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An Infiltrator Brings Germany's Past to Light

by Tara V. Liscianadro
Herald Editor

I'm the son of a German Jew and Holocaust survivors. My grandfather fought in World War I. He was German first and Jewish second," began Yaron Svoray at a recent lecture held at the University of Rhode Island in Kingston. "The government gave him a medal of honor which he wore proudly around his neck. But I guess they forgot about that medal when he was sent to Auschwitz." A handful of students and local members of the community sat quietly, almost mesmerized by Svoray's experiences as an "infiltrator" into Germany's neo-Nazi movement. The lecture was sponsored by URI Hillel and the Jewish Community Council of South County.

After growing up in Israel, serving in the army as a paratrooper and working as a detective in Israel's Central Police Command, Svoray attended an Israeli university and married. He moved his family to New York where he completed his master's in communications which eventually led him to become an investigative journalist. His story has been told to

audiences across the globe by means of the recent HBO film, "The Infiltrator," and his book *In Hitler's Shadow* (Nan A. Talese Doubleday, 1994), which has been translated into 18 languages.

In 1992, after speaking at a school near Bangor, Maine, Svoray was stopped by an older American veteran who served during World War II. He told a story about diamonds being hidden during the war on the French and German border. Soon after Svoray was on a plane and in France. After not having much luck in finding the diamonds, he met a "historian" by the name of Müller, who resided in Germany. Svoray listened to Müller's story. "It was so long and boring," he said, "until he told me that he was in the Waffen SS." Müller served in one of the most brutal units of the Nazi party. "I was sitting in a room with the murderer of one of my people, what was I supposed to do?" stated Svoray. Instead of growing angry and upset the reporter excused himself and left. Quickly Müller told him about his young nephew who might be of more interest to him.

Young Charlie Müller, dressed in military-like uniform,

met Svoray in Frankfurt, he was the head of the neo-Nazi movement there. After Charlie showed a neo-Nazi propaganda film, where a young foreign girl was raped and killed, to his members who found it "enjoyable," Svoray was in shock. "I was literally shattered after the film," he said. Quickly he found the next plane to Israel and returned home. The horrid images and words from Germany didn't leave Svoray's mind, instead they haunted him. "I went to the Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles and told them what I saw," said Svoray. After long debates and almost \$300,000 from the center, Svoray was back on a plane for Germany in search of a connection between the new Nazi movement and the old Nazis. "I wanted to find out who was moving these puppets," he said. Svoray remained in Germany for the next 10 months, under the false name of "Ron Furey," infiltrating his way into some of the highest ranking Nazi circles. With his false identity, Svoray collected information from the neo-Nazis and former Nazi war criminals. By telling them that he was writing for a new American magazine, *The*

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Germany to Stop Paying Pensions to ex-Nazi Criminals

by Deidre Berger

FRANKFURT (JTA) — Germany has bowed to public pressure and said it would stop paying disability pensions to World War II veterans suspected of being war criminals.

The parliamentary vote amending a 1950 law that made the pensions available to veterans of Germany's wartime army came in response to months of mounting charges — much of it from Jewish groups — that Nazi war criminals were receiving benefits while some Holocaust victims were never compensated for their suffering.

The German war criminals "should never have been given the pensions in the first place," said Israel Singer, secretary-general of the World Jewish Congress. "It's [Germany's] business to cancel them. Our business is to make sure that our own people get the pensions they deserve."

In May, the American Jewish Committee ran advertisements in U.S. newspapers featuring pho-

tographs of a Waffen SS veteran and a survivor of a Nazi ghetto in Eastern Europe with the headline "Guess Which One Receives a War Victim's Pension from the German Government?"

Nazi war criminals were receiving benefits while some Holocaust victims were never compensated for their suffering.

While it was considered a step in the right direction, the Nov. 13 vote in the German Parliament nonetheless prompted observers to question how many veterans would be affected.

The parliamentary vote was "long overdue," said Rabbi Andrew Baker, director of European Affairs for the AJCommittee.

While applauding the action,

Baker said in a telephone interview from his Washington office that the "dilemma is enforcement. This will remain an issue even now that the law has changed."

The law permits each of Germany's 16 state governments, which administer the pensions, to deny payments to war criminals, Baker said, but added, "There is no obligation to investigate applicants."

"It remains to be seen how the law will be implemented," he said. "We hope that Germany will investigate some of these people seriously."

Some news reports indicated that 20 known war criminals would immediately stop receiving the benefits — but that is just the tip of the iceberg.

Last year alone, Germany paid 1.1 million veterans and dependents of Nazi Germany's armed forces disability pensions totaling nearly \$8 billion, according to recently published figures.

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Happy Birthday Perspectives!

At the Nov. 22 anniversary event, Perspectives Director Alison Link greets guests while Perspectives members Jeff Feuer (left) and Dalia Siff look on. See story on Page 3.

Herald photo by Emily Torgan-Shalansky

Netanyahu Urges Jewish Unity, But Gets Mixed Reviews

by Matthew Dorf and
Cynthia Mann

INDIANAPOLIS (JTA) — Delegates to the General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations delivered a tepid welcome to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu as he recently sought to soothe an angry North American Jewry.

In his only public appearance during a carefully crafted nine-hour visit on Nov. 16, Netanyahu attempted to quell the crisis over religious pluralism in Israel.

At the same time, the premier softened his rhetoric toward the Palestinians, hinting at a possible acceptance of a limited Palestinian state.

"I want to state at the outset as emphatically as I can: No one, nobody, can deprive a Jew of his Jewishness," Netanyahu said.

"The membership in our faith and people is not the exclusive domain of anyone," he said.

Netanyahu encouraged the more than 3,500 delegates to support the efforts of a commission trying to find a solution in the religious pluralism debate.

That committee, headed by Israeli Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman, almost broke down last month when Reform and Conservative Jews threatened to revive legislation that would codify Orthodox control over conversions in Israel and local religious councils.

All sides stepped back from the brink, extending the deadline of the committee until Jan. 31. That extension averted an

explosion of the issue at the gathering — one of the largest annual Jewish gatherings — here recently.

Underscoring the urgency of the issue, Dr. Conrad Giles, president of CJF, said preserving Jewish unity "has occupied the central-most focus of our activities in the past year."

While some people walked away convinced that Netanyahu was doing the best he could given political pressures, others believed his remarks did not break new ground on the issue that has caused a rift between Israel and many American Jews.

"He knew what his mission was," said Sidney Miller, a federation board member from Dayton, Ohio.

"He said all the right words, but I don't know if he can deliver."

But others were dismayed by the premier's remarks.

"The issue of pluralism is being talked about, but it's not being addressed," said Kathy Williams of San Francisco.

"I walked away feeling that I listened to a lot of hot air."

Others balked at the premier's claim that American Jewry does not understand the conversion controversy.

In his speech, Netanyahu had said that while he understood a feeling of "alienation," he believes that 99 percent of North American Jews do not know that the problem is confined to Israel and that the status of non-Orthodox conversions outside

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HAPPENINGS

Chanukah Luncheon

The Cranston Senior Guild will host a Chanukah luncheon on Dec. 10 at the West Valley Inn. Call Sam and Selma Price for more information at 943-3427.

Art Show Opens

An exhibit of paintings by Marlene Hermance will be featured at the Barrington Public Library during the month of December. The paintings are in the realistic and impressionist style and much of their subject matter is inspired by woods and water. Two favorite sites of the painter's are the Berkshires in Western Massachusetts and the Rhode Island waterfront.

Hermance studied art at Sullins College, New York State University, Syracuse University and Rhode Island School of Design. She taught art in Barrington for 20 years.

Potters Host Sale

The Potters of Newport County will be holding their First Holiday Pottery Sale on Nov. 29 from 10 a.m. till 5 p.m. at the Elks Hall on 141 Pelham St. in Newport. The holiday sale will include the work of 13 potters from Newport County. Those exhibiting their work for sale are: John Burrows, Bridget Butlin, Rosemary Day, Cheri Haring, Will Heacock, Susan Kremer, Jay Lacouture, Lynda Rego, Brenda Wrigley Scott, Mika Seeger, Rodie Siegler, Harry Spring and James Zillian.

You are invited to join the Potters of Newport County at their first event. The event is free and is open to the public. For further information, contact Susan Kremer at 849-7847 or Harry Spring at 848-9451.

Lincoln School Hosts Open Campus Day

Lincoln School, the state's only all girls' independent school, nursery through grade 12, will host an Open Campus Day on Dec. 2 from 9 a.m. to noon. Located at 301 Butler Ave. on Providence's historic East Side, the school invites all girls and their families to attend.

Open Campus Day offers a chance to meet with administrators, faculty and staff, observe classes in session, go on student-led tours of the campus and obtain information regarding tuition plans and financial assistance.

Lincoln School was established in 1884 and is a member of the National Coalition of Girls' Schools. For more information about Open Campus Day, contact Ellen Lough at 331-9696, ext. 3159.

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Calendar: November 27 thru December 6

- 27 Happy Thanksgiving!
- 28 Day after Thanksgiving hike with Perspectives, Young Jewish adult group at Arcadia Management Area, estimated three-hour hike. Bring sturdy shoes, snacks and hat. Call Nina to register, 539-9107.
- Ocean State Artisans' 7th annual Fall Festival, Nov. 28 to 29. Crafts from local artisans at Holiday Inn at the Crossings, Warwick. Call 785-0899.
- 29 Michael Bresler's Klezmer Orchestra performs at Stone Soup Coffeehouse, 8 p.m. at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 15 Hayes St., Providence. Call 781-0061.
- The Literary Colony at Concord, lecture by Jayne Gordon from the Concord Museum, 10 a.m., North Kingstown Public Library, 100 Boone St. Call 274-3306.
- 30 Annual awards dinner at Congregation Beth Shalom honoring Dr. and Mrs. Morris Keller, 5 p.m. 275 Camp St., Providence. Call 621-9393.
- Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island holds Israeli art sale with work by more than 70 Israeli artists. Exhibit and sale runs through Dec. 6. Call 861-8800.

December

- 1 Adoption Options informational meeting for prospective adoptive parents. Held first Monday of every month, 6 p.m. Jewish Family Services, 229 Waterman Ave. Call 331-5437.
- Freud's Antiquities: A View From the Couch, lecture by Professor Stephen Scully, 7 p.m., Westerly Public Library. Call 596-2877.
- AIDS Week/Week Without Art, Dec. 1 to 5. In tandem with the annual international event, gallery interns devise and develop a special installation to encourage HIV/AIDS awareness, at Fine Arts Gallery, URI, Kingston. Call 874-2775.
- Dante Persechino exhibits oil paintings in rear gallery of Cranston Public Library, Dec. 1 to Jan. 2, 1998. Free and open to the public.
- Paintings by Marlene Hermance at Barrington Public Library during month of December. Realistic and Impressionist styles inspired by woods and water.
- 2 Kent County Hadassah annual whist party, 7 p.m. at Villa del Rio Clubhouse in Warwick. Call 946-5225.
- National Yiddish Book Center trip to Amherst, Mass. Sponsored by Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island. Call 861-8800 to register.
- Clay bead-making workshop with jewelry maker Toni Cardoza, 7:30 p.m. at Barrington Public Library, 281 County Road. Register at the library's reference desk.
- 3 Jewish Interaction — "Hitler's Willing Executioners" at Hebrew College, Brookline, Mass. Meet author Daniel Goldhagen whose new best-seller attempts to answer the question, "How did the Holocaust happen?" Refreshments served, 7:30 p.m. Call (617) 457-8666.
- "Parenting in the '90s" by Dr. Carol Gaffney at Barrington Public Library, 7:30 p.m. Call 247-1920.
- 4 All entries for Rhode Island Jewish Herald Chanukah Art Contest due at 4 p.m. Bring your drawings to the Herald office, or to the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island.
- Jewish Interaction making legislative change at Combined Jewish Philanthropies, Boston, Mass., 6:30 p.m. Learn how to make your voice heard. Call (617) 457-8666 for more information.
- 5 Open House, Alperin Schechter Day School, 9 to 11 a.m., 85 Taft Ave. R.S.V.P. 751-2470.
- Facing History and Ourselves Young Leadership Network at Temple Israel, Boston, Mass., 6 p.m. Discussion of *The Temple Bombing* by Melissa G. Greene, followed by community event with the author. Call Pam Hurd at (617) 735-1625 for more information.
- 6 Reform Jewish outreach, "Yours, Mine and Ours," Boston, Mass. Discussion group for interfaith couples, weekend format. Call for information, (617) 449-0404.
- Holiday Antique Show and Sale sponsored by Southeastern New England Antique Dealers Association, Dec. 6 to 7 at CCRI, Warwick. Call 397-4594.
- Game Night at Congregation B'nai Israel in Woonsocket, 6:30 p.m. Bring board games, cards, kids and one kosher snack to share. R.S.V.P. to 762-3539.

Foods Around the World

Foods Around the World is the major theme of the 24th annual Winter Holiday Sale at International House of Rhode Island, 8 Stimson Ave. on Dec. 6 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

There is no entrance fee and the feast of foods that you can take home with you will include baklava, eggplant parmesan, Indian dal, Chinese ginger soup, a "make your own selection" holiday cookie assortment, cranberry puddings, gingerbread boys and gingerbread houses, chocolate candies, and a variety of tasty delights from Poland, Portugal, the Middle East, China, Japan, Italy, England, Scotland, and more!

In addition there will be holiday floral arrangements, a variety of gift baskets, both new and "retro" jewelry, and a "gold elephant" room. You can also enjoy breakfast, lunch or a light snack in our international cafe serving steaming bowls of soup, hot mulled cider, coffee, tea, muffins, and pastries throughout the day.

International House is a non-profit social service agency providing aid and services to temporary international residents in the Rhode Island area and cultural exchange opportunities for Americans. Proceeds benefit many International House programs. The house is located at 8 Stimson Ave., off Hope Street, one block north of Angell Street. For further information, call 421-7181.

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EastSide Marketplace, Pitman St.
EastSide Prescription Center, Hope St.
Rhoda's Judaica, Burlington St.

Perspectives Parties Hearty at Anniversary Event

by Emily Torgan-Shalansky
Jewish Community Reporter

It was a great party from anyone's perspective.

On Nov. 22, when 65 people packed into the Barnsider for dinner and theater, they bonded over food, drink, a live spoof of *Frankenstein*, and the chance to celebrate Perspectives, Rhode Island's Jewish young adult project.

As Perspectives is 3 years old, its anniversary celebration was

a long time in the making.

"We've been talking about this for two years," said Co-chair Merav Minkin of coordinating Perspectives' largest event yet. "I feel great."

"I'm psyched," agreed Co-chair Lori Yontef Mathog. "The turnout has been terrific. There are a lot of new faces and some familiar ones."

According to Perspectives Director Alison Link, the event was sold out.



PERSPECTIVES MEMBERS stand together for a snapshot at the end of the anniversary event.

Herald photo by Emily Torgan-Shalansky



PERSPECTIVES ANNIVERSARY committee members at the celebration. From left, Jeff Feuer, Dalia Siff and Co-chair Merav Minkin enjoy the anniversary celebration.

Herald photo by Emily Torgan-Shalansky

"We had to turn people away," Link said. "There were many calls from Boston and other cities in Massachusetts."

The evening's combination of food, a show and socialization left little time to deliver information about Perspectives, but the demand for tickets and the reasons some gave for coming revealed the needs it is meeting.

"I've been in Rhode Island for seven years, and I have found it hard to meet other young Jewish people," said Howard Schulman, a 33-year-old internist from Providence. "My sister works for UJA, and she heard about Perspectives and told me."

Judi Podrat of Cranston said she learned about the group from friends.

"I've made some social contacts, and I've also gotten reacquainted with some people I knew in high school," she said. "It's broadened by Jewish friendship base, and it's nice to have Jewish ties because I'm not involved with a synagogue."

Rachel Schiff of Cambridge, Mass., said she had enjoyed the evening for another reason.

"It's rare to get an opportunity to have dinner theater with kosher food," she said.

After the mini-show drew to a comic close and the dessert dishes were whisked away,

some diners remained at the restaurant to socialize.

Later, Link spoke about the group's popularity, which is increasing steadily.

"In a sense, it's almost overwhelming," she said. "There are a number of newcomers to Rhode Island, and old residents are returning. There are new people every event. The name of the organization is getting out."

Link thinks that the years of start-up work are yielding new results.

"We are at a new level," she said. "We are much more of a resource than we used to be — we're not just a programming group anymore, and that's great."

A New Perspective

by Emily Torgan-Shalansky
Jewish Community Reporter

Guy Bermel, Hillel director at the University of Rhode Island, talks about how Rhode Island's once-new young adult project is starting to grow up.

On Nov. 22 at a dinner theater production at Providence's Barnsider restaurant, an actor playing Dr. Frankenstein threw his head back and roared.

"I've created something never before thought possible," he crowed of his brainchild.

These words seemed to echo the sentiments of some members of Perspectives, who were at the restaurant to celebrate their group's anniversary.

But rather than creating a monster, Perspectives participants have managed to make their organization into a statewide young adult project for Jewish young professionals and graduate students, married and single, in their early 20s to mid-30s. Somehow, their group has beaten the odds and flourished, for Perspectives has managed to evade the sorry-singles stigma and low participation rates that have combined to sink previous efforts.

Now in its third year, the organization has moved into a once-empty space to provide a mix of athletic, religious, social, cultural, and community action programming, plus a monthly calendar detailing

events of local Jewish interest across the state.

After the sold-out anniversary event, URI Hillel director and founding member Guy Bermel contemplated Perspectives' strong start.

"There are a number of reasons why it has taken hold," Bermel said. "Our focus is more than social — our activities may be about community service or religion or education. We've consistently avoided getting into singles events and we've

had a lot of couples involved from the very beginning. And there has been professional leadership from Hillel."

But when Bermel and others began to put together the ideas that led to Perspectives in 1994, they did not know what the outcome would be.

"There was certainly some risk involved," admitted Bermel.

Then, Bermel and Brown-Rhode Island School of Design Assistant Hillel Director

Alisa Kotler-Berkowitz were both new to their positions. As experienced Jewish community leaders, both of them thought Rhode Island's young adult population was underserved outside of its academic communities.

"Young adults are a group we cannot afford to neglect," Bermel explained. "At that stage of life, people are looking to settle down and make lifetime commitments. It's a mobile

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OPINION

Making Choices

by Rabbi Maurice Weisenberg

No one can have or do every thing. Choices must be made. Jews have always made sacrifices in order to live a Jewish life. Jewish parents today are hard-pressed to give their children the opportunity to enjoy the many after-school activities that are available. Because parents want their children to have every advantage, they often over-schedule children with activities which leave them no time just to play or relax. In the long run, children will be better off without some of the lessons and club activities.

Jewish parents are tempted to cut out the Jewish activities in order to make more time in the child's schedule. But here is where our commitments make a difference. Even those with a minimum commitment to Judaism will give Yom Kippur priority over a birthday party. If Judaism is truly important, then a child might have to miss one or another activity because he/she cannot be at both the Sabbath service and at that activity at the same time. We set an example for our children not only by what we do, but also by the

choices we make for ourselves and for them.

It used to be a problem for Jewish parents, but now it is becoming more of a problem for all parents who want their children to grow up experiencing religion. Some athletic teams are now scheduling games and practices on Sunday not only on Saturday. It seems that there is no longer the same respect for religion and worship that there used to be.

Consequently, the Greater Taunton Clergy Association has adopted a resolution on the conflict between religious practice and sporting events. A section of that resolution is reprinted below.

Sporting Events in Conflict with Religious Practice

We live in an age when great demands are made for our time, attention, and energy. This even affects our children who are involved in many different activities and events in the community.

Children need a well-rounded upbringing that includes education, social events, cooperative sporting programs, and a solid spiritual basis for

their lives.

Religious faith was the foundation for our republic and its democratic values. The values of faith undergird the values of democracy. To lose these values is to lose the values on which our country was founded.

There are increasing occasions when conflicts develop between sporting events and times of religious education and worship. Too often, parents are faced with an impossible choice between allowing their children to miss worship or to miss games and practices.

We strongly urge league officials, coaches, and all who plan sporting events to avoid scheduling games, practices, or other events during times traditionally reserved for religious worship and education. For Roman Catholics, Protestants, and most Christians, Sunday morning is the time for worship and Christian education. For Jews and some Christians, Saturday morning is the time.

Please respect the spiritual needs of your players and their need for a strong moral grounding in their faith. No child should be punished or excluded from a game because he or she missed a game or a practice due to religious obligations. We urge parents faced with choices between sporting events and religious worship and education to voice their concerns to league officials and coaches.

Maurice Weisenberg is the rabbi at Congregation Agudath Achim in Taunton, Mass.

A Recipe For Giving Thanks

by Velvel 'Wally' Spiegler

For the past several years, our family has been taking Thanksgiving more seriously than ever before. We think Thanksgiving is more than just the Macy's parade, a football game and digging in to a lavish meal. This traditionally American holiday can serve Jews as a focal point in bringing our awareness back to understanding gratitude.

At our Thanksgiving table, we usually sat our three children, our children-in-law, our grandchildren and invited guests to the extent that our dinner table will accommodate. As grandchildren were being born to our family, we've been finding reason to be more thankful each year so we decided to stress the gratitude part and downplay the turkey part. As Jews celebrating a holiday, even if it's not specifically a Jewish one, we find a need to express some of our thoughts and feelings in song, acknowledging the presence of G-d in our lives, a sort of She'hechianu. We might join in with Hinei Ma Tov, The Pilgrim Hymn (We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing...) and an Adon Olam set to the same melody.

Discussion arises around the table with particular teaser questions like "What does it mean to be thankful?" or "What does this holiday mean to us?" This invariably leads to a recognition of Who supplies our every need, what it takes to be thankful, and in what ways do Jews express their thankfulness. From the ini-

tial berachot (blessings), we realize that it is G-d Himself who provides for everything, and this soon sets the stage for the more difficult concern of what gratitude is all about.

The English root of the word grateful is grace, which according to my electronic dictionary is defined as "divine love and protection bestowed freely upon mankind." Grace is an inherent condition of our being, and as we move away from grace we move into the demand state. Much of the time we're ungrateful. "If only I had more money, a better job, better relationships, more leisure time, etc., is the lament of the demand state; always dissatisfied with what we have. Always waiting, always wanting. Grace implies being satisfied with your circumstances. The Talmud asks the question "Who is wealthy?" and answers, He who is satisfied with what he has." That's the state of grace and with that life becomes a perpetual celebration, not a once a year event.

Grace doesn't come about as a result of positive thinking. It comes by expressing thankfulness every day as Jews are known to do. Through prayer we come to realize that G-d provides for all our needs. We're obliged to say thank you after meals with the traditional Bircht HaMazon, a lengthy prayer that consists of four blessings: to thank G-d for the nourishment, for the land that provides the nourishment, for Israel, and for

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HAVE AN OPINION?

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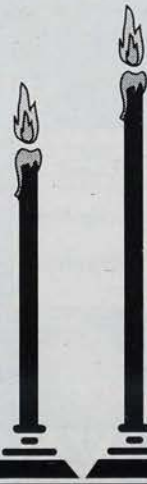
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Candlelighting

November 28, 1997

3:59 p.m.



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

Toledot: A Covenant of Generations

by Dru Greenwood

Ledor vador nagid godlecha...
"From generation to generation,
we will tell of Your greatness..."

Repeated daily in our prayers, this promise to G-d and to ourselves is easy to take for granted, until it is our turn to ensure the continuity of the covenant into the next generation. This week's parashah, Toledot, is a gem of a story about Jewish continuity. In compact and highly dramatic fashion, it tells us exactly what is required of us in terms that we can all understand.

Toledot (appropriately translated as "Descendants") is the story of Isaac. It passes almost without notice, sandwiched between the drama of Avram/Abraham's revolutionary vision and the convoluted path of Jacob/Israel toward transformation. Yet Isaac, the second patriarch, scarred as he is by his father's intense visionary devotion and buffeted by the demands of his own fractious family, epitomizes 'generativity.' Isaac, who never received a blessing from his own father, is the first to bless his son, thereby conveying to Jacob the heritage of G-d's covenant with Abraham.

Many commentaries on Toledot, noting Isaac's seeming passivity and blindness, choose to focus instead on Jacob's trickery, Esau's cavalier behavior, or Rebecca's intervention on behalf of her favored son as a motivat-

ing force in the story. But Isaac is the one who, without fanfare, sees G-d (Genesis 26:2, 24), receives G-d's blessing in the same language in which Abraham was blessed, and then seeks to pass that blessing along. (The Hebrew root *beit reish khaf*, meaning "blessing," occurs 34 times within this brief 106-verse parashah, reflecting its centrality to the action).

How does Isaac do this?

First, Isaac redigs his father's wells and goes on to dig more wells until he finds "ample space to increase in the land" (Genesis 26:22). As Peter Pitzele points out, Isaac is not an innovator.

Living Torah

Rather, "by repeating his father's acts, he takes those one time events and transforms them into a model or paradigm" (*Our Father's Wells*, Harper Collins Publishers, 1995, p. 149). He thus inherits the blessing himself and is capable of not only physically fathering children but also modeling covenant commitment for them.

Second, conveying the blessing of Abraham and with it the covenant with G-d to the next generation is of vital importance to both Isaac and Rebecca. It consumes the remainder of their story, with Rebecca's statement that she will assume Jacob's

curse should he be discovered in his deception and with Isaac's anticipation of his own death (by 60 years) so that he can give his blessing now to Esau. Isaac and Rebecca care very deeply about ensuring the continuity of the covenant and that message is conveyed to their offspring, both of whom desperately want their father's blessing.

Finally, Isaac seems to proceed somewhat by trial and error. Neither the blessing he initially gives very tentatively to Jacob nor the blessing wrenched from him by Esau's cry is Abraham's blessing. Only near the end of the parashah, when Jacob is setting out on his own journey, does the blessing of Abraham flow wholeheartedly from Isaac to his son (Genesis 28:1-4).

Ledor vador... Isaac teaches us that blessing, experiencing our covenant with G-d, can only be passed from generation to generation when we ourselves, despite our past history or perhaps because of its unique power, are fully engaged in covenant — redigging our ancestors' wells and renaming them to make them our own. Only then can we bless our children, passionately if imperfectly, and send them on their way.

Dru Greenwood, M.S.W., is director of the UAHC William and Lottie Daniel Department of Outreach.

FEATURE



Forman's First Film

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

"My life is so empty and yours seems so full." Neil Forman caught me quite off guard with this opening statement. Neil is the projectionist and assistant in my film course, the big evening class in which I screen rare old prints of romantic dramas from the very start of sound motion pictures. He learns his technical skills from his major, which includes making movies and videos. His big project for the semester is doing a visual autobiography. "I want one sequence to be an interview with you, my employer and instructor," he told me.

Neil showed up with the equipment he had checked out from the department, the mikes and the stands with spotlights, the fuzzy grey sponges that soften static, the wires and meters and shades and boxes that fill the corridor just outside my office retreat in the twilight. Although he sets up the gear with poise, courtesy and confidence, messing up my floors as little as possible, the dialogue between us strikes me as somewhat arbitrary and capricious. How can a fine fellow, with a dark beard, at the brink of life, look at a silverbeard and come up with a line like the one he threw my way?

"I'm going to ask you a couple of questions. Answer them fast, because I have only a few feet of film to work with." The first query was, "How does your footwear affect your fortunes?" I guess he was impressed with my scarlet sneakers, although his footage stock was black and white. He focuses on my shoes more than my countenance.

Neil moves the light meter over my face and hair in the style of a barber. Or maybe of a

dog trainer. He tames me and gets me ready for the first take. You know the routine, the announcement, the clipping of the striped boomerang, the shout of director to cameraman. "Action!"

I'm on, a movie star, not an explainer. "Don't judge until you have walked in somebody else's shoes," was all I could come up with, along with a mild attack on Nike and an ironic excuse for my fancy sneakers: "My son picks them out, blame him."

"What is your advice to younger people like me?" asks Neil, and gives me only a few seconds to gather my thoughts. "I still seek advice, I don't offer it grandly," I say, and murmur a reference to Chassidic and Zen sources.

Neil with his heavy camera in hand goes over the walls of my office chamber to capture the atmosphere created by the clippings, books, posters, and toys that suggest a fascination with Hollywood lore, like a Braille of tactile reading. This is supposed to be a self portrait, and I close my sound take with a statement of respect for his reliability as a work-study student, his acute responses to the strange antique noir comedies, tragedies and documentaries we show together with our teamwork on Monday nights, his loyalty to the routine. The teacher in me wants him to talk. But the director in him turns the table on me.

Maybe down the road you'll be hearing more about Neil Forman. Perhaps his happiness and fulfillment will take the shape of the newest hit at the local cinema. He has a wonderful whimsical touch, and I am proud to serve as his first supporting role.

Ice Storm

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

"Ice Storm" was shown in town during the first ice storm of our cold spell. This Ang Lee portrait of a southern New England town at Thanksgiving offers a somber look at the post-Vietnam Watergate era. Did they call it the "Me" moment?

As a period piece, the movie brings you into the setting. You wore long collars, and busy op-art patterns. You hung Mondrian-type abstract paintings on your walls. Too soon to wax nostalgic about the early '70s, but it does carry you back. Marriages were breaking up, while I was just entering my own, my "We" era.

Kevin Kline really is an actor, not a simple role model. He plays a part often assigned to Jewish performers, the anxious fellow torn between responsibilities and privileges. Halfway through the screening, the ice storm broke the "Ice Storm" in half. The theatre closed down. Free passes were given out to catch the show later

on the weekend. People laughed, clapped, and winked at the irony of the blackout.

I did follow along and sat through to the finale of this intriguing and quirky melodrama. It is not a great film, marred as it is with trite and unrealistic lines and episodes. But it is a good film nevertheless, with its haunting images, melancholy mood, and moments of genuine insight below the surface.

The kids were wonderful to look at, lonely youths in search of a way out and a way in. What is honor? What is love? What is fun? Movies are made to deal with these questions. Kline invites his prep-school children to come home for Thanksgiving, and stuff themselves and grunt. They say grace, for robbing the Indians and glutting themselves with material things. And yet, there exist also affection and mutual need that tie the bonds of this dysfunctional family.

Worth seeing for the timely questions it raises and the time zone it recreates.

Thirty Thanksgivings

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

The bottom line of "Quotable Quotes" from an old *Reader's Digest* advises, "Think big thoughts but relish small pleasures." I took off from there and gave a November Thanksgiving-break journal task to my students. Write down at least one small pleasure per day for the month.

Some folks have a small date book in a pocket or bag. Others scribble appointments on a wall calendar. I go for the pretty engagement notebooks that feature garden pictures, Jewish artifacts, or studio movie portraits on the side across from the daily entry spaces. I set myself the same job I give to others.

One morning a chickadee chirps from the just-about-bare top branch of a weedy tree. It cheers me up while I stand and wait for my dog to do her errand. I get a little book in the mail from a friend in London, a collection of movie quotes from the likes of George Burns, Mae West, and Katy Hepburn all the way to Woody Allen. Today,

the department secretary said a kind word to me. She said I was always quietly polite and said calming things at meetings. She was "projecting," as she is the one who soothes and helps everyone.

Sometimes a clip from an old movie on AMC gives me a thrill of private pleasure—a dance routine of Carmen Miranda, a song by Alice Faye. But the

and ornate illustrations. There's Pip with the Convict looming over him in a graveyard! We copied the engraving and colored it in. This gave me a poetic moment on a busy, crowded evening. My son will picture my image in memory with a beautiful book in hand, as though there is culture deeply involved in his household, however much the darned television may glare.

So: Thanksgiving, the least religiously specific holiday in the American year, the loveliest word among holiday names. Instead of saying grace at the table, how about taking Chassidic note of the moments that grace each passing of the sun and moon, the piping of the Lord's tiny poultry, the gift of friendship itself, the soft looks and courtesies that comfort our routines, the gestures of youthful beauty that come to us from the arts, the little seconds that bind us blessedly to our children, the slight and the great freedoms for which our forebears have fought, have worked, have waited.

Think big thoughts but relish small pleasures.

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biggest boon of the week came from my ancient bookshelves. I stood on a low ladder and reached for a fine, antique copy of *Great Expectations*, a Dickens tale my 12-year-old boy is studying at school. He wanted my help with a cover drawing for his paper. His text is supple and light, but my inherited volume is all gilt and embossed leather

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THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Israel Jubilee Music Festival Slated for Spring

Rhode Island Celebrates Israel's 50th with Itzhak Perlman and Local Cantors

by Sara Wise
Herald Editor

Rhode Islanders are in for a special treat this spring when the Jewish community celebrates the 50th anniversary of the state of Israel. In addition to festivities at the Jewish Community Center and a Federation trip to Israel in May, a musical extravaganza is planned for April 14 and May 3.

Organized by the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, the music festival will feature two

impressive concerts. On April 14, legendary violinist Itzhak Perlman will perform with pianist Samuel Sanders at the Veterans Memorial Auditorium in Providence. Perlman is an internationally known musician with roots in both Israel and the United States.

Less than three weeks later, the festival continues with "Three Cantors in Concert With the Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra," a Sunday afternoon concert on May 3, also at the Veterans Memorial Auditorium. The featured cantors will be: Cantor Ida Rae Cahana from Temple Beth-El in Providence,

Cantor Robert Lieberman from Temple Torat Yisrael in Cranston and Cantor Brian Mayer from Temple Emanu-El in Providence. The show will be narrated by Oskar Eustis, artistic director of Trinity Repertory Company.

According to Cantor Lieberman, the concert will not contain any liturgical music. It will instead focus on music composed in or about Israel or by Israelis. The three cantors have worked hard to develop a program that will encompass four themes: pre-state Israel, the beauty of the land, the centrality of Jerusalem and the blending of cultures. In order to make it a more inclusive community event, the cantors have invited their congregation choirs to join them on stage during part of the performance. Cantor Brian Mayer came up with the name for the festival, noting that in the Bible, a "jubilee" occurred every 50 years when the land was freed.

In a recent interview Cantor Lieberman expressed his excitement about the upcoming festival. "What better way to musically celebrate Israel's 50th than to present Itzhak Perlman?" He explained that bringing Perlman to Providence has been in the works for more than two years, but it wasn't until last spring that the plans were finalized and the contracts signed. "I hope it's the first of many Israeli music festivals. My vision is to see this happen again and again," said the cantor who has a strong commitment to the arts.

Advance tickets for the music festival are on sale now by mail and will be assigned in the



Itzhak Perlman

Photo by Jonathan Levine



CANTORS Brian Mayer, Ida Rae Cahana and Robert Lieberman

Photo by P.M. Cohen Photography

order in which they are received. After March 1, remaining tickets will be available to the general public through the Veterans Memorial Auditorium box office. Tickets for the Itzhak Perlman concert are available at five different rates, \$250 (sponsor), \$150 (patron), \$75 (orchestra, balcony), \$50 (rear orchestra, balcony) and \$25 (rear orchestra, rear balcony). Both sponsors and patrons will be

listed in festival programs and are entitled to the same number of complimentary seats for the Three Cantors concert.

Tickets for the Three Cantors in Concert are \$18 (orchestra, loge) and \$10 (rear orchestra, balcony). To reserve tickets, mail checks payable to "JERI Music Festival" to Jewish Federation of Rhode Island- Israel Jubilee Music Festival, 130 Sessions St., Providence, RI 02906.

Temple Am David Sisterhood Sponsors Fair

The Temple Am David Sisterhood is sponsoring a Holiday Bazaar and Craft Fair, on Dec. 7 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Temple Am David, 40 Gardiner Ave., Warwick. (off Bellvue Avenue north of Hoxie Four Corners).

There is something for everyone's holiday list! In addition to many crafters displaying their wares, the Sisterhood has worked since spring to create many fabulous items. Along with unique craft items, the gift shop will also be open.

There will be face painting and activities for the kids. Funds raised by the Sisterhood will be used to support both local and national charities. Refreshments will be available.

For more information, call 295-7703 or 874-4211.

JERI Rabbi Brings Chanukah Music to Elderly

Rabbi Marc Jagolinzer and musician Steve Marterella will be bringing the music and joy of Chanukah to seniors in the Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island program during the month of December. The program will include the traditional lighting of candles, playing with dreidels and jelly donuts (representing the sufganiot eaten in Israel) interspersed with Chanukah music and sing-alongs.

Rabbi Jagolinzer will talk about Chanukah and ask each participant to share a special, meaningful Chanukah memory. Candles will be lit and dreidels will be spun. Then songs from around the world will be played and sung, with song sheets passed out to all. Marterella will play the keyboard and a selection of recorded music. When it is time to go, the two will distribute Chanukah gifts provided

by the Women's Association of the Jewish Home. "When we are done, we hope they will feel full and happy," said Rabbi Jagolinzer.

Rabbi Jagolinzer, a JERI rabbi, is the rabbi for Temple Shalom in Middletown and is currently interim rabbi at Temple Torat Yisrael. He met Marterella several years ago, and the two have done musical programming at nursing homes and assisted living facilities many times. Rabbi Jagolinzer said, "Music is a wonderful communicator. I enjoy it and the seniors enjoy it." Marterella, who is a professor of music at Rhode Island College, plays the organ at Temple Torat Yisrael and the First Baptist Church in America.

The program will be presented afternoons at 2 p.m. on the following dates: Dec. 2 at West Bay Manor; Dec. 9 at The Village at Elmhurst; Dec. 11 at Shalom Apartments; Dec. 16 at Pocasset Lodge and Dec. 23 at The Village at Waterman Lake.

For information on the JERI program or to volunteer, call 621-5374. The JERI outreach program is funded by the Jewish Home Corporation and the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island and is administered by Jewish Family Service.



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THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Torat Yisrael Celebrates Jewish Book Month

In celebration of Jewish Book Month, Torat Yisrael School will host its 15th annual Book Fair. This year's extended fair begins on Dec. 7 and will continue through Dec. 10. The fair will feature a wide selection of paperback and hardcover titles for children, and as always, will have the newest adult titles.

Reading has always served as a bridge that unites us and brings us together in the spirit of Klal Yisrael... Books are indeed an essential part of our heritage. With Chanukah coming in late December, the community is invited to visit the book fair, browse in the gift

shop, and plan ahead for holiday gift-giving.

The public is invited to look through the synagogue's library and School Resource Center where selections will be housed. This is the ideal opportunity to expand your home library, or to purchase gifts for holiday giving and special occasions. Chanukah begins on Dec. 23.

Book Fair hours are as follows: Dec. 7, 9:30 a.m. to noon; Dec. 8, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Dec. 9, 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Dec. 10, 7 to 9 p.m.

Torat Yisrael is located at 330 Park Ave., in Cranston. Further information is available at the synagogue office. Call 785-1890.

Leventhal-Sidman Center Presents Authors

The Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center of Newton Center, Mass., will present the following book discussions and signings during the first week of December:

- Join local author and Brandeis professor Joyce Antler as she reads from her latest work, *The Journey Home: Jewish Women and the American Century*, which profiles accomplished, courageous women of this century, on Dec. 2 at 7:30 p.m., 333 Nahanton St., Newton, Mass.

Free and open to the public.

- Join local author Anita Diamant as she discusses her work, *Choosing a Jewish Life — A Handbook for People Converting to Judaism and for Their Family and Friends*, on Dec. 4 at 7:30 p.m., 333 Nahanton St., Newton, Mass.

Free and open to the public. For more information, call (617) 558-6448.

Skiing for Social Changes

How are several hundred young Jews combining skiing, socializing, and *tikkun olam* (social action) this winter? By signing up for the Fourth annual National Jewish Singles Week, which will take place in two locations this year: Jan. 10 to 17 in Big Sky, Montana, and March 22 to 29 in Banff, Canada.

The Jewish Singles Ski Week was created as a way to get active young Jews from all over the country together for a week of skiing and socializing. According to its founder, Peter Brownstein, "It's a great way for people with a lot in common to meet and get to know each other."

And where does the *tikkun olam* come in? A portion of each participant's fees are donated to the New Israel Fund, so that while enjoying two of the most

magnificent mountains in North America, they will also be promoting organizations that work to strengthen democracy and promote social justice in Israel.

The fund's executive director, Norman Rosenberg, was elated by the upsurge of interest in the ski week, which doubled in 1997 over the previous year. "The growth of the ski trip is heartening. It will enable a large number of younger Jews to connect with Israel, through the New Israel Fund, in a way that speaks to issues that also matter to them at home, like women's rights, protecting the environment, and religious freedom."

For more information about the National Jewish Singles Ski Week, call Moguls Ski and Snowboard Tours at (800) 666-4857 or e-mail <njs@simoguls.com>.



Spend Summer in Israel

B'nai B'rith Youth Organization will hold Israel Summer Programs Night on Dec. 8 at Temple Torat Yisrael in Cranston from 7 to 9 p.m.

Joe Perlov, director of BBYO Israel Summer Programs, will talk about summer programs including: new London and Israel, new Paris and Israel, Eastern Europe and Israel, 18-, 23- and 34-day Israel adventure, and an international leadership study program.

For information, call David Hochman at 467-BBYO (2296).

Social Seniors of Warwick Program Winter Events

The Social Seniors of Warwick will hold a meeting Dec. 10 at 1 p.m. at Temple Am David, Gardiner St., Warwick.

The guest speaker will be Rhoda Tang. She will discuss elderly affairs. Refreshments will be served.

On Dec. 14, a holiday party will be held at the temple. This is sure to be an enjoyable day.

On Jan. 15, members will go to Wright's Farm for lunch and play cash bingo. You could be a winner!

There will be no meeting during the month of January.

For more information about these events, contact Sally Goldman.

BBYO Winter Activities

The B'nai B'rith Youth Organization announces its winter schedule. On Dec. 13 BBYO will travel to Natick, Mass., for a long night of fun and entertainment. In the past, this has been one of the best attended activities. Last year there were 150 people who attended. The Discovery Zone will host this event.

In January, BBYO will offer a weekend away to the Westboro Marriott. The planning committee promises that this year's convention will be the best. The theme of the convention will not be disclosed until the weekend of the event.

There are several other events in the planning stages: snow tubing, a ski trip, a night at the Providence Bruins and a trip to another region. These events are planned by the regional officers. The local chapters plan their own events and members are notified by mail or e-mail.

The B'nai B'rith youth organization is taking applications for membership from all Jewish youth between the ages of 13 and 17. For additional information, call the regional office at (617) 969-8455, or call David Hochman at 467-BBYO (2296).

Archaeology From the Air

In celebration of the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the state of Israel, Congregation Jeshuat Israel will host a photo exhibit, "Archaeology From the Air." The exhibit, which is the work of two former Israeli Air Force pilots, was recently displayed and very well received in Atlanta, Washington, D.C., and New York City. The photographs provide a unique view of some of the best known ancient sites in Israel.

On Dec. 5, Eynat Shlein Michael, the consul general of Israel to New England, will join Touro Synagogue in Newport for an Oneg Shabbat to open the exhibit. The program will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the synagogue, followed by a reception in the community center. The exhibit will be displayed in the community center from Dec. 5 to 15.

For more information, call 847-4794.

Career Moves in December

Career Moves, Jewish Vocational Service in Boston, Mass., will present the following programs during the month of December:

- Career Moves at JVS presents a free workshop, "Using the Internet for Your Job Search," from 6 to 7 p.m. on Dec. 3 and Dec. 17 at the Career Moves Resource Center, 105 Chauncy St., 6th floor, Boston.

Participants learn how to market themselves using the internet and how to post "résumés" for free on the Career Moves Web site, <www.JVS.jobs.org>. Call Leah Abrams at (617) 451-8147, ext. 118 to register. Event is accessible to individuals with disabilities.

- Career Moves at JVS and Combined Jewish Philanthropies Young Leadership Division present "Positioning Yourself for Success: Career Strategies for the Year 2000 and Beyond" on Dec. 8 at 6:30 p.m. The program will take place at CJP, 126 High St., ninth floor, Boston. Featured speaker is Steve Bookbinder of Towers Perrin, Inc. Call Leah Oko at (617) 451-8147, ext. 104 to register.

If you have an event you would like featured on our Jewish Community page, please send it to the

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THE JEWISH COMMUNITY



Portrait of a Life

Fifth-grade students at the Alperin Schechter Day School read biographies for their Language Arts class, and gave their book reports in the form of a dramatic performance about their person's life. Molly Goodwin (right) discusses the life and accomplishments of children's author Bill Peet and Shira Adler (left) is one of Peet's most beloved characters.

Photo courtesy of ASDS

ASDS Kindergarten Turkey Recipes

According to an Alperin Schechter Day School tradition, kindergarten students compile a cookbook, filled with their recipes for only one dish: turkey. Each child has a very specific method for purchasing and cooking the holiday turkey. Read and enjoy, but please, do not try this in your own home!

- "Go to a farm and ask the farmer to pick out his weakest, lest strongest turkey. Ask him to shoot that one. Then take him home. Put it on the table on a tray. You should cook it first. Cook it for really fast for a minute with cinnamon or spice. Serve it with the stuff you have on holidays."
- "Go where you buy eggs.

Cook it for a long time. Eat it with chocolate."

- "I think they are at the bakery. When you get home, wait for the holiday and then cook it. It looks like a dead chicken that is lumpy in the middle when it is done."

- "Go to the butcher to get a turkey. The kind I like is turkey roll ups. I don't like anything with bones in it. Put it in the oven because it's the biggest thing. Check on it to see if it's hot. If it is very hot take it out. Take off the bones and eat it."

- "People have to kill turkeys and take their feathers and bad stuff off then they put them in a store. Get the size you want. Sometimes you don't have to

cook them sometimes you do. If you do, put it on a cookie sheet, put different kinds of things on it, cook for five minutes. Serve it with soup."

- "We don't eat turkey. So you should eat cookies and brownies."

- "Go to the market that is really close to my house. I'm not sure what section the turkeys are in. I think you should get a brown, medium one. It smells good if you smell it. Put it in a pot with a handle and cook it for probably an hour. Put the timer on and when it BZZZZ it's done."

Film Addresses AIDS in Israel

The AIDS Task Force of the Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island sponsors a film presentation and discussion exploring the social and cultural context of Israeli society's perceptions of AIDS. This presentation is done to commemorate World AIDS Day.

"PositiveStory—Living with AIDS in Israel," directed by Ron Kotzer, is an intimate and personal Israeli film where a person living with AIDS shares his story. The film breaks down the barriers of ignorance related to AIDS in Israel by highlighting the life of one individual affected by AIDS. The film's goal of negating attempts to minimize or disregard AIDS in Israel is achieved as the young man's life unfolds on screen.

The film will be shown Dec. 1 at 7 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence. The movie will be followed by a discussion led by Brandeis University Professor Yaron Peleg.

Rhonda C. Marzetta Receives Special Olympics Award

Rhonda Cantoff Marzetta from North Providence, received the Special Olympics Rhode Island Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award at the 13th annual Special Olympics Rhode Island "Training for Life" Awards Banquet and Appreciation Reception held on Sept. 18.

The Special Olympics Rhode Island Awards for Distinguished Service to individuals with mental retardation and/or closely related developmental disabilities through sports are open to athletes, families, organization, volunteers, coaches, radio and television broadcasters, and newspaper and magazine reporters who during 1996/1997 have made the most distinguished contributions to Special Olympics Rhode Island.

For the past three years, Marzetta has served as chairperson of the Special Olympics Rhode Island annual Fashion Show, grossing more than \$75,000 to benefit our year-round program of sports training and competition for more than 2,150 children and adults with mental retardation and/or closely related developmental disabilities.

She also volunteers at other Special Olympics events including the annual golf tournament, annual awards banquet, Benefest and the sports celebrity carnival. Special Olympics has been strengthened by Rhonda Cantoff Marzetta's dedication and commitment. Her efforts and inspiration make her a role model to volunteers.

Recipe for Thanks

(Continued from Page 4)

G-d's goodness. We say thank you in the Amidah in each one of the three daily prayer services with the special prayer of Modim Anachnu Lach. We thankfully acknowledge You, Lord our G-d. We also say thank you as we arise each morning with the morning

prayer Modeh Ani which thanks G-d for restoring life that day, and for all of the abundance we've received. Here is the short prayer, transliterated, to be recited upon awakening which can serve as a daily practice to bring gratitude into our lives.

Modeh ani lefanecha, Melech chai v'kayam, she'hechzarta b'nishmati b'hemlah, raba emunatecha. I gratefully thank you, living and eternal king, for you have returned my soul to me, abundant is your faithfulness!

Velvel "Wally" Spiegler is a Certified Polarity Therapist, registered with advanced standing in the American Polarity Therapy Association, a student and teacher of Jewish Mysticism. He can be reached at (508) 252-4302.

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THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Sons of Jacob Celebrates 101 Years!



by Tara V. Liscianaro
Herald Editor

At 6:30 a.m. most of us are just getting up and preparing for a long day of work. However, the members of the Congregation Sons of Jacob on Douglas Avenue in Providence are already in their synagogue and beginning their daily services. Some members are there earlier, discussing politics and current events, others choose to arrive promptly as the sun rises. After the laying of the tefillin Rabbi Yechezkel Yudekewsky begins the services with his minyan. "We average between 10 to 20 men during services," said Rabbi Yudekewsky, who has been at Congregation Sons of Jacob for almost one year. He previously resided in Baltimore, Md., and is the proud father of a 20-month-old daughter and 1-month-old son.

During the month of November, the Orthodox congregation celebrated their 101-year anniversary. Since 1896 when Sons of Jacob was first organized on Shawmut St. and Chalkstone Ave. in Providence, the congregation has weathered the best and worst of times. Because of changes in the geography of

Providence, most of Sons of Jacob's members now reside on the East Side of Providence, therefore making it difficult to hold Shabbat and High Holiday services. "Location is a problem," said Scott Shore, the great-grandson of one of the original founders of the shul. The shul's location could work toward their advantage, believes Shore, if mid-day services were held. Members who work in the Downtown Providence area could easily arrive to Sons of Jacob for the services. The synagogue, "could also be linked to educational services and programs, and the Yeshiva," added Shore. The lower section of the synagogue offers large open spaces which would be ideal for after-school programs for children.

"The artwork was overseen by my great-grandfather," said Shore, whose son and grandfather were bar mitzvahed in the same synagogue. The synagogue stands proudly and houses two beautiful sanctuaries. The first two floors make up the larger sanctuary with a high painted ceiling decorated with lions and clouds. From the women's balcony the artwork is

even clearer and the view of the bimah and the arc are more admirable. The bimah and the arc are decorated with embroidered velvet and curtains. The lower sanctuary is used more often and consists of a similar arc also covered with an intricately embroidered dark burgundy velvet curtain. The Torah is removed from the arc on Mondays and Thursdays. The lower section of the synagogue also contains offices, a kitchen, and the *bes medrash*, lined with books, where members can quietly study.

"I like to visit when I'm in town," said Noah Schattner, who moved with his family from Providence to Israel. Schattner and other younger members like Roger Pearlman and Shore enjoy attending services and carrying on the Sons of Jacob tradition. They, after all, are the future of the shul.

"I just don't want my great-grandfather's efforts to go in vain," concluded Shore. Together the members of Sons of Jacob hope to continue and grow with their early morning services and strong traditions which have built the 101-year-old synagogue.

A Musical Tribute to Israel

Have you ever sat in a synagogue, listened to the stirring voice of the cantor and thought, "Wow, I wonder what he or she would sound like doing only popular tunes?"

Well, now's your chance. Except instead of just one cantor, you get over a dozen, a 50-piece combined chorus, and some amazing new, young talent. That's right, it's time for the New England Region Cantors Assembly annual concert. It's your once-a-year opportunity to hear some of the finest, most talented local voices performing songs from Israel on this side of the bimah.

This year's concert will be at Temple Israel of Sharon, Mass., on Dec. 14 at 3 p.m. Among the many scheduled to appear are Cantor Charles Osborne, chairman of the New England Region, and Shana Heller, a 15-year-old with an impressive, sweet voice. The theme of the concert is A Musical Tribute to Israel.

"The spirit and enthusiasm displayed by the cantors is tremendous," said concert chairman Cantor Steven W. Dress of Temple Israel. "And to have the proceeds benefit such vital organizations makes it even more special." All proceeds from the concert will benefit the Cantors Assembly Fund and The Can-

tors Assembly Masorti Music Fund for Youth.

The Masorti Foundation has become a strong force for the Conservative Jews in Israel. In addition to providing support for religious activities, Masorti Music Fund For Youth.

The Masorti Foundation has become a strong force for the Conservative Jews in Israel. In addition to providing support for religious activities, Masorti runs schools, summer camps, a kibbutz and more. Daniel Pederson, 30, now living in Sharon, grew up in the Masorti movement in Israel. "The Masorti has been the center of my life in many ways," said Pederson.

Temple Israel of Sharon is located at 125 Pond St., Sharon, Mass. The concert will be held in their beautiful new sanctuary, which features outstanding acoustics and a state-of-the-art sound system.

Tickets range in price from \$10 (general admission) to \$1,000 (benefactor, includes preferred seating, a gala, post-concert reception, and a specially commissioned, limited-edition piece of art commemorating Israel's 50th anniversary). For ticket information, call the Temple Israel box office, (781) 784-3986.

Learn About Teen Summer Experiences

Combined Jewish Philanthropies' Israel Programs Desk is sponsoring a Jewish Camps and Israel Programs Fair with the Israel Aliyah Center and Temple Beth Abraham on Dec. 7. The program will run from noon to 3 p.m. at Temple Beth Abraham, 1301 Washington St. in Canton, Mass.

The fair will bring together representatives of Jewish summer camps throughout the Greater Boston area, as well as spokespeople for a wide variety of summer travel, study and work options in Israel for teenagers and young adults. Music and Middle Eastern refreshments will add to a fun-filled afternoon of socializing and shopping around for a Jewish experience that best suits a young person's needs.

All are welcome to attend. There is no charge for this event. For more information, call Elana Goldberg at (617) 457-8754 or Sue Green at (617) 828-5250.



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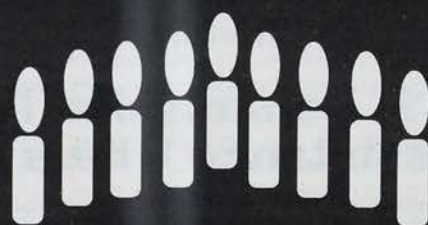
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SCHOOLBEAT

Metcalf Grants Available to College Students for Travel, Internships, Public Service Projects

Are you a college student with a desire to collect phytoplankton in the seas of the Galapagos Islands, search in British museums for jewelry worn in famous paintings, or rebuild homes for low-income families in Appalachia?

The Rhode Island Foundation is offering up to \$5,000 for college sophomores and juniors seeking to pursue additional life experiences through travel, independent study, or public service in 1998; the above examples represent three of the four 1997 winners. The application deadline is Jan. 31, 1998.

Eighteen young Rhode Islanders have benefited thus far from the Michael P. Metcalf Memorial Fund, an endowment established at the foundation in 1987 to honor the late publisher of the *Providence Journal*.

In 1997, for example, Alyssa Novak of Lincoln, a Boston College junior studying biology, was able to travel to the Galapagos Islands to complete a 3-year-old experiment that she had begun in Narragansett Bay on the effects of ultraviolet radiation on certain sealife. Before she left on her 14-day journey to Ecuador, she wrote, "Traveling to the Galapagos would not only help me expand my knowledge of phytoplankton, it would also be a fun experience. I will be in another country with Spanish-speaking

people quite older than I. Traveling alone will make me a more independent individual. This experience could guide me to a career." Despite bringing home an unwanted guest in the form of an intestinal parasite, Novak also may have identified a new species which, if proven true, will be named after her.

While the other Metcalf awardees may not make such a dramatic discovery, their trips were equally adventurous. Jill Amore of Cranston traveled to Kentucky with several fellow students from Salve Regina University to help rebuild settlements in the Appalachian Mountain communities there. "I must tell you that it was the most rewarding and fulfilling thing I have ever done in my 19 years," she told the foundation. "I installed windows, vinyl sided a house, repaired a leaking roof. I never knew I could make such a difference in someone's life by just being there or giving a helping hand wherever it was needed."

Rhode Island School of Design film student and Barrington resident Elizabeth Rosenthal shared an animation studio in Krakow, Poland, with nine other students from Switzerland and Eastern Europe as apprentices to a professor at the Krakow Academy of Fine Arts. A steady diet of 12-hour work days, technical demonstrations, and indi-

vidual critiques over three months only whetted Rosenthal's interest, who is reportedly off to Poland again for more study. She wrote, "The whole experience was very pivotal for me in that it was the first time I have ever been completely on my own in an unfamiliar environment. I thank you sincerely for helping to make this eye-opening and inspiring opportunity possible."

According to Rhode Island Foundation Special Funds officer Carol Scott, grants are intended to provide students with experiences which will "broaden their perspectives and enhance their personal growth." She said the proposed activity need not be limited to the academic year, and may include travel in this country or abroad, and/or a variety of independent study and public service programs. (Grants cannot be used for standard semester-abroad programs.) Awardees will be expected to complete a final project, relating the value of the experience gained. Applicants can be attending any college or university, she said, but must be legal residents of Rhode Island. Scott reports that the foundation will offer three or four "Metcalf grants" this year.

Applications can be obtained from The Rhode Island Foundation, 70 Elm St., Providence, R.I. 02903, or by calling 274-4564.

Do You Know an Outstanding Teen?

Jewish Outreach and Leadership Training is a program of the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island which aims to enhance Jewish informal education for teen-agers in Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts. Future Faces, a component of JOLT, is a teen recognition ceremony which acknowledges Jewish high school students in grades 11 and 12 who demonstrate qualities of leadership, exemplify the Jewish values of helping humanity or the community and/or excel in the arts and sciences.

Potential nominees are 11th- and 12th-grade Rhode Island Jewish teens who:

- Are active in leadership in their Jewish youth group
- Volunteer in a Jewish organization or synagogue
- Work in a communal agency like a food bank or shelter
- Are involved in protection of nature and ecology
- Provide elderly care
- Volunteer in a literacy program
- Organize a community program which contributes to society

- Demonstrate specific talents in the arts and/or science

Nominations may be made on behalf of the teen-ager by a teacher, guidance counselor, youth leader, member of the clergy, or by the teen-ager on behalf of him/herself. The application deadline for this year's awards has been extended from Nov. 24 to Dec. 1. The Bureau of Jewish Education will sponsor the Future Faces Recognition Award Ceremony at Brown/RISD Hillel on Jan. 13, 1998. Awardees and nominees alike will be honored at this ceremony.

If you feel that you are a candidate for this award or you know of an extraordinary Jewish teen who you would like to recommend, call Robin Damsky, secondary education coordinator, at 331-0956, ext. 178, for an application and nomination form.

Funds for Future Faces and all other JOLT projects are provided through a Continuity Grant from the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island.



U.S. Commission For Scholastic Assistance Offers Scholarships

A conservative estimate of college costs for a full-time student runs from \$10,000 to \$30,000; high-cost colleges can run from \$40,000 to \$100,000! Most parents and students think that scholarships are only for students with excellent grades, low-income families, or the athletically inclined. A small example of the numerous scholarships available to students include: handicapped student scholarships, scholarships for

"C" students, veteran children's scholarships, scholarships for minorities and many more.

Though the majority of scholarships are from the Federal Government and are merit and/or need-based, billions of dollars are available to students from private sector scholarships. Much of private sector financial aid goes unused because the parents and students do not know how or where to apply.

There are organizations that

have spent hundreds of hours in research locating scholarship sources. The U.S. Commission for Scholastic Assistance—College Bound supplies the public with more than 700 different private scholarships sources. The scholarship list includes the scholarship names, addresses, application deadlines, summaries about the scholarships and the amount the scholarship will pay your child.

Many scholarships pay the entire tuition, others can be applied towards tuition, living expenses, and/or other fees. Most scholarships can be used at junior colleges, career and vocational schools, four-year colleges, graduate schools, medical and law schools.

For information, send a self-addressed, stamped, business size, #10 envelope to: The U.S. Commission for Scholastic Assistance, P.O. Box 668, O'Fallon, IL 62269.

PHDS Hosts Open House

Traditionally, the Providence Hebrew Day School holds an open house for its parents so they can visit their child's classroom while in session. This year, "Open House" will also mean an open invitation to the entire community to visit the school.

This year's Open House will take place on Dec. 9, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The new format will allow prospective parents to visit classes while they are in session and tour the school's facilities, including the new computer lab, science lab, and language lab. Specific information on secular and Judaic curriculum, tuition and financial aid will be available for each grade level. Parents are also invited to a complimentary lunch with the school's administrators — Rabbi Mordechai Nissel, the school's dean; Maureen

Sheehan, secular studies principal; and Marcia Gibber, girl's high school principal. Reservations for lunch can be made with the school office. A new promotional video will also be shown for the first time at the Open House. All families from Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts are welcome to attend.

The schedule for Open House is as follows: classroom visits, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.; building tours, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; parents' luncheon, noon to 1:30 p.m.

The Providence Hebrew Day School is accredited by the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island and receives support from the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island and the Jewish Federation of New Bedford, Mass. Call 331-5327 for more information.

Entries Needed for Jewish Writing Contest

The Association of Jewish Libraries in partnership with Pitspopany Press announces the sponsorship of a new Jewish short story competition for non-published authors writing for middle-grade readers (ages 8 to 12). This competition serves the mandate of AJL to promote and encourage publications of children's literature of high literary merit with positive Jewish focus, content and values. Winners and runners-up for the Judaica Librarians' Choice Award will receive monetary prizes and their stories will become the property of Pitspopany Press. While the AJL cannot assure publication of the prize-winning stories, Pitspopany Press plans to consider the winning

entries for potential publication.

The topic for the 1997/1998 competition is: Humor Stories.

The winning story will receive an award of \$1,000 and three runners-up will receive awards of \$250 each. All four authors will be invited to receive their awards at the closing banquet of the AJL convention in Philadelphia in June 1998. One night's hotel and banquet costs will be covered by the sponsors of the award.

Manuscripts must be postmarked by Feb. 15, 1998. Winners will be notified by May 15, 1998.

For the rules of submission and the AJL release form, write to: Hazel Karp, 880 Somerset Drive, NW Atlanta, GA 30327.

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FEATURE

Swiss Banks Set to Begin Payout of Dormant Accounts This Month

by Daniel Kurtzman

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Swiss banks are planning to start paying out some dormant accounts belonging to Holocaust victims by the end of November.

The recent announcement by a Swiss official comes just weeks ahead of a conference that will examine the ways American public institutions should deal with Swiss banks.

"I'm quite optimistic" accounts will soon be turned over "because if you were a Swiss banker, you would try to get some payments out before" the conference, said Special Ambassador Thomas Borer.

Borer, who heads a Swiss government task force set up last year to deal with the controversy surrounding Switzerland's wartime past, spoke with reporters at the Swiss Embassy in Washington.

The conference, initiated by New York City Comptroller Alan Hevesi, who lost family members in the Holocaust, is slated for Dec. 8 in New York.

Three states — California, New York and Massachusetts — and New York City have halted dealings with Swiss banks, while other states are considering such a move.

Borer called the sanctions against Swiss banks "counter-productive and unfair," a position also taken by the Clinton administration.

Last month, the Swiss Bankers Association released the second of two lists of dormant accounts. The lists contain the names of about 16,000 people whose accounts have not been touched since World War II. Of those, about 5,500 were opened by foreigners.

At least 30,000 people have inquired about the lists so far, and more than 3,000 claims have been filed.

Borer said the Swiss Bankers Association is aiming to complete the process of returning assets by December 1998.

Borer also sought to clarify what he said was a misunderstanding about the scope of a proposed Swiss Foundation for Solidarity, which would use investment income from \$5 billion in reserves for humanitarian causes.

Swiss President Arnold Koller proposed establishing such a fund last spring as part of an effort to deflect international criticism of Switzerland's wartime dealings with the Nazis. Koller said at the

time that the fund would help support needy Holocaust survivors.

Some Jewish and Israeli officials leveled sharp criticism at Switzerland after the Swiss government decided recently not to use the fund to help individual survivors.

The foundation proposal faces a national referendum next year, and some Swiss officials have said it may not win public approval if Jewish survivors are among the beneficiaries.

Mounting pressure on Switzerland in the past year has resulted in an anti-Semitic backlash among the Swiss.

While individual Holocaust survivors will not directly benefit from the fund, Borer said the Swiss government may decide to use the foundation to aid groups or projects that help survivors.

"My government is still of the position that, among others, Holocaust survivors may profit" from the fund "if there is still a need," Borer said.

"We have to be careful not to put that in the forefront. We are walking on thin ice and a negative reaction with regard to public opinion could affect" the creation of the foundation.



Hadassah Firsts

First American nurses sent by Hadassah to Jerusalem in 1913: From left, Rose Kaplan and Rachel Landy with Eva Leon, a member of the New York Chapter, outside the original Hadassah Welfare Station.

Photo courtesy of Hadassah

Federation Task Force Will Study Plan to Boost Support For Jewish Day Schools

by Matthew Dorf

INDIANAPOLIS (JTA) — The Jewish federation movement will consider dramatically increasing support for Jewish day school education in North America.

But it has rejected, for now, a proposal that would have asked federations to work toward providing day school education to anyone who wants it.

Instead, the Council of Jewish Federations launched a one-year task force to study a grassroots movement that has asked federations to increase their allocations for day schools. The goal is to make a Jewish education accessible to all Jewish children regardless of their family's finances.

George Hanus, a Chicago-area businessman who heads a new movement, the National

Jewish Day School Scholarship Committee, hailed the creation of the task force as a victory for his movement.

But he will continue to press individual federations to commit to making day school education available to all Jewish children.

At the urging of the New York, Washington and San Francisco federations, CJF delegates postponed consideration of a resolution written by Hanus and supported by the Chicago federation.

The resolution would have urged federations to make day school education available to "all Jewish children whose families desire it, including those whose families do not have the necessary financial resources."

"The resolution wouldn't have passed without more clarity," said Martin Kraar, CJF ex-

ecutive vice president.

"What does it mean to a federation?" he asked.

In addition to questions surrounding day schools, many delegates said the issue needs to be studied further to assess its impact on public schools, school vouchers and Jewish education programs.

Wayne Feinstein, executive vice president of the San Francisco federation, stressed that the federations, in general, are not opposed to increasing support for day schools.

"If we approved it now without further thought, people in many communities would say that all additional campaign money should go to Jewish day schools," he said.

"It's not just a moral exhortation, there was an expectation of financial support."

Reed Seeks Interns for Winter Semester

Internships are available for the 1998 spring term beginning Jan. 12 for college students, college graduates and graduate students in Sen. Reed's Washington, D.C., office and in his state offices in Cranston and Providence.

"Internships provide an exciting, hands-on opportunity to learn about Congress and participate in the legislative process," said Reed.

Student interns will learn about the workings of a Senate office by participating in a combination of legislative and administrative work. In the Rhode Island offices, interns assist the staff with policy analysis, research and special projects. Washington interns assist the staff with legislative research, re-

sponding to constituent inquiries and attending committee hearings. Various administrative duties are also required of the interns in both offices as well.

Résumés will be reviewed for approval and will be followed by an interview process. The selection process in Rhode Island is conducted on a quarterly basis and in Washington selections are made three times a year before the start of the spring, summer and fall academic sessions.

Interested students may contact the Rhode Island office — 201 Hillside Road, Suite 200, Cranston, R.I. 02920, (800) 284-4200 or the Washington office — 320 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510, (202) 224-4642.

Czech Government to Establish Guidelines for Teaching Religion

by Randi Druzin

PRAGUE (JTA) — In the wake of a teacher's anti-Semitic lecture, Czech state schools will be receiving new guidelines on teaching religion.

Earlier this month, 25 seniors at Prague's Na Prazacce High School sent a letter to Czech Chief Rabbi Karol Sidon asserting that their teacher, Vera Vesecka, said Jewish suffering, including the Holocaust, was a "just result of the role Jews played in the crucifixion of Jesus Christ."

The students charged that Vesecka, 70, who was lecturing on Christian ethics, said the only ways Jews can have a "fully

meaningful existence" is to convert to Christianity.

Tomas Kraus, executive director of the Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic, said one "can hear similar sentiments expressed during mass at churches in towns outside Prague."

But Kraus said he was "surprised a person with these views was permitted to teach. It is not the fault of the teacher, but of the [educational] system."

Vesecka, a Seventh-Day Adventist, called the students' letter "a lie."

"I love Jews," she said. "I do not want to harm anyone."

She said that in her 45-minute lecture she named Jesus as the only example of a perfect person and read a description of Jesus' trial to the class.

The passage has "the multitude" crying for Jesus to be crucified, but Vesecka said that does not mean Jews were responsible for Jesus' death.

She was quoted in a Czech newspaper, however, as saying that "if Jews want to be saved, they must accept that [Jesus] is the messiah."

The Czech chief rabbi described Vesecka's comments as "a typical example of medieval anti-Semitism."

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FEATURE

A League of Their Own: Senior Bowlers Keep Tradition Alive

by Sara Wise
Herald Editor

Every Tuesday afternoon the lanes of the Legion Bowling Alley in Cranston are filled with the sounds of crashing pins, spinning balls and spirited chatter as the "Tuesday Alumnae Bowlers" gather for their weekly activity.

The bowling club, which has been around for more than 40 years, was originally made up of Sisterhood members from Temple Beth Israel in Cranston. At that time, many Rhode Island synagogues had both men's and women's bowling leagues and the different teams would bowl in tournaments. (Beth Israel later merged with Temple Torat Yisrael, so the league's name was changed to "The Tuesday Alumnae Bowlers.")

Most of the women had small children when they started, so throughout the 1950s the group bowled at night at the Casino bowling alley downtown on Pine Street. The Casino was owned by the Court family whose daughter bowled with the league.

The leagues held competitive tournaments, elegant banquets and took road trips. "We'd go away for weekends, we really had some marvelous times," said scorekeeper Lillian Mushnick, who tracks scores for the teams throughout the season. Many of the bowlers remembered the elaborate prizes and trophies they won during those years. "We outfitted our homes with Corningware and silver platters, but once we'd furnished our homes enough,



THE BETH ISRAEL SISTERHOOD BOWLERS in the mid-'50s.

Photo courtesy of Lillian Mushnick

we switched to cash prizes," said Mushnick.

In its heyday, the club boasted a membership of more than 100 bowlers. May Levy, a 44-year veteran who is taking some time off from bowling because of recent surgery, remembered having to serve as a "spare" for a whole year because there were so many bowlers.

In the early 1960s, once many of the women's children were grown, a decision was made to shift the games to afternoons at the Garden City bowling alley. The working women (a minority at that time) were forced to give up their spaces, but many have since rejoined the group on Tuesday afternoons upon their retirement. They have been playing at Legion Bowl since the bowling alley at Garden City closed.

Looking over old league photographs May Levy sighed at the sight of so many young faces, noting that many have since passed away. "It's so sad, we've lost so many," she said.

"We all look so different now."

The four-woman teams are made up at the beginning of the nine-month season based on previous scores to even the teams out. Today there are only six teams. "We bowl from after the Holidays until May, but we lose a lot at the end of December because they go off to Florida," said Mushnick. "Then in May we have a banquet and give out prizes."

Many of the women say they come for exercise, relaxation and camaraderie. Some even come equipped with their own shoes and balls. "It's wonderful exercise and I find it's great to be with the different women," said Levy.

Sarah Bloom has been bowling for more than 50 years with different groups. "I like bowling. This year I'm down, my scores were always higher. But for my age I think I'm doing pretty well," she said before getting up to take her turn on the lanes.

"We act like kids, we let our hair down and have a good time," said Mushnick who de-

scribed the current games as more social than competitive. Sunshine Chairwoman Jean Segal even sends cards for birthdays and other events.

These days the women take the league a bit less seriously. "We're a lot looser than we used to be. We stopped watching the foul lines, and some of us lob the ball. We'd get kicked out of other leagues!" said Mushnick.

Jeanette Kushner, who has been bowling for more than 20 years and also bowls with another group on Thursday afternoons enjoys the company. "We've been bowling so many years it's like family. We have a few really good bowlers too."

With many of the group now in their 70s and a few over 80, the bowlers are hoping to recruit new women to join their thinning ranks. Currently, all of the women happen to be Jewish, but they are by no means restrictive. "We'll take anybody if they want to bowl!" said Mushnick.

If you are free on Tuesday afternoons and like to bowl, call 467-4154.



MYRNA RESNICK and Zelda Kudish keep score for their team at Legion Bowl in Cranston. Both women have been bowling on and off for 35 years.

Herald photo by Sara Wise

Independence Jubilee Kickoff May Be Postponed Until Spring

by Michele Chabin
JERUSALEM (JTA) — Is Israel ready to celebrate 50 years of statehood?

"The plans are in a state of chaos, and unless something is done very soon to put them back

on track, it could be a disappointing year," said one official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The source said the budget for the commemorations has been halved from \$70 million to \$35 million, but denied reports that it had been slashed to \$14 million.

Jubilee planners have been facing budgetary problems, bureaucratic infighting and public

indifference — complications that may force Israel to postpone the start of its 50th anniversary celebrations for several months.

Government officials concede that the majority of events have not yet been scheduled even though festivities are supposed to be launched Dec. 23, the first night of Chanukah.

The array of problems has become so acute that Israeli offi-

cials are now seriously considering delaying the yearlong series of events until Independence Day, on the Hebrew date of the 4th of Iyar, which falls next year on April 30, and scaling back their planned celebrations in the Diaspora.

Plans for the jubilee began to fall apart earlier this year, when key officials on the organizing committee started squabbling.

The fallout from those fights came during the summer, when three top committee members resigned — Tourism Minister Moshe Katzav, the committee's director-general; retired Gen. Yossi Peled, the committee chairman; and Haim Slotsky, who was to serve as producer of the events.

According to media reports, the three resigned over professional disagreements and in response to charges that jubilee events stressed the achievements of Ashkenazi Jews at the expense of Sephardi Jews and Israeli minorities.

The three also faced accusations in the Israeli press that they had indulged in nepotism and used the committee's facilities for their own private pur-

poses — charges they denied.

Katzav, who returned to the committee's helm earlier this month, and former finance minister, Yitzhak Moda'i, who just assumed the post of chairman, are now reportedly working overtime to put the anniversary plans back on track.

They are racing not only against the clock, but have a new problem to confront: public apathy.

Nahum Barnea, a columnist for the Israeli daily *Yediot Achronot*, has called the 50th anniversary celebrations "a cake that didn't rise. There is no mood for celebrating and no one to do it with."

This view appears to be shared by many Israelis, who believe that the money and effort could be better spent.

"This is a total waste of taxpayer money," said a soldier who gave his name only as Yigal.

"The country is a mess, and no one I know feels much like celebrating. I know we've achieved a lot in 50 years, but not as much as we could or should have."

(Continued on Page 13)

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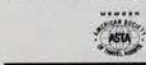
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FEATURE

Germany's Past to Light

(Continued from Page 1)

Right Way, they grew anxious to speak with him.

"There are three types of Germans," stated Svoray: those that are so sorry and can't apologize enough about what has taken place in Germany; those that can't care less about what has happened and are living for the future, and those who deny that the Holocaust even happened. Svoray continued to tell the audience that there were many Germans, like Müller, who told him, "It was a time of war. The camps were for criminals and enemies of the Reich, not innocent people. Some were executed for their crimes. Others bore diseases. They were filthy. ... Nobody killed them. They died."

After befriending members of several of the 16 neo-Nazi parties and finding himself in a handful of fights, "although I did manage to put 4 or 5 of them in hospitals," bragged Svoray, the curious reporter began to find his way to the older Nazis, "the real ones, the ones who made the Holocaust," as Svoray said in "The Infiltrator." "The new Nazi skinheads aren't Germany's problem," stated Svoray.

Within a matter of months Svoray befriended Heinz Reisz, "he is the best known Nazi in Germany today." Svoray also said that if Reisz hadn't been a Nazi, he would have been one of his closest friends. "He was like a grandfather, he wasn't mean or cruel."

Reisz led Svoray into a secret world which was hidden away from the public eye since the second world war. Svoray found that there are many Nazi war criminals not only in Germany, but in America and across the globe that attended the same

functions he did. "Almost all of them united in Germany for the annual celebration of Hitler's birthday," he said. Svoray attended parties and meetings and learned that Nazis have been attempting to build their structure. They supported groups of German youth to fight in the former Yugoslavia. After several months of training, the young Germans spent up to six months in war, usually fighting on the Croatian side. When they returned they were paid by the Nazis.

Among some of the many high ranking and supportive Nazis was Wilhelm Köberich, also known as the "Fighting Cock," a former member of the Gestapo whose job was to separate the Jews from the non-Jews in Paris. Svoray first met Köberich at a luncheon where they sat directly across from one another. "He stared at me with his piercing eyes," said Svoray, "so I tried not to look at him at all. Then, all of the sudden, he was gone." Köberich made his way around the table and held a gun in Svoray's ear and called him "Juden!" "I was literally frozen with fear," stated Svoray. Luckily, having had experience in the police force, and being a rather strong fellow, Svoray quickly removed the gun and broke Köberich's arm in the process. "He saw through me, but luckily the others didn't and then came to help me, they still believed me!" he said.

Svoray also met Herman Goring's daughter. "Even today they still consider him a hero in Germany," he stated. After the war was over, Goring was convicted and to be hung like other Nazi war criminals. Instead,

Goring killed himself with a cyanide pellet and therefore has been called a "hero," having committed suicide for his country. Himmler's daughter, however, was one of Svoray's most discouraging encounters. "She is a so-called icon of the neo-Nazi movement," he stated in *In Hitler's Shadow*. She, like Goring's daughter, was a simple housewife. However, she asked Svoray, "Why can't they remember my father as a really funny guy?"

When Svoray returned to the United States he gave Congress 700 pages of information and research. His story was published in almost 4,000 newspapers, magazines, and TV news programs. The Wiesenthal Center also collected the research and brought it to the German government. "But to this day not one German Nazi has been arrested or put in prison, nothing," stated Svoray sadly. "I think Germans are tired about hearing about their past," he added. He doesn't worry that he will be threatened or contacted by one of the neo-Nazis; besides, "I did what I did as a Jew and the son of a Holocaust survivor."

"What's happening in Germany is very interesting," said Svoray, "there is a swing to the right and it's very dangerous." Svoray found many links between the neo-Nazi and older Nazi movements between Germany and the United States and says the worst possible situation, although he doesn't foresee it, would be if they eventually joined forces. Therefore, Svoray concluded, "we can't be silent because history will repeat itself."

Ex-Nazi Pensions

(Continued from Page 1)

The recipients include tens of thousands of suspected war criminals.

The pensions sparked international controversy after a German television station reported earlier this year that the German government was delivering disability payments to former Nazi criminals.

Public pressure prompted German officials to announce that they would stop payments to known Nazi criminals living abroad.

But the authorities said the 1950 Federal benefits law had to be amended in order to halt the pension payments to any war criminals living in Germany.

The law did not exclude any German units from the disability pensions so as to avoid labeling any soldiers as war criminals.

Some observers believe that the recent parliamentary vote was largely symbolic and was taken to deflect public criticism.

The new law does not provide any funds for extra personnel to start hunting for documentation that would prove some recipients are war criminals.

Indeed, the opposition Social Democratic Party did not want to approve the amended law because they did not want state finance officials to become involved in criminal investigations.

The Social Democrats also worried that thousands of widows would be punished for their husband's actions if their pension payments were stopped.

But the opposition legislators finally recognized that the negative publicity from the payments

was so damaging that it was better to support the new law.

To satisfy some of its parliamentary critics, the new law contains a clause that allows authorities to continue pensions to those widows who claim to have no knowledge of criminal actions committed by their late husbands.

The law was proposed by the Green Party, which led the fight in recent years to suspend disability benefits to war criminals and to begin paying pensions to Holocaust victims living in Eastern Europe.

Germany has paid more than \$54 billion in compensation to Holocaust survivors since World War II.

However, those living in Soviet-bloc countries were unable to apply for compensation during the Cold War, and Communist East Germany refused to make any payments.

Jewish organizations estimate that there are between 15,000 and 40,000 Holocaust survivors in Eastern Europe who have never received compensation.

German officials are currently negotiating with the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany regarding compensation payments to Holocaust survivors in Eastern Europe.

In August, the German government and officials of the claims conference announced the establishment of a joint commission to recommend a compromise.

The commission is expected to make its proposals before the end of the year.

Independence Jubilee Kickoff

(Continued from Page 12)

Rafi Eldad, director of public affairs at the interior ministry, disagrees.

"In my opinion, Israel has done remarkable things, and the 50th anniversary will give us the opportunity to let the world know."

Looking back over the past 50 years, Eldad said, "We can see the spectacular advances in education, the economy and culture the country has achieved."

"Israel is more than terrorist attacks. The jubilee will, hopefully, present Israel in its entirety."

Noting that the interior ministry has been planning Diaspora events for more than a year, Eldad said many exhibitions, concerts and special programs

have already been finalized.

"We've been working with our embassies all over the world and have produced material in seven languages. We're involving local Jewish communities as well as heads of state."

On the first night of Chanukah, Eldad said, British Prime Minister Tony Blair, Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien and several other heads of state will light a candle to mark the start of the 50th anniversary year.

"We're hoping President Clinton will light a candle in the White House," he said, "but that hasn't been confirmed yet."

A preliminary list of events is available on the internet at: <http://www.israel-mfa.gov.il/events50.html>.

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FEATURE

Jewish AIDS Task Force Creates Memorial Quilt Panel

by Sara Wise
Herald Editor

Members of the Rhode Island Jewish AIDS Task Force have been hard at work on a very special project to memorialize loved ones lost to the scourge of AIDS.

The task force has created a beautiful quilted panel that will be carried on Dec. 4 during "Graceful Journeys," an event organized by RI Project AIDS and the NAMES project where all the Rhode Island panels made this year are presented. Each quilt panel is lovingly made in memory of someone lost to AIDS and is displayed around the country. The ceremony will begin in the Statehouse at 6 p.m. and will include songs, poetry and speakers. Cleve Jones, the originator of the AIDS quilt, will be a featured speaker. He will bring the first panel he made ten years ago in honor of his friend Marvin Feldman, a Jewish man from Rhode Island who died from AIDS. Cantor Robert Lieberman of Temple Torat Yisrael will say the kaddish before the crowd marches to the Federal Courthouse downtown.

The task force is a part of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island's Community Relations Council and was formed more than four years ago to develop a Jewish response to the AIDS crisis.

Carrie Jacobson, co-chairwoman of the committee, said that her group contacted the NAMES project about the ceremony because, "we felt it was important to have a Jewish presence." She remembered that one committee member who lost a brother to AIDS had seen the quilt elsewhere said that it would have been a great comfort to her to have looked up

and seen a Jewish star. This year, that star will be there.

The new panel, made of a sparkly light blue material, contains a large black Mogen David draped by the velvety red ribbon that has become a symbol for the fight against AIDS. On each side of the star is the kaddish, written in both English and Hebrew, and across the top and bottom is the message "Community Relations Council — Jewish Federation of RI Mourns All Those Lost."

According to Jacobson, the committee's panel is a bit different than most panels because it does not commemorate one person, but instead "mourns all those lost." Putting it together was a powerful experience, she explained, because AIDS has touched each of their lives. One couple lost a son to AIDS, another lost a brother and others have lost close friends and relatives so that even though there are no names on their panel, each committee member had a special face in mind while working on it. "It was a healing process making the panel. We all shed some tears," said Jacobson.

Community Outreach

The first major project of the task force was a Passover seder adapted to address AIDS in the community. The first "AIDS Seder" was held in 1994 at the Jewish Community Center and has since become an annual event. "It was incredible and very, very powerful," said Jacobson of the first seder. "Initially many people didn't feel that AIDS was a community issue. It was really educational for everybody."

Jacobson recalled a particularly moving moment just after the kaddish was said. Anyone who had lost a loved one to AIDS



CARRIE JACOBSON, co-chairwoman of the AIDS Task Force, displays the committee's quilt panel.
Herald photo by Sara Wise

was invited to say the person's name out loud. "At first there was this intense silence," said Jacobson. "And then one voice came forward with a name. After that, more and more names were said and it just went on and on. People were shocked to find there were so many names."

Last spring's seder drew more than 200 people in 1997 and incorporated a new ceremony where an empty chair was left at each table and then decorated with red ribbons, evoking a powerful Elijah-esque feeling.

In addition to the seders, the task force works to increase AIDS awareness in the Jewish community through on-going

educational programming.

AIDS activist Marc Paige, who has been involved with the task force since its inception, speaks frequently at schools and temples and last year the task force brought in a woman rabbi with AIDS to speak to the community. Jacobson said that they may try to sponsor panel-making workshops at the Jewish Community Center so that community members who like to sew could get involved.

The group also recently purchased a video by and about a gay Israeli man with AIDS which will be shown on Dec. 1 at 7 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center in conjunction with a speaker from Brandeis University who

will lead a discussion on AIDS in Israel. The event is open to the public. The video will also be shown at Brown-RISD Hillel as part of World AIDS Week and is available for loan.

For now they will use the panel for local educational activities to remind people that AIDS affects us all, not just people who are gay. "Being gay and Jewish puts you in two different groups. Our hope is that other people who haven't felt connected will see this [panel] and feel welcome," said Jacobson. "It didn't feel right to have a major social issue like this one and not have a Jewish response. It's a biological disease and it happens to everyone."

URI Observes Week Without Art

A Week Without Art is being observed internationally again this year to raise awareness of HIV/AIDS, and to suggest the role which the arts and university communities may constructively play in combating the ongoing crisis.

AIDS has spread to all communities of American society, but has had a particularly visible effect upon the arts community. A Week Without Art

was originally created to remember those among the arts community who had already succumbed to this disease. But HIV/AIDS is not confined to any one portion of the population; it is a plague in whose tragic effects we all share directly or indirectly.

For AIDS Awareness Week this year, a special installation is being developed for the student center, The Memorial Union at

the University of Rhode Island. A graphic banner project, conceived and devised by Interns of the Fine Arts Center Galleries, department of art, will be installed to emphasize that HIV/AIDS impacts all of American society. This group project will derive from the most recent data and statistics on the virus in the year 1997. The graphic messages of the banner intend to humanize the disease in ways in which the presentation of dramatic statistics alone would not. As a "humanized" interpretation, the banner will incorporate semi-fictionalized accounts of American society's dealing with HIV/AIDS, featuring the response of various ages, genders, and familial relations to the presence of disease.

This HIV/AIDS Awareness Initiative Project may be viewed in the URI Memorial Union from Dec. 1 at noon to Dec. 5 at noon. For information, call 874-2775.

Memorial Quilt Panels on Display for World AIDS Day

In recognition of World AIDS Day on Dec. 1, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care of New England will display quilt panels from The NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt at its five locations. The public is invited to view the quilts at any of the Harvard Pilgrim Health centers between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.

According to Midge Sabatini, Harvard Pilgrim's AIDS project manager, "It is vital to communicate information on AIDS to the public. To date, education is still the best prevention against AIDS. By looking at a panel dedicated to a victim of the epidemic, it fosters an awareness of the disease that brings it to a personal level. The panel represents a human being, not a statistic. And because the first panel of the AIDS Memorial Quilt was a tribute to a native Rhode Islander, Marvin Feldman, it's an important part of Rhode Island's history."

1997 marks the 10th anniversary of the AIDS Memorial Quilt, which has grown from 1,920 panels in 1987 to more than 43,000 panels and 77,051 names, a small representation of the 343,000 Americans who have

died of AIDS since the epidemic began. In its 10-year history, 9,223,000 people have visited the quilt. It now weighs 50 tons and is the size of 16 football fields.

The idea for the quilt was developed by Cleve Jones during a candlelight march in San Francisco in 1985. Jones, a 19-year survivor of HIV, designed the first panel in memory of his close friend, Marvin Feldman.

Panels will be displayed at the following locations:

Rhode Island — Lincoln, 1 Commerce St., across from the Public Library; Providence, 1 Hoppin St., corner of Point Street; Warwick, 400 Bald Hill Road, in the Warwick Mall parking lot.

Massachusetts — Plainville, 60 Messenger St., junction of route 106 and 152; and Swansea, 440 Swansea Mall Drive, just past the Swansea Mall.

In addition, the Providence Health Center will hold an open house in the cafeteria annex on the first floor, with various local agencies providing educational information and materials on HIV and AIDS and the AIDS Memorial Quilt.

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From "I was born on," to "My health record," "My friends," "My first day in school," to "Marriage," the book also includes special Jewish entries such as "Pidyon Haben," "My first trip to Israel," and "My Bar/Bat Mitzvah."

Each page begins with an appropriate English and Hebrew verse from the Bible written in beautiful calligraphy. Shore added a place for hand and footprints and the book is elegantly finished with colorful endpapers.

Rebecca Shore was ideally suited for the task of redesigning *Mazal Tov*. She came to Israel after attending Vassar College and decided to stay. Shore has her degree in psychology

with a concentration in art therapy, and lives in the Old City of Jerusalem, near the West-

look, more meaning. "My point," says the artist, "is to show Judaism as a joyous and relevant part of life. I get my ideas from the A-mighty." But why use animals instead of people? "Because they are more popular... I think animals get the message across in an easy and non-threatening manner."

Shore's signed posters are sold in the United States and are part of the permanent collections at the Jewish Museum in New York and the Skirball Museum and Simon Weisenthal Museum, both in Los Angeles. The artist considers herself very lucky that she can be, first and foremost, a mother to her six children, yet not neglect the art which means so much to her.

For information about ordering *Mazal Tov* call (516) 295-2805.



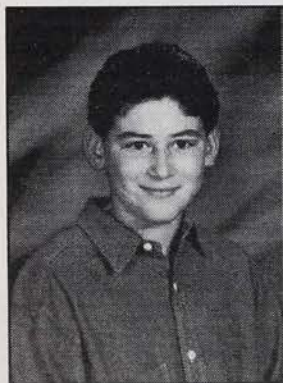
ern Wall, where she derives much of her inspiration. Both she and her husband are active in Aish HaTorah, a yeshiva and international organization dedicated to Jewish education.

Shore's work can be viewed on many levels. As you look at one of her pictures, you will find much humor and, with each

Mazal Tov Brandon S. Millen!

Brandon Scott Millen, son of Meta and Andrew Millen of Newton Center, Mass., was called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah on Nov. 15 at Temple Beth Avodah of Newton Center, Mass.

Brandon is an avid swimmer, basketball and baseball player. He also participated in soccer



Brandon Scott Millen

and football. He is a good student scholastically.

His paternal grandparents are Hannah Rita and Louis Millen of Barrington, R.I. Maternal grandparents are Lottie and the late Harold Levy of Lakewood, N.Y. He is also the great-grandson of the late Bessie Heller.

Immediately after the service, a kiddush and reception were held, followed by a dinner dance. Guests attended from New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Louisiana, Florida, Maine, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island.



**Tori
Nina
Bergel**

Mr. and Mrs. Steven I. Bergel of Sharon, Mass., announce the birth of their third child, a daughter, Tori Nina, born Sept. 16. Tori's sister and brother are Riva Sara and Jacob Aaron.

Paternal grandparents are Judy and Arthur Bergel of Providence and maternal grandparents are Estelle and Al Limer of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

Paternal great-grandparents are the late Sally and Arthur Saltzman and the late Anna and Isadore Bergel. Maternal great-grandparents are the late Francis and Jules Limer and the late Rose Siken.

Tori is named after her late great-grandmothers Anna Bergel and Frances Limer.

Dorothy Fox to Wed Ronal Levenson

Dorothy Frank Fox of Rochambeau Ave., Providence, daughter of the late David and Annie Frank, announces her engagement to Ronal Levenson of Cranston, R.I., son of Esther Levenson of Philadelphia, Pa., and the late Harry Levenson.

The bride-to-be is the mother of Joyce Starr, Jill Robinson Tobak, and C. Joseph Fox and has six grandchildren.

The bride's fiancé is retired and is the stepfather of Joel, Martin and Jay Franson.

A 1998 wedding is planned.



**Brooke
Emily
Lyon**

Cliff and LoriAnne Lyon (Kohn) of LaCosta, Calif., announce the birth of their first child, a daughter, Brooke Emily, on Nov. 9.

Her maternal grandparents are Susan and Stephen Kohn of Hillsborough, Calif. Paternal grandparents are Alan and Judy Lyon of La Jolla, Calif.

Great-grandparents are Max and Jeanette Broomfield of Boca Raton, Fla.

Jeffrey Glantz to Wed Tonya Chiavaroli



Jeffrey Glantz and Tonya Chiavaroli

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Glantz, of Cape Cod, Mass., announce the engagement of their son, Jeffrey Adam, to Tonya Chiavaroli, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Brown of Rhode Island, and Anthony Chiavaroli.

The bride-to-be graduated from Classical High School and received a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Rhode Island. She obtained a master's degree in social work from Rhode Island College. She works for the Department of Children Youth and Families as a clinical training specialist for adoption in Rhode Island.

Her fiancé graduated from Classical High School and received a bachelor's degree in geology from the University of Colorado and a master's degree in hazardous waste management from Southern Methodist University. He works for Laidlaw Environmental in Hamden, Conn.

The wedding date is set for Oct. 24, 1998.

Jason Winn Weds Chana Goodfriend

Dorothy Winn of Warwick, R.I., and Rabbi and Rebbitzin Avraham Goodfriend of Brooklyn, N.Y., announce the marriage of their children, Jason (Yaakov) Winn and Chana Goodfriend, on Oct. 28 in Jerusalem, Israel.

The couple will reside in Jerusalem.



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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Upcoming Lectures at Brown

The following Brown University events are open to the public:

Dec. 1

Kathleen Newland, senior associate in the International Migration Policy Program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, will give a seminar titled "Demography and Humanitarianism: Partners or Rivals in Public Policy?" at noon, Dec. 1, in the conference room of the Watson Institute for International Studies, 2 Stimson Ave., in Providence. Lunch will be served and seating is limited. R.S.V.P. to Leslie Baxter at 863-7425.

Dec. 2

Ronald Steel, professor of international relations at the University of Southern California, will give a seminar titled "National Security and Global Security" at noon, Dec. 2, in the conference room of the Watson Institute for International Studies, 2 Stimson Ave., in Providence. Lunch will be served and seating is limited. R.S.V.P. to Leslie Baxter at 863-7425 or via e-mail, <Leslie_Baxter@brown.edu>.

Dec. 3

Hugh Thomas, Lord Thomas of Swynnerton, a distinguished English historian will give a lecture titled "How the Atlantic Slave Trade Began" at 5:30 p.m., Dec. 3, in the John Carter Brown Library, on the College Green. Thomas was formerly chairman of the Center for Policy Studies and professor of history at the

University of Reading. He is the author of *The Spanish Civil War* (1961); *Cuba, or the Pursuit of Freedom* (1971); *Conquest: Montezuma, Cortés, and the Fall of Old Mexico* (1993); and this fall a new book on *The Atlantic Slave Trade*. He is currently a visiting professor at Boston University.

Dec. 4

His Excellency Jaime Gama, Portugal's foreign minister, will give a talk titled "The Revision of Maastricht" at 4:30 p.m. in the conference room of the Watson Institute for International Studies, 2 Stimson Ave., in Providence. The treaty of Maastricht supported the formation of the European Union. Gama's lecture is sponsored by the Watson Institute and the department of Portuguese and Brazilian studies.

Dec. 8

Maria Todorova, professor of history at the University of Florida, will give a lecture titled "Do Identities Exist and Who Has Them? Some Reflections on Balkan Identities" at noon, Dec. 8, in the conference room of the Watson Institute for International Studies, 2 Stimson Ave., in Providence.

Dec. 10

The John Nicholas Brown Center will present a seminar titled "The Working Class and the Right to Vote in Rhode Island" at 4 p.m., Dec. 10, at the center, 357 Benefit St. in Providence.

New Year's Eve Gala Benefits Rhode Island Project

Fashion, flowers, and fireworks will set the tone for a gala New Year's Eve Celebration in the grand ballroom of Providence's historic Biltmore Hotel, marking the end of 1997 and launching the three-year countdown to the turn of the next century. The event, which begins at 8 p.m., will benefit Rhode Island Project/AIDS, supporting the agency's programs in HIV/AIDS education, prevention, and client services.

Bea Temkin, Society Editor for *Rhode Island Monthly* magazine and Stephen Hourahan,

president of the agency's board of directors, co-chairs of the event, have orchestrated an evening which will celebrate the uniqueness and legendary style of the designer Coco Chanel. The evening will begin in the hotel's L'Apogee lounge where astrologers will offer guests a glimpse of the surprises in store for them in 1998. At 9 p.m., the ballroom will open for dining and dancing. The big band sounds of The Jazz Doctors, from The New England Conservatory of Music, will fill the ballroom as guests dance the night away under the candlelight illumina-

tion of hundreds of white flowers, and a white-balloon covered ceiling. At midnight, guests will sip Dom Perignon while watching the Cardi's Furniture/First Night fireworks display from atop one of the city's prime vantage points.

Despite its beauty and grandeur, the Biltmore's ballroom seats a limited number of guests. Coco would have planned ahead for a stellar evening such as this. Make your reservations now by calling Rhode Island Project/AIDS at 831-5522. The New Year's resolutions can wait!

Children's Theatre Presents 'Masked Marvels and Wondertales'

The Magic Ark Children's Performance Series presents Michael Cooper in "Masked Marvels and Wondertales," on Dec. 7, 1 and 3 p.m. at the Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center in Newton Centre, Mass.

He's got multiple heads, an enormous nose and a great sense of humor — all of which are blended together into a wonderful family entertainment performance. Michael Cooper combines exquisite, original masks with classical and original stories to create physical repertoire that ranges from the madcap to the sublime. Laughter and audience participation, humorous and energetic style, and stories of courage and wonder are the hallmark of this unusual and one-of-a-kind performer. Come see this master of "maskular" mirth and be prepared to laugh!

For tickets and information, call (617) 965-5226.

Open Auditions for Aspiring Actors

Alias Stage is holding an open call for actors and actresses, ages 18 to 65, for a variety of roles in Lanford Wilson's "The Hot L Baltimore," to be directed by Artistic Associate Anthony Estrella.

Those auditioning are requested to present a one-minute contemporary monologue and be prepared to read from the script. Rehearsals begin Jan. 3, 1998. The production runs Thursdays through Sundays, Feb. 12 through March 15.

Auditions will be held on Dec. 1 from 6 to 11 p.m. at Alias Stage, 31 Elbow St., Providence. Interested actors and actresses should call 831-2919 to arrange for a specific audition time.

The imPossible Dream Presents Holiday Village

Begin the holiday season with a walking tour of lights, displays and animated figures to celebrate Chanukah, Christmas, and Kwanza. Designed by Richard Carbotti of Perfect Surroundings in Newport, the John D. Florio Memorial Park has been transformed into a holiday village. Polar bears and penguins are preparing igloos for the festivities and snowmen and teddy bears are skating on the frozen pond.

After the tour, visit the cafe. Enjoy hot cocoa and cookies as choral groups from Rhode Island high schools perform the sounds and music of the holiday season.

The Holiday Village is open Dec. 2 through Jan. 4, from 5 to 9 p.m. and closed Dec. 24, 25, 31 and Jan. 1. Children are \$4 (2 to 12 years) and adults are \$7 (12 years and up). Proceeds benefit The imPossible Dream which grants dreams to chronically ill children of Rhode Island.

Call for reservations and group rates for parties of 15 or more, 823-5566.

Jewish Torah Ark Achieves \$517,320 at Christie's

An exquisite silver German Jewish Torah Ark boasting Rothschild provenance realized \$517,320, the second highest price at auction for Judaica metalwork at Christie's Geneva saleroom in November. Anthony Phillips, international director of Christie's silver department said, "This staggering price reflects the impact of the Rothschild provenance and the truly exceptional and breathtaking workmanship of this Judaica masterpiece."

Selling for nearly 10 times its pre-sale estimate (\$50,000 to \$83,000), this small and rare Torah ark was created by Johann Christoph Müller in Breslau (part of Germany until the end of the Second World War) between 1746 and 1748. Another superb piece created by Müller is currently in the collection of the Jewish Museum in New York.

The Torah ark, formerly in the collection of the late Nathaniel

Meyer Victor, the third Baron Rothschild, shares many characteristics with the numerous magnificent carved and gilded arks that were created in the mid-1700s which comprised an integral part of East-European Jewish art history. However, few Torah arks of the type and early date of the Müller ark survived World War II.

Designed as a temple entrance, the Torah ark, flanked by two Corinthian columns, is meticulously detailed with applied openwork including scrolling foliage and birds. The upper part of the ark is engraved with central applied cartouche between regal lions and two-handled vases. Once opened, the ark features the Tablets of Law inscribed in Hebrew, with the initial words of the Ten Commandments, a menorah and additional engraved foliage, flowers and fruit.

Convergence XI Needs Sculptures

The International Art Festival Convergence XI seeks proposals for temporary large-scale sculpture installations in the downtown Providence area. Work may be existing or site specific. For site-specific work, a site visit is recommended. Water-related work is of particular interest. Sites vary in type (i.e., building plazas, small parks, building facades, etc.) which are predominately along a newly developed river-walk.

Samples of recent work are not to exceed 20 slides (no photos) or one 10-minute video or copies of proposal drawings (no originals), reviews, a résumé and amount requested (not to exceed \$1,900). The money can be used for fabrication, transportation or as a stipend to the artist. Provide an accurate budget if you are proposing to fabricate a new work or are proposing a site-specific piece. Include a self-addressed return envelope with proper postage.

For more information, contact Bob Rizzo, festival director, 785-9450. The deadline is Jan. 1, 1998. All work must be received by this date. Mail your proposal to: Convergence XI, Providence Parks Dept., Division of Public Programming, Roger Williams Park, Providence, RI 02905.

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Coffee or Tea/Chocolate Truffle Mousse Cake

OPTION 4 • \$25.95* PER PERSON

Choice of Prime Rib, New York Sirloin, Baked Scallops & Prime Rib,
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Coffee or Tea/Chocolate Truffle Mousse Cake

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Brown Dance Ensemble Soars in Fall Concert

The Brown Dance Ensemble's Fall Concert will be presented by the Brown University department of theatre, speech and dance for one week, Dec. 4 to 7 at 8 p.m. in the Ashamu Dance Studio in the Catherine Bryan Dill Center for the Performing Arts.

The concert is a blend of guest, resident, and student choreographers with highlights that include the premiere of a new work by guest artist and teacher, Nancy Lewis, entitled "I Get Lost With Pleasure." This new work was developed in the vein of earlier collaborations that Lewis has done with artists such as Robert Motherwell, John Cage, Merce Cunningham, Richard Serra, and Jasper Johns. The score consists of original music by Miles Green and Richard Peck as well as a taped narrative by the aforementioned artists who discuss their artistic processes. Lewis is an original member of the Grand Union Collaborative of the early 1970s which pioneered the post-modern dance movement.

Another guest choreographer, Anne-Alex Packard, has restaged her work, "Angels in the Attic," to an original score by her husband, Kevin Packard.

Michelle Bach-Coulibaly, senior lecturer and choreographer-in-residence at Brown University, will present a new work, "Celestial Harmonies." With an

original score by Brown orchestra conductor Paul Phillips, "Celestial Harmonies" recently premiered during Parents' Weekend at Brown with the Brown University Chamber Orchestra.

Annamaura Silverblatt, visiting lecturer and choreographer, has also re-staged her recently performed work, "Narcissus," which includes a live reading of James Woodman's text done by Brown students.

Talented student choreographers include senior Chris Elam's, "misnomer," a work described as "imagistically vivid, dealing with human architecture and kinetic theatrics... and we're funny too!" Alison Williams, another senior, will present "Today is Totally Crashing and Stunned in Bright Lights" with a new score by Storm and Stress.

Other works include a contemporary tap piece, "A Glitch in the Plan" by Jessica Green, a ballet duet by freshman Natalie Shimmel, and a dance event by Shark Oh Shark.

Ticket price is \$5 general admission. Phone reservations are accepted with Visa/Mastercard. Box office hours are Tuesday through Friday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tickets may also be purchased at the door on the evening of performance. For more information or to make reservations, call 863-2838.

National Exhibit on Ethiopian Jews Visits Newton

The Starr Gallery at the Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center in Newton, Mass., presents a national travelling exhibition of objects created by the artisans of the Ethiopian Jewish community. The *Beta Israel*, as they call themselves, maintained their religious traditions in the remote mountain villages of Ethiopia for over 1,200 years. The exhibition includes over 130 artifacts of everyday domestic, artistic, and religious life, as well as documentary photographs of the community.

Collected for safekeeping by the North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry during aid missions to Ethiopia from 1982 to 1991, this exhibition preserves our knowledge of a richly unique Jewish community which no longer exists in its

original form. It also enhances our understanding of the issues facing the *Beta Israel* today as they seek new lives in Israel.

On Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. there will be an opening reception for the exhibition, complete with a sampling of Ethiopian cuisine. Following the reception, Barbara Ribakove Gordon, national director and founder of NACOEJ, will give a lecture. She will speak on the history of Ethiopian Jewry, her experience with the airlift of 1991, and the current situation of Ethiopian Jews in Israel, as well as those still in Africa.

On Dec. 17 at 1 p.m. There will be a slide lecture by Barbara Gaffin entitled "The Advocacy Movement on Behalf of the Ethiopian Jews — Then and Now." In this lecture, Gaffin, associate director, Jewish Com-

munity Relations Council, will present a frank discussion of what American Jews did on behalf of Ethiopian Jews before their Israeli rescue, and look at issues concerning their absorption in Israel today.

A wide selection of books, music and other Ethiopian merchandise will be available for sale in conjunction with this exhibition.

This exhibition is presented by the North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry in cooperation with Yeshiva University Museum and The Consulate General of Israel in New York-Department of Cultural Affairs.

For information on visual arts workshops and group tours, call (617) 558-6484. The show will be on display Dec. 7 to Feb. 22, 1998. All programs are free and open to the public.



MAN IN FRONT OF TEMPLE.

Photo by Ellen Grosman

The World According to a French-Canadian Painter

Professor Gaetan Brulotte, one of Quebec's foremost novelists, critics and scholars, will lecture on "The World According to the French-Canadian Painter, Jean Paul Lemieux" on Dec. 8 at 7 p.m. in the browsing area of the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth's library. Presented by the Boivin Center at UMass Dartmouth, Brulotte's lecture is free and open to the public.

Considered one of Quebec's preeminent writers of the 20th century, Brulotte is a French citizen and Canadian-born writer who studied at Laval University in Quebec City. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Paris while working with the world-famous French critic, Roland Barthes.

Brulotte has published over 200 articles and a number of important books, including the critically acclaimed work, *L'Univers de Jean Paul Lemieux*, about the leading French-Canadian painter of the 20th century, Jean Paul Lemieux, with a forward by Anne Hebert.

Included in his fiction are such works as *L'Emprise*, *Le Surveillant*, *Le Client* and *Ce Qui Nous Tient*, which won 10 literary awards and was also nominated for the prestigious Goncourt Prize. His works have been

translated into many languages and have been featured in numerous anthologies and text books.

The volume *Gaetan Brulotte: Une Nouvelle Ecriture*, a collection of essays by 17 international scholars, won the highly coveted International Prize of Francophone Studies.

Brulotte's lecture, which will be in English and accompanied by slide projections of Lemieux's paintings, will illustrate Brulotte's own comments as they are exposed in his recent book.

Professor Brulotte will be available to sign his book, *L'Univers de Jean Paul Lemieux*, and other books after the lecture.

For more information, contact Professor Mel Yoken at (508) 999-8335.

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OBITUARIES

HELEN BARAM

PROVIDENCE — Helen Baram, 74, a resident of Three Regency Plaza, a marketing assistant at Suls Westgate and Parente, a certified public accounting firm in Providence, since 1977, died Nov. 18 in Miriam Hospital. She was the wife of the late Morris Baram.

Born in New York City, a daughter of the late Joseph and Dora (Gottfried) Stulbaum, she lived in Providence since 1978. She had resided in Woonsocket from 1948 to 1978.

She attended New York University. She was a member of Temple Beth-El and its Sisterhood and Hadassah.

She leaves a daughter, Jody Baram of Marina del Rey, Calif.; a son, Peter Baram of Culver City, Calif.; a sister, Blanche Fertig of North Woodmere, Long Island; and two grandchildren. She was the mother of the late Nancy Baram and sister of the late Gertrude Krieg.

The funeral was held Nov. 21 in Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Bnai Israel Cemetery, Mendon Road, Woonsocket.

IRVING BIENER

PROVIDENCE — Irving Biener, 93, of 14 Blaisdell Ave., Pawtucket, a designer of lighting fixtures for many years, retiring in 1968, died Nov. 16 at Miriam Hospital. He was the husband of the late Mollie (Nirenberg) Biener.

Born in Austria, a son of the

late David and Sara (Tiger) Biener, he lived in Pawtucket for 20 years, previously living in Kew Garden Hills, Queens, N.Y., and in Brooklyn, N.Y., for many years.

He was one of the founding members of Young Israel Synagogue in Kew Garden Hills, in the 1940s. He was a member of Congregation Mishkan Tefilah in Providence and Congregation Ohave Shalom in Pawtucket.

He leaves a son, Alvin Biener of Pawtucket; four granddaughters and six great-grandchildren.

The funeral service was held Nov. 18 in Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in New Montefiore Cemetery, Farmingdale, N.Y.

MAX BOLUSKY

FALL RIVER — Max Bolusky, 87, a resident of the Sarah Brayton Nursing Home in Fall River, died there on Nov. 15. Born in Fall River, a son of the late Morris and Bessie (Dondis) Bolusky, he was a lifelong resident of Fall River. He was the husband of the late Edith (McNerney) Bolusky.

He served in the U.S. Army during World War II.

He had been a salesman for the former Capital Motors in Fall River and other retail auto sales companies.

He was a former member of Congregation Adas Israel in Fall River.

He was the brother of the late Edith and Lillian Cohen, Minnie

Epstein and Harry, Benjamin, Samuel, and George Bolusky. He is survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

A graveside funeral service took place Nov. 16 at Agudas Achim Cemetery in Fall River. The services were coordinated by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

JUDITH WEISS COHEN

PAWTUCKET — Judith Weiss Cohen, 73, of 97 Blaisdell Ave., editor of the *Rhode Island Jewish Historical Notes*, a freelance writer and consultant, died Nov. 17 at Miriam Hospital in Providence. She was the wife of Aaron Cohen.

Born in Passaic, N.J., a daughter of Rose (Fineglass) Weiss of San Francisco, Calif., and the late Abraham Weiss, she had lived in Pawtucket for 60 years.

She was a magna cum laude graduate of Brown University with a degree in English, and also received a master's degree in political science from Brown.

She served in the Women's Army Corps during World War II. She worked in public relations for the New York Port of Embarkation and as an assistant editor of the port's weekly Army newspaper.

She was an associate editor for fiscal operation for the Blackstone Valley Community Action Program for eight years.

For 14 years, she was in charge of information services at the U.S. Bureau of Census in Boston. She was awarded the

bronze medal of the Department of Commerce for superior service in developing and implementing a regional data dissemination and outreach program. She earned the exceptional achievement award from the Federal Executive Board for Public Service and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts award for outstanding government service.

She was interfaith coordinator for the National Conference of Christian and Jews in Rhode Island for five years and was honored for outstanding service.

She was a past president of the League of Women Voters of Pawtucket and past president of the Boston Group of Government Librarians.

She was an active member of the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association, Temple Beth-El, the National Council of Jewish Women, the Miriam Hospital Women's Association, the Pembroke Club of Providence, the Pawtucket Friends of the Library, the Rhode Island School of Design Museum Women's Association, the Jewish Home Corporation, the Pembroke Center Associations, the Rhode Island Historical Society, the Women's Military Museum and the Brown University Friends of the Library.

Besides her husband and mother, she leaves two sons, Jeremy Cohen of Berkeley, Calif., and Stephen Cohen of Portland, Ore.; a daughter, Deborah Cohen of Alexandria, Va.; a brother, Arthur Weiss of Los Angeles, Calif.; a sister, Ruth Soforenko of Palo Alto, Calif.; and three grandchildren.

The funeral was held Nov. 20 in Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence. Burial was in Temple Beth-El Cemetery. Arrangements were made by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

THELMA MUFFS

ORLANDO, Fla. — Thelma Muffs, 76, of 180 Landover Place, Longwood, Fla., a registered nurse and a nursing supervisor at Miriam Hospital for six years, died Nov. 20 in Orlando, Fla. She was the wife of Dr. Saul Muffs.

Born in New Haven, Conn., a daughter of the late Max and Sophie (Levine) Hurwitz, she lived in Florida for eight years, previously living in Providence and Pawtucket.

She served as a nurse in the Army during World War II. She was a past president of the Evening Chapter of Hadassah and the founder of Young Judea and Junior Hadassah, all in Providence.

Besides her husband, she leaves two daughters, Annette Botnick of Jamaica, N.Y., and Judy Hartstein of Longwood; a brother, Norman Hurwitz of Woodbridge, Conn.; and four grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Dr. Sidney Hurwitz.

The funeral was held Nov. 21 in the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

GERTRUDE PASS

NORTH PROVIDENCE — Gertrude Pass, 85, of 5 Dartmouth Ave., East Providence, owner of the former Gertrude's

Beauty and Gift Shop in Apponaug, retiring 45 years ago, died Nov. 19 at St. Joseph Hospital, North Providence. She was the wife of Nathan E. Pass.

Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Adolph and Jenny (McGurn) Nysted, she lived in East Providence for 61 years.

She was a former member of the Rhode Island Board of Hairdressers, secretary of the Apponaug Business Association and past president of the East Providence League of Women Voters. She was a member of Crestwood Country Club, Temple Beth-El, and its Sisterhood.

Besides her husband, she leaves two sons, Richard Pass of Barrington and Robert N. Pass of Potomac, Md.; a daughter, Linda Armstrong of Warwick; a brother, Ernest Bengtson of Virginia; and three grandchildren. She was the mother of the late Sondra Pass Eller and sister of the late Evelyn Schwartz.

The funeral was held Nov. 21 in Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence. Burial was in Sharon (Mass.) Memorial Park. Arrangements were made by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

EDITH ROSENBERG

PROVIDENCE — Edith Rosenberg, 88, of 472 Academy Ave., died Nov. 14 at the Summit/Pavilion. She was the wife of the late Joseph Rosenberg.

Born in Russia, a daughter of the late Max and Esther (Egalkin) Goldman, she had lived in Providence most of her life.

She leaves a daughter, Annette Olivo of Providence; and a sister, Nellie Lobello of Warwick.

A graveside funeral service was held Nov. 17 at Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. The services were coordinated by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

ESTELLE SUPERIOR

FALL RIVER — Estelle Superior, 71, of 153 Oakland St., Fall River, Mass., an aide to former Rep. Margaret Heckler, and an employee of the Social Security Administration, retiring 12 years ago, died Nov. 21 at Charlton Memorial Hospital. She was the wife of Richard Superior.

A lifelong Fall River resident, she was a daughter of the late Louis and Dora (Kaufman) Garonsky.

She was a member of Congregation Adas Israel and its Sisterhood. She was a member of Hadassah and the Fall River Jewish Home for the Aged.

Besides her husband, she leaves a son, Carl Superior of Fall River; two daughters, Leslie Kaplan of Andover, Mass., and Judith Kaneff of Wyomissing, Pa.; and three grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Jay S. Garon.

The funeral was held Nov. 24 at Congregation Adas Israel, 1647 Robeson St., Fall River. Burial was in Hebrew Cemetery. Arrangements were made by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

(Continued on Page 19)

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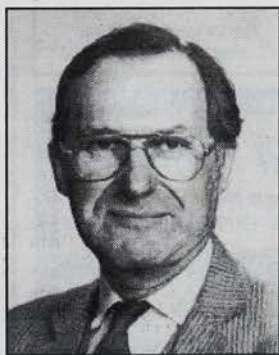
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A New Perspective

(Continued from Page 3)

population that changes constantly, and it's a population that I worry we'll lose. If young adults look for stimulation and socialization in a non-Jewish environment, they will be more likely to choose non-Jewish partners. They need something to connect them to the Jewish community."

At first, Bermel and Kotler-Berkowitz tried to reach beyond the college campuses themselves, but their efforts were fruitless.

"I realized I didn't have time for young adults who were off campus, and Alisa was feeling the same way," Bermel said. "We also wanted to serve our graduate student population."

When the Hillel leaders brought these issues to the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, they found others concerned about many of the same problems.

"A group of young adults had gotten together," Bermel said. "They called themselves 'Perspectives.' They had the name, and [by summer 1995] we had a JFRI continuity grant. We decided to merge the groups."

Perspectives' first event was a well-attended comedy night, but an often-rocky evolutionary period followed.

"We had a large turnout at the first event, but then it dropped down," Bermel said. "Then, there was steady growth that has continued."

At first, both Hillel and lay leadership struggled to create an appropriate structure and identity.

"Alisa and I took a hands-off approach to let members create their own organization," Bermel said. "Originally, we had had a vision of a series of committees representing different areas of interest, but members wanted

to form one large one instead."

Participants tried to make the organization meet the needs of a population that included both graduate students and professionals with varied levels of Jewish observance.

Numerous events and efforts by lay members brought publicity, and in December 1995, the Hillel leaders applied for and received another grant from JFRI.

Present Perspectives Director Alison Link replaced former leader Marcie Ingber, and Bermel and Kotler-Berkowitz began to work with the group members more directly. The group continued to grow.

In 1996, Perspectives applied for a third year of funding, and received assistance from JFRI, the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, and the Steinhardt Jewish Campus Service Corps.

"That indicated to us that the program was succeeding, and that we were meeting a real need," said Bermel of receiving help from the three organizations.

The final grant also included monies to convert Link's position from part-time to full-time status.

"I think that the group is growing much faster, and that the job has grown to fill it," said Bermel. "A number of new people are coming in. There are about 700 people on the mailing list now."

Despite the glow of success, Perspectives' future is uncertain. At present, its leaders are contemplating ways to fund it next year.

"Obviously, we are looking to continue," Bermel said. "But neither we nor our sponsors have anything resolved yet."

Jewish Unity

(Continued from Page 1)

of Israel are not at risk.

In what appeared to be a veiled criticism of the American Reform and Conservative movements, Netanyahu said, "Let us stop looking at each other as enemies. Let those who would divide us go elsewhere."

"It was disappointing. It was nothing but slogans," Rabbi Ammiel Hirsch, executive director of the Association of Reform Zionists of America, the Reform movement's Zionist arm, said after the speech.

At an earlier private dinner with the United Jewish Appeal's top donors, sources said Netanyahu had pounded the podium and accused "elements" here of "trying to disrupt the process" of the Ne'eman committee.

Amid rumors of progress in peace talks that may culminate in a meeting with Jordan's King Hussein later this week, the premier appeared to reach out to the Palestinians.

"He said all the right words, but I don't know if he can deliver."

Sidney Miller

Netanyahu, who sources said may soon unveil his vision of a final-status settlement with the Palestinians, spoke of his desire to let the Palestinians "lead a national life in dignity and honor."

Netanyahu's 45-minute speech capped off a night emphasizing unity and reconciliation that extended as far as the Russian space station Mir, from which Indianapolis native and U.S. astronaut David Wolfe delivered taped greetings.

But Indianapolis Mayor Stephen Goldsmith's 8-year-old daughter, Olivia, stole the show when she said, in Hebrew and English, "Greetings of peace and welcome to Indianapolis."

While there were no fireworks at the event, a protest by five Jewish leaders sparked attention when they urged delegates to give Netanyahu a cool reception.

More than 2,000 flyers were distributed by Gerald Bubis, Henry and Edith Everett, Lynn Lyss and Leonard Fein.

"Respect for the prime minister does not require more than applause at the beginning and end of his remarks," the flyers said. "If you share our distress regarding his policies on religions pluralism and/or the peace process, please do not respond in a manner that might confuse respect for the office with endorsement of the policies."

The five activists abandoned plans to carry large replicas of the flyers into the hall after General Assembly and security officials threatened to have them evicted.

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PROGRAM DIRECTOR and HEAD COUNSELORS — Camp Avoda, one of the oldest Jewish Boys' Camps in New England, located on Lake Tispaquin in Middleboro, Massachusetts, has 3 administrative openings: A Program Director and 2 Head Counselors. Candidates must be mature individuals with prior camping and supervisory experience and strong references. To apply, call Paul G. Davis, Director, at (781) 334-6275. 11/27/97

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RECEIVE A PROFESSIONAL therapeutic massage in the privacy of your home/office. Christopher McGinnes. 421-3022. 11/27/97

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P.O. Box 6063
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R.I. Jewish Herald classified ads cost \$3 for 15 words or less. Additional words cost 12 cents each. Payment must be received by Monday at 4 p.m. prior to the Thursday when the ad is scheduled to appear. This newspaper will not, knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the R.I. Fair Housing Act and Section 804 (C) of Title VIII of the 1968 Civil Rights Act. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwelling/housing accommodations advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

DOES YOUR BUSINESS PROVIDE OUTSTANDING OR UNIQUE SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY?
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Obituaries

(continued from Page 18)

SIDNEY WAINER

BOCARATON, Fla. — Sidney Wainer, 75, of 462 Rockdale Ave., New Bedford, owner of Sid Wainer & Sons Specialty Produce and Specialty Foods since 1947, died Nov. 19 at Boca Community Hospital, Boca Raton, Fla. He was the husband of Beverly (Curhan) Wainer.

Born in New Bedford, a son of the late Henry and Annie (Mickelson) Wainer, he was a lifelong resident of New Bedford.

He was a member of Congregation Ahavath Achim, the New Bedford Jewish Convalescent Home, the Jewish War Veterans, Post 154, and the Wamsutta Masonic Lodge. He was a Shriner.

He was a veteran of World War II, serving as a tank sergeant in Europe and the Philippines.

Besides his wife, he leaves a son, Henry Wainer of Dartmouth, Mass.; a daughter, Deborah Abrahams of Framingham, Mass.; two sisters, Betty Portnoy of New Bedford and Rose Abrams of Providence and seven grandchildren.

The funeral was held Nov. 20 in Congregation Ahavath

Achim, 385 County St., New Bedford. Burial was in Plainville Cemetery, New Bedford. Arrangements were made by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

ABRAHAM STEVEN WISE

ENGLEWOOD, N.J. — Abraham Steven Wise, 90, of Englewood, N.J., died at Englewood Hospital. He was the husband of Helen Vorsanger.

He was born in Dorchester, Mass., and attended school in Brockton, Mass. He moved to New Jersey in 1922. He was CEO of Traco Industrial Corp., New York City. He continued working until age 85.

He was a charter member of Preakness Hills Country Club in Wayne, N.J., and was a three-time club champion.

Along with his father-in-law, he founded Temple Sinai in Englewood, N.J., and was active in various Jewish philanthropies throughout his life.

Besides his wife, he leaves a son, Donald Wise, Fairlawn, N.J., and a daughter, Toby Lang, Warwick, R.I.; four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Eclectic Dining Along The River

by Tara V. Lisciandro
and Sara Wise
Herald Editors

With plans underway to restore and extend the Providence riverfront, local shops and restaurants, like Amicus, located on South Water, will be growing even more popular.

Amicus is a fairly new restaurant with an original flair. Just four months ago brothers Peter and Tony Lucci opened the restaurant. "We always wanted to have a place of our own," said Peter, "and we fell in love with this spot as soon as we saw it." And at only 27 and 30 years of age, the talented Peter and Tony, after years of being involved in the restaurant business, are already making it on their own. "We've had a lot of repeat customers already," said Peter.

The Lucci brothers were born in Providence and grew up in Barrington. They began working in restaurants as teen-agers, and have been in the business ever since. Tony attended Johnson and Wales and began as a sous chef at Le Bistro in Newport for five years. He also ran the kitchen at Moby Dick's in Westport and then became a corporate chef at the Oyster Bar on Martha's Vineyard. Meanwhile, Tony's brother Peter spent two years in New Orleans where he was a waiter at Brennan's, a five-star restaurant. While in New Orleans, Peter

learned the art of Cajun cooking and fine dining. Later Peter attended school in Boston where he earned his degree in communications. "I liked food and wine and I like people, so it's a great business for me," said Peter about his partnership with his brother. "He's very good in the kitchen, and I like to work up front." Amicus took the place of a former Italian restaurant to which the Lucci brothers made some changes. The name,

Amicus, "friends" in Latin, Peter got from the tag of a t-shirt that his mother had given to him.

The brothers switched to using warmer and deeper colors on the walls of the bi-level restaurant.

They added fine linens and silverware and elegant wine glasses. The music is tasteful and not overwhelming. Peter hopes to eventually bring jazz bands to Amicus. "We're all musicians," he added. Peter plays the guitar and Tony plays the drums; eventually they would like to form a band of their own and play locally.

Amicus has a more intimate but classy feel, similar to the setting of a restaurant you'd find in New York or Boston. The lower level encompasses a grand wooden bar while the upper level, defended by unique gargoyles, offers a quaint dining area. Meals are practically

prepared in front of you as the open kitchen allows you to watch the chefs at work! Tony is an artist and a chef, every plate is beautifully prepared and ample portions are served. Fresh and seasonal ingredients, produce, pastas, seafood and meats are used to prepare every dish. The well-trained wait staff is knowledgeable and can help you select the perfect wines to match your meal. An extensive wine list offers 18 wines, imported and domestic, by the glass and even more by the bottle.

Amicus's menu is truly eclectic. There are plenty of standard meat and seafood dishes for less adventurous types, but there are a number of other plates which are unique for the more curious. Asian, French, Italian and Cajun influences make some of the plates at Amicus one-of-a-kind. For example, the Asian Calamari is prepared with a soy sauce containing 13 herbs and spices. There are also vegetarian options.

We tried the asparagus puff pastry with mushrooms in a light cream sauce as an appetizer. (It was almost too pretty to touch!) The artichoke and fava bean salad that followed was dressed with balsamic vinegar and roasted pine nuts. For entrées we selected a tender swordfish steak with roasted potatoes and shrimp salsa filled with colorful peppers and scallops and a creamy seafood risotto chock full of shrimp, lobster, clams and mussels. To finish we tried two desserts, a light and flaky cream puff stuffed with



TONY AND PETER Lucci, owners of Amicus restaurant on South Water Street in Providence.
Herald photo by Sara Wise

vanilla ice cream and decorated with strawberry and mango sauces. The bread pudding was served in a hot Bourbon sauce and accompanied by vanilla ice cream. Everything was fresh, light and full of flavor.

Amicus offers a special prix

fix menu during the week. For just \$17, each dinner comes with an appetizer, salad, entrée and dessert. In order to offer a variety of unique plates, the prix fix menu changes weekly. The restaurant is also available for parties and wine dinners.

Calling All Young

The Rhode Island Jewish Herald
Announces Its 12th Annual

Chanukah Art Contest



If you have
any questions,
call Tara or
Sara at 724-0200

FANTASTIC
SPONSORS!!!

Entries must be two-dimensional and created on a piece of paper no larger than 11"x17". The name, age, grade, address and phone number of the artist **MUST** appear on the back of every entry. If this information is not provided, the entry will be disqualified. **Only one entry per child.** Entries must be received at the Herald office, 99 Webster St., Pawtucket, by 4 p.m. on December 4. Mail-in entries must be postmarked by December 2 and mailed to: R.I. Jewish Herald Chanukah Contest, P.O. Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 02940. Participants may drop off their posters at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island by noon on December 4. **No entry received later than 4 p.m. on December 4 can be considered!!!**

Judging will take place during the following week. The winning posters will appear in the December 18 issue of the Herald.

FANTASTIC PRIZES!!!

First Place... 4 TO 6 YEARS OLD: Family Membership to the Providence Children's Museum, a \$25 Gift Certificate for Sara's Children's Boutique, and 1 book; **7 TO 9 YEARS OLD:** Family Membership to the Providence Children's Museum, a \$20 Gift Certificate for Uncle Sig's Toy Store, and 1 book; **10 TO 13 YEARS OLD:** Four tickets to see the Providence Bruins, Four Buttons for First Night Providence 1998, and 1 book. **Second Place... 4 TO 6 YEARS OLD:** Four Passes for the Providence Children's Museum, a \$15 Gift Certificate for the Rhode Island Mall, and 1 book; **7 TO 9 YEARS OLD:** Four Passes for the Providence Children's Museum, a \$15 Gift Certificate for the Rhode Island Mall, and 1 book; **10 TO 13 YEARS OLD:** Five Passes for Mystic Seaport, a \$15 Gift Certificate for the Rhode Island Mall, and 1 book; **Third Place...** All winners will receive Two Passes for the Providence Children's Museum, a \$15 Gift Certificate for the Rhode Island Mall, and 1 book; **Honorable Mention...** All winners will receive Four Passes for the Roger Williams Park Zoo and 1 book. (Books courtesy of the Rhode Island Jewish Herald)



The Award Party will be held on December 17, 3:30 to 5 p.m. • All contest entrants are invited