SERVICES

A WELCOME ADDITION

As we now enter the holiday season, all of us here at the To Life Center Adult Day Services are once again giving thanks for a donation made to us by the Women's Association of the Jewish Seniors Agency of Rhode Island. We have learned that the Women's Association voted to allocate funds toward the construction of a handicapped-accessible shower facility. With this generous donation from the Women's Association, we are closer to moving forward with plans to build such a handicapped-accessible shower. This contribution speaks directly to our mission of preserving the dignity and health of our elders, so important to the quality of life they deserve. The process of aging often denies our seniors the abilities to manage their own care without assistance. Our goal is to provide support services and ensure that we do everything possible to help maintain the highest quality of life for all of our aging adults here in the To Life Center program. From all of the To Life Center staff and families, thank you for giving us this support that we can now pass on to our family of seniors here in our adult day center.

FUN AND FESTIVE

Here at the To Life Center Adult Day Services we are excited about the marketing and outreach efforts we have made to the many neighborhoods throughout the greater Providence area. We have a vibrant program, which continues to provide a valuable service to the aging community in our surrounding cities and towns. We are proud of the diversity that our center exemplifies, as there are almost twenty countries represented and several languages spoken (or sung!). Each day we strive to enliven and enlighten the hours that our elders spend with us. In the morning you may find the English language classes being enjoyed by many of our Spanish and Russian-speaking participants. And, that afternoon, you will hear the sounds of Yiddish music and dancing. Our activities calendar is brimming with fun programs and festive field trips. Whether late summer harvest rides in the country or fall foliage adventures to the apple orchards, we welcome the familiar fruits of each season while creating new traditions.

We are always happy to welcome new faces to our program and hope to hear from you! If you would like more information, please feel free to contact us directly at 401.351.2440, and ask for Jennifer.



Happy participants enjoy creating art in various media at TLC



Photos by Alis Kotler-Berkowitz

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SHALOM AND SHALOM II APARTMENTS

A TURBINE GROWS IN WARWICK

Shalom Housing was the only development in Rhode Island to be awarded federal "green" stimulus funds for retrofitting the 30-year-old housing project. And yet, although the application was submitted to HUD in June, Shalom is still waiting to learn which requests HUD will honor. The first priority is replacement of Shalom's boilers. "We are also hoping for new refrigerators for all of our tenants," said Bonnie Sekeres, Shalom's Executive Director.

But most exciting is the prospect of constructing a wind turbine. If approved, the wind turbine would pay for itself in 10 years, and would significantly lower the cost of electricity for the project and for its tenants.

When will HUD announce its approvals? Stay tuned.



JSA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL MEETING DRAWS A FULL HOUSE



NOVEMBER 4TH ANNUAL MEETING CROWD

This year's Annual Meeting was full of fun. There was shopping at our Knit Shoppe and crystal jewelry displays, a klezmer band entertained, and delicious noshes. Best of all, the short business meeting gave the To Life Center Adult Day Services the group's financial support to install a handicapped accessible shower in the Center.

Annual membership in the Women's Association is \$15. A lifetime membership is available for \$200 (payable over a two-year period). For membership information, please call (401)944-8398 or (401)437-0985.

Send checks made out to Jewish Seniors Agency of Rhode Island to: JSA, 100 Niantic Avenue, Providence, RI 02907. Include your name and phone number, the occasion and message; the recipient's name and address.

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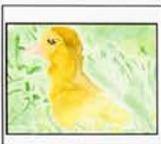
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d. Hamsa



e. Lake Flora



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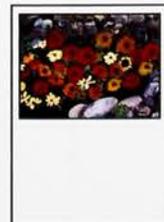
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