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Jewish Community Unites in an Effort to Save a Life

by Kimberly Ann Orlandi
Herald Editor

Abaye said: One should always include himself with the community. He should therefore say, "May it be Your will, O God our Lord, that You bring us in peace....."

On Sept. 27, the Jewish community will gather together in the spirit of family and unity to help one of their own. Julie Gutterman, 55, head of clinical counseling services at Jewish Family Services and wife of Rabbi Leslie Gutterman, Temple Beth-El, suffers from leukemia and is in need of a bone marrow transplant. Her treatments include chemotherapy and blood transfusions, but without this life-saving marrow transplant, Julie's chances of survival diminish with each passing day. But, that fact has not dampened her spirits and her willingness to fight this disease head-on.

"I recently spoke with my three doctors who asked me, point blank, do I still want to go through with the transplant," said Gutterman. "I looked back at them and said that I haven't yet resigned myself to die."

In an effort to raise both awareness about the disease and funds for Julie's transplant, the Rite of Passage Cancer Project,

along with the RI Blood Center Marrow Donor Program, the Jewish Federation of RI and Jewish Family Services, The Jewish Community Center, Congregation Agudas Achim and the Hope Center for Cancer Support, will hold a Bone Marrow Donor Drive at the Jewish Community Center and Congregation Agudas Achim to register donors with the National Bone Marrow Donor Program.

"I have had tremendous support from my husband, my children and the community and I am grateful to all for their prayers," said Gutterman.

Like most patients who are dealing with a life-and-death illness, Gutterman went through the initial period of asking "why me?" But Gutterman doesn't believe that the disease singled her out, actually she's not sure if there is a reason why she has leukemia. What she does know is that she has it, and the only question she asks herself now is what is she going to do about it?

"I have an inner determination to continue and to live," said Gutterman.

"I have a personal commitment to seeing this particular project through and to see it be successful," said Miriam Gold-

smith, executive director of the Rite of Passage Cancer Project, Newport. "My family has long been members of Temple Beth-El."

Goldsmith's reasons go deeper than just having a personal relationship with the Guttermans. Goldsmith herself is a cancer survivor. She was diagnosed with acute myelocytic leukemia and received a marrow transplant in November 1994, after she relapsed from her first remission. When she was diagnosed, doctors told her she had a 30 percent chance of survival with five years to live. This November it will be four.

"There was never any doubt in my mind that I wouldn't go through with the transplant. I wanted to live and I was determined to make it happen," said Goldsmith.

Without the transplant, Goldsmith probably wouldn't have made it as far as she has. Every year in this state, nearly 110 new cases of leukemia are diagnosed and many, according to Goldsmith, are candidates for a marrow transplant. But with only 30 percent of those diagnosed finding a match within their own family, the need to supply the National Bone Marrow Donor



MIRIAM GOLDSMITH, executive director and founder of Rite of Passage Cancer Project in Newport.

Program with marrow is becoming increasingly vital to the survival of these patients.

The goal for this marrow drive is to register 2,000 donors and raise \$140,000 to cover the cost of the tests. To become a marrow donor, it takes only a blood test to determine the marrow type. After, the donor is put into the national bank along with nearly 3.5 million others. There is no serious risk to the donor, according to Goldsmith, other than receiving local anesthesia. "But that is a risk with all surgery," said Goldsmith. The procedure involves extracting 5 percent of bone marrow from the donor's hip. Very often donors are at work the following day, with some soreness.

Goldsmith's survival can not only be credited to the medical community, but to her faith in G-d as well. And it was that faith that Goldsmith held onto when, six months ago, her 81-year-old mother was diagnosed with leukemia. Considering her age, doctors told her to go home and to get her affairs in order, she would probably not live longer than a week.

With that, her mother went home and began to prepare for her passing. But, after some soul searching and long talks with her rabbi, Rabbi Leslie Gutterman, she chose to go through the chemotherapy and radiation.

"You can't just give up and die," said Rabbi Gutterman.

Six months later, her mother's cancer is in remission.

"I really just put it in G-d's hands," said Goldsmith. "When things like this happen it's only natural to rediscover one's faith and heal old wounds."

According to Goldsmith, much of the recovery process has to do with one's willingness to get well, their attitude towards living. Through the Rite of Passage Cancer Project, counselors don't just deal with the physical, but emotional healing as well. The center, which is currently moving to its new location on Bellevue Avenue in Newport, is a place where patients and their families can get the guidance and information they need in a relaxed setting. Often doctors tend to talk to patients in "medical terms" rather than simple English. This leaves a patient and their family confused and weary to ask questions or additional information. Goldsmith and her staff not only counsel the patients, but they work closely with members of the medical community to educate them on the quality of life for a cancer patient.

What Goldsmith hopes to see for the future is not just cures for cancer, but preventative measures taken by industry and government so people do not

University of RI Plays Vital Role in Easing Ethnic Relations

Kimberly Ann Orlandi
Herald Editor

This country was founded on the belief that "all men are created equal," despite their race, religion or creed.

At least that's what our forefathers had in mind when they constructed the Constitution. When the majority of immigrants entered this country, many did so through the passage way of Ellis Island and the symbol of the Statue of Liberty.

The land of opportunity and freedom.

That's what they thought they would find upon the red, white and blue shores of the United States. But, much to their surprise and disappointment, history would cast a dark shadow over their dreams, a shadow many thought would be impossible to shed light on. That is until some courageous people, like Martin Luther King, Jr., President John F. Kennedy,

Abraham Lincoln, Susan B. Anthony, Rosa Parks, Harriet Tubman and others, took it upon themselves to make a difference.

And change didn't always come at the hands of someone in power. Sometimes all it took was a group of people, or students, to unite under a common thread, stand steadfast to their beliefs and convictions, and stand back to watch while history changed as the direct result of a single action.

That was the scene in 1972 on the campus of the University of Rhode Island when a large group of students took over the administration building in protest. With one group inside the building, a large number of students began to encircle the outside of the building. As the demonstration grew, police were called in to disperse the crowds, but with that came a number of students who were injured by police. As a result of that fateful day, students began to express a need for what they termed "a home away

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Multi-Cultural Center at URI Kingston Campus.

Photo by Kimberly A. Orlandi

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HAPPENINGS

Entertainment For Kids

September

26 **Gullah Gullah Island Live**, Providence Performing Arts Center, 220 Weybosset St., Providence, 1, 4 p.m. \$8.50, \$10, \$12.50. Call 421-2787.

Festival Ballet's "Dance Me a Story," Sept. 26, Oct. 3 and 10. Story hour at area libraries. Hear stories, meet character. 2 p.m. Call 353-1129.

October

10 **"The Busy World of Richard Scarry,"** Oct. 10 and 11. Rhode Island Mall, Route 2, Warwick. Musical stage shows, story times, activity stations. Call 828-7651 for show times.

14 **"Peter and the Wolf,"** National Marionette Theatre, Bryant College, Janikies Auditorium, 1150 Douglas Pike, Smithfield, 11 a.m., 7:30 p.m., \$4. Call 232-6160.

17 **"The Reluctant Dragon,"** Oct. 17, 18, 24 and 25. All Children's Theatre Ensemble, Vartan Gregorian School Theatre, 455 Wickenden St., Providence. For ages 5 and older. 2 p.m., \$8, children \$5. Call 331-7174.

"Once Upon a Time," Oct. 17 at 6:30 and Oct. 18 at 2 p.m., \$5. Stadium Theatre, Monument Square, Main Street, Woonsocket, Call 762-4004.

"The Great Gilly Hopkins," Oct. 17 and 24, 1st Stage Providence, Bishop McVinney Auditorium, 1 Cathedral Square, Providence, 7 p.m., \$6, \$8; group rates, free parking. Call 467-01225.

18 **Festival Ballet's "Snow White,"** Oct. 18 and 25, Rhode Island School of Design Auditorium, South Main Street, Providence. Family Series. Children will have a chance to learn the dwarves' dance and talk to Snow White, 3 p.m., \$9, children under 3 free.

25 **Rhode Island Philharmonic Happy White Family Concert**, Veterans Memorial Auditorium, Brownell Street, Providence, 3 p.m., \$12, youth \$6. Call 272-4862 or 831-3123.

Calendar: September 17th thru September 24th

17 **Girl Scout Fall Sign-up — Time to Join the Girls Scouts and Change the World.** Sept. 17 and 19. For more information on sign-up sites in your area, call 331-4500 or (800) 331-0149.

18 **Books on the Square, 471 Angell St.,** hosts a book signing with Lori Leyden-Rubenstein, Ph.D., discussing her new book, *Stress Management Handbook*, 7:30 p.m.

New Bedford Art Museum, 608 Pleasant St., Freedom of Expression Exhibit, Sept. 18 through Oct. 23. Call (508) 961-3072.

University of Rhode Island, Fine Arts Galleries, "Book Pictures," by Dennis Grady, Sept. 18 through Oct. 18. The 20 color photographs featured are comprised of open book pages.

19 **21st Annual Heritage Festival, State House lawn, noon to dusk.** Free admission. Fun, food, music and crafts. Raindate Sept. 20. Call 222-2669.

The Retired Enlisted Association, Narragansett Bay Chapter 79 regular session meeting, 10 a.m., Fleet Reserve Club, Connell Highway, Newport. Call 846-4017.

Fuller Museum of Art, 455 Oak St., Brockton, announces their fall exhibitions. "Capturing the Sublime: Contemporary Landscape Painting" and "Alfred Duca: The Figurative Paintings." Sept. 19 to Jan. 3, 1999. Call (508) 588-6000.

Farmers Market, every Saturday, Hope High School, corner of Hope and Olney streets, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Now until the end of October.

20 **Providence Art Club, 11 Thomas St.,** Raymond Finelli commissioned portrait artist; Milo Winter, Jr., acrylics; Vince Grimaldi, Beachscapes. Sept. 20 to Oct. 2. Call 331-1114.

Rhode Island School of Design, Woods-Gerry Bldg., 62 Prospect St., opening reception "RISD Alumni Exhibition." Refreshments. Free admission 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Providence Children's Museum, 100 South St., Providence. Admission is \$4.50, members free. "S" Hunt for September, noon to 2 p.m. Search for silly and serious subjects in the museum that start with "S."

21 **Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence.** Rosh Hashanah candlelighting 6:27 p.m. Come cast your sins into the Seekonk River, then welcome in 5759 with some sweet treats. Call Sharon, 863-9357, for more details.

22 **Cranston Public Library, 140 Sockanosset Cross Road,** presents Safety on the Net, a program designed to protect citizens from fraudulent activity on the Internet. 7 to 8:30 p.m.

23 **Providence Children's Museum, 100 South St., Providence.** Admission is \$4.50, members free. Ways of Water, 3 to 4:30 p.m. Make the walls dance with watery ripples using light and mirrors, send waves back and forth with slinkies.

Scleroderma Support Group meeting, Sept. 23 at 7 p.m., Roger Williams Hospital, 825 Chalkstone Ave., Providence, in the first floor treatment room. The topic will be Social Security Disability. Call Carole Cowell at 781-5013.

24 **Barrington Public Library, 281 County Road,** welcomes Mark Pftzer. He will offer a lecture and slide show on his attempt to climb Mt. Everest in 1996, 7:30 p.m. Call 247-1920.

25 **Providence Children's Museum, 100 South St., Providence.** Admission is \$4.50, members free. Play and Learn, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Pre-schoolers develop hand-eye coordination as they snap and click the hinges, locks and bolts of a "lock box" in Littlewoods.

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Sitting on The Dock of The Bay Party

Join Save The Bay and the Conservation Law Foundation on Sept. 26 at Fox Hill Farm in Jamestown for the Sitting on the Dock of the Bay Party! Enjoy great food and drink provided by several top area restaurants and vineyards including the Bay Voyage, the Oyster Bar & Grill and Aiden's Pub, Newport Vineyards and a raw bar courtesy of the Rhode Island Shellfisherman's Association. Dance under the late summer sun to Squirrel Nut Zippers swing violinist Andrew Bird and his Bowl of Fire Band. And don't worry, if you can't dance to swing music, instructors will be on hand to teach you!

Tickets are \$60. Event proceeds benefit Save The Bay's and the Conservation Law Foundation's work on the Quonset Point Development Proposal.

For more information and to register, call Save The Bay at 272-3540.

Amateur Cooks Invited to Hone Their Skills

Amateur home cooks who want to learn more about the culinary arts are invited to sign up for Chef's Choice classes scheduled for this fall at Johnson & Wales University.

The fall course selections are planned to take advantage of the traditional harvest season and prepare for the coming holidays. All classes combine demonstration and hands-on experience under the direction of professional chef-instructors and qualified food specialists. The Chef's Choice program is geared for people interested in home cooking, entertaining and small food businesses.

In addition to classes devoted to everything from pizza to pastry to pasta, a variety of special programs are planned. The international series is a culinary trip around the world planned for every Saturday afternoon in October and November with dinner stops planned in France, Germany, Italy, the Mediterranean, the Middle East, Africa and Scandinavia.

Other special classes will be devoted to basic cooking, fall cooking techniques and working with chocolate. Most classes cost between \$25 and \$45 to attend.

For additional information on the Chef's Choice program, call 598-2336 or (800) 342-5598.

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Borders Book Shop, Garden City Ctr.
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Barney's, East Avenue, Pawtucket
Books on the Square, Wayland Square
(on Angell)
The Little Place, Hope St.
Lower East Side Deli & Market, Hope St.
East Side Marketplace, Pitman St.
East Side Prescription Center, Hope St.
Rhoda's Judaica, Burlington St.

JEWISH COMMUNITY

JCCRI Hosts Open House

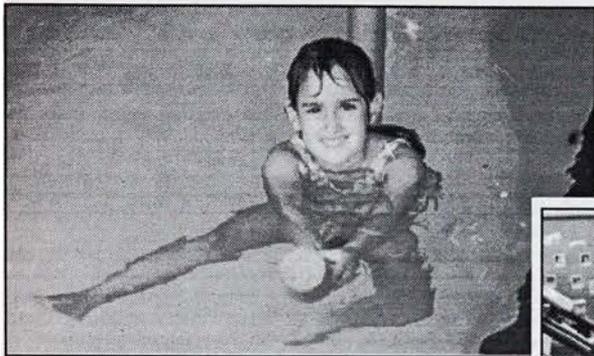
by Emily Torgan-Shalansky
Jewish Community Reporter
On Sept. 13, a hot Sunday that spoke of summer, staff and supporters of the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island

moved through a crowd that included both new and familiar faces.

To complement the tours and demonstrate the JCCRI's resources and programs, sched-

ed the Shofar Factory, an educational workshop presented by Chabad Lubavitch featuring make-your-own shofars; a brunch for Perspectives, Rhode Island's Jewish young adult project, and more.

The open house showed some new resources likely to interest old and new members alike; according to Litwin and Membership Committee Chairwoman Barbara Harris, member interest led to an upgrading of the JCCRI's physical education facilities.



MAXIE FORMAN, 5, enjoys a dip in the JCCRI's newly refurbished pool.



JCCRI PRESIDENT ALAN LITWIN his daughter, Madison (front), and Membership Committee Chairwoman Barbara Harris with new equipment in the JCCRI Health Club.

opened the doors to show the public what will be happening at the JCCRI this fall.

At the Open House, an annual event designed to attract new members, a steady stream of visitors old and new circulated throughout the building.

This year, said JCCRI President Alan Litwin, those visitors included Governor Lincoln Almond and Lieutenant Governor Bernard Jackvony, who stopped

uled openhouse events included the final performance of Jules Gelade's "Forty Years of Bad Road," an original musical parody presented by the Rhode Island Jewish Theater Ensemble; film screenings; sample aerobic and swim classes; a story-telling center for toddlers; a drop-in arts studio;

Improvements include a newly revamped weight room, locker room improvements, additional cardiovascular equipment in the health club, and a freshly painted pool with a new non-skid deck.

New Health and Physical Education Director Cory Diamond will oversee the use of these refurbished facilities.

In response to increased demand, the JCC has opened a new Toddler Room on the premises that will offer a variety of schedules geared towards the needs of young families.



Sisters Candace (left) and Charlotte Powning explore the Traditions on Wheels cart at the JCCRI open house on Sept. 13.

by to tour the premises and talk to community members in the morning.

"This is really an opportunity for people to see the facility and decide whether they want to join," explained Litwin as he

Ed & Eleanor Gershman Family

Fred & Cherie Half Harvey & Jennifer Gershman
Lauren, Jonah, Julie Greg, Peninah, Benj

To All Our Relatives & Friends L'Shana Tikatevu

Scholar Satloff Returns To Emanu-El for Israel's 50th

by Emily Torgan-Shalansky
Jewish Community Reporter
Temple Emanu-El celebrated Israel's 50th anniversary with an educational symposium that was a homecoming as well.

At a weekend-long tribute between May 1 and May 3, Robert Satloff, Ph.D., executive director of The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, a public research and educational foundation established in 1985 to promote informed debate on U.S. policy in the Middle East, returned to his native city and congregation to deliver a series of presentations on the Middle East today.

"It was a heartwarming and lovely experience," said Satloff, an alumnae of the Providence Hebrew Day School and Classical High School who is a frequent commentator on the Middle East in major American newspapers including the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post* and the *Wall Street Journal*.

At the symposium, entitled "Israel at 50: Great Achievements, Great Challenges," Satloff remarked upon the

of the Israeli Declaration of Independence.

As Satloff demonstrated, the obstacles that once confronted leaders such as David Ben-Gurion and Golda Meir were very close to those that trouble Israel's present-day leaders.

"They knew what the issues would be," he said, pointing to the concerns about aliyah, democracy and state building, the quality of religious life, the search for peace, and relations with the diaspora community.

Before tracing the status of these concerns in modern Israel, Satloff pointed out a long-standing gap that has colored Israel's political life.

"Israel never got a constitution," he said. "Instead, they got a series of basic laws which are amended from time to time. It took us 13 years after we were established to develop a constitution. In Israel, it's still catch-as-catch can."

Citing ever-changing laws, Satloff spoke of Netanyahu's election, which took place under a whole new election system.

"Under the new system, it's



SHOFAR CLASS at Temple Emanu-El students (left to right) Gabe Fine, Ethan Gnepp, and Alexandra Kriss learn to blow the shofar.

Herald photos by Emily Torgan-Shalansky

search for peace and the evolution of a partnership between America and Israel.

His third and final presentation, which explored the challenges that Israel and the Israelis will face over the next half-century, began with a reading

very possible to have a prime minister from one party and a Knesset that supports another," he said.

Saying that the new government gave the political parties

(Continued on Page 15)

PEOPLE WHO LIKE PEOPLE

are wanted by the Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum!

If you enjoy working with others, being part of a growing organization and assisting with new and exciting educational and fund-raising projects, then why not be a part of the new Docent Training Program?

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 453-7860

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OPINION

Making Room at The Table in 5759

Women Leaders Still Minority in Jewish Organizations

by Marlene E. Post

With the choice of Carole Solomon as UJA's new national chairman, a woman of vision and wisdom has been elevated by her peers to one of the most senior leadership positions in the Jewish world. And as we take tremendous pride in her achievements, we must also seize the moment to turn the attention she has received for her success and succession into an opportunity to make lasting changes for women in our communal endeavor.

The history of corporate America has been punctuated by outstanding women who have risen to the top of their industry. But in today's workforce of 66 million women (nearly half of the U.S. labor force), it is a well-known fact that a mere 5 percent of senior managers and 10 percent of board members at Fortune 500 companies are female.

In the Jewish communal world, the situation is only incrementally better — yet especially incongruous as we pursue our communal obligation of *tikun olam*, "fixing the world." Jewish women — who as a group boast the highest education levels of any women in this country — have traditionally worked and volunteered in fields that speak to our collective mission. And though women in social work, teaching and other enabling professions far outnumber men in the offices of our Jewish communities, in 1998 women still do not hold the top position nor sit at board tables relative to our numbers and abilities.

Until 1994 there had been little published on women in the Jewish communal world. At that time, Audrey Weiner, DSW,

presented a paper to the Jewish Communal Services Organization of America revealing that only 20 percent of 90 New York UJA-Federation agencies were directed by female CEOs. In addition, research conducted by New York's *Ma'ayan*, The Jewish Women's Project, found that women comprise a mere 25 percent of the membership of boards of directors at major U.S. Jewish organizations. At the low end of the scale, 11 of the 45 organizations studied had 15 percent or fewer female board members, and some had as few as 6 percent. Since its publication in late 1997, according to *Ma'ayan*, no communal organization has stepped forward to announce that they have dramatically improved their male-female ratios.

Concurrently in 1994, Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America — this country's largest Jewish and women's organization — created the National Commission on American Jewish Women to examine the status and needs of women throughout this country's diverse Jewish community. In 1995, the commission found that Jewish organizations frequently devalue women's contributions and limit opportunities for their decision-making and advancement.

In a world where women are coming into control of trillions of dollars through inheritance, savvy investment strategies and greater earning power, Jewish women have more financial clout than at any time in history. More importantly, through the generations, women have honed their management skills while providing our community with its social stability and continuity. These considerable talents need to be legitimized and strengthened.

One strategy is the immediate commitment of time, re-

sources and funding to the development and improvement of leadership education programs. To this end, Hadassah recently announced the creation of the Hadassah Leadership Academy, a three-year training program to advance female leaders in the Jewish community. Following the High Holidays, the academy will begin training the first corps of 150 women from 10 cities. Not necessarily drawn from Hadassah leadership rolls, applicants were selected from the community-at-large to study Jewish thought, Jewish history, Zionism, and community service. They will also undergo vigorous leadership training and participate in field trips to Israel and Capitol Hill.

As its sponsor, Hadassah considers the academy a critical investment in the future of the Jewish community to which, over time, a new and improved pool of volunteer and staff leaders will bring additional knowledge, skills and awareness.

Policies and attitudes must be modified from within, and from the top down. Leaders, of both genders, must place on the Jewish communal agenda the commitment of energy and resources to mentoring women, to enhancing their educational and ad-

(Continued on Page 19)

JTS Calls for Gun Control

Preventing a sin is the shared burden of individuals, families and fellow citizens. Citing the Talmud, the Jewish Theological Seminary draws from Judaism's rich heritage in its call for gun control and communal responsibility.

In a year when the national crime rate plummeted to an unprecedented low, Americans were stunned by a seemingly endless series of incidents of youthful violence in small towns across America. But the murders that took the lives of young students and teachers in places like Spring, Ore.; Moses Lake, Wash.; and Paducah, Ky., not only raise questions as to why these youngsters were so filled with rage, but also asks how they were able to carry out such crimes. In each case, they had easy access to hand guns, rifles and semi-automatics found at home, in a neighbor's house, or given to them by their parents as gifts.

JTS issues a plea for gun control in a full page ad in the *New York Times* that will appear on Sept. 24. Underlying its call is the philosophical idea that not attempting to prevent a violent act places the burden of responsibility on us all.

Whoever can prevent members of his household from sinning but does not, is responsible for the sins of his household. Whoever can

present fellow citizens from sinning but does not, is responsible for the sins of fellow citizens. Whoever can prevent the whole world from sinning but does not, is responsible for the sins of the entire world. This quote from the Talmud is the JTS conclusion to its own deliberations about accountability. The ad suggests that the burden of responsibility lies not only with the offender, not only with the gun owners who do not protest the excesses of the gun lobby, not only with the families that provide the weapons, not only with the adults who ignore the warning signs but with us all.

Who is Responsible? was drafted by a committee of learned and concerned individuals that includes Rabbi Schorsch; vice chancellors Anne Lapidus Lerner and Roy Rosenbaum; Rabbis Gordon Tucker of Temple Israel Center in White Plains, N.Y., and Gerald Skolnik of the Forest Hills Jewish Center; JTS faculty members Neil Gillman, Bur Visotzky and David Kraemer; author Rita Kashner; businessman David Oestreich; and graduate students Golan-Ben-Chorin. The committee was chaired by businessman and philanthropist Lee Javitch, a member of the JTS board of directors.

A Leap of Faith

by Cindy Halpern

As Rosh Hashanah approaches each year, I take the time to evaluate where I have been and where I am going in life. September, for me, has always made me feel as if I am being tested by G-d as to the strength of my faith.

It is easy to believe in G-d when life is good to you. When the sun is shining brightly in green meadows, we rejoice in the joy of day light. But if we thank G-d for our blessings, do we blame Him as the skies

darken on the horizon with an approaching storm?

The season of who shall live and who shall die has been and continues to be a time of crisis in my life. Fourteen years ago, my father died of bladder cancer. Dad's decision to die in his own bed allowed us to be there with him when his eyes closed forever. Thirteen years ago, I nearly died in childbirth, but not only did I survive, I brought forth new life. Two years ago, my husband, daughter, and I left behind chaos and made Warwick our home.

All these thoughts clouded my mind recently as I stood beside Mom in I.C.U. while my stepfather laid on a bed of pain struggling to recover from surgery. But instead of doubting G-d, I felt His presence there. I experienced a leap of faith. I find it comforting to believe that the dawn of a new day is coming even as darkness prevails.

So the sounding of the shofar is simply a reminder of that awakening and a renewal of strength to cope until that ray of light comes shining through.

Is It Really a Small World?

Over the past months we have wondered at the tenacity and faith of Jewish populations worldwide and in every time.

The isolated mountain community in Russia that had no contact with other Jews for decades, yet clung to its practices and identification — despite the destruction of its synagogues and the loss of its holy books!

The small group of adherents in a remote village in China, people cut off for generations, whose Judaism would barely be recognizable as such by the rest of us — but whose leader proudly called himself Moshe and insisted that his citizen identification card (in Communist China) read "Jew."

Not to mention our biblical ancestors, who could have found peace and plenty at many stops along their journey, but pursued the prescribed course for a generation until they arrived in Eretz Yisrael, the an-

cient Canaan, the land flowing with milk and honey.

How can we draw a connection among all these people — and our fellow Jews from Africa, South America, people of varying languages and practices?

In the Torah portion *Ki Tavo*, the Jews who have come to the Promised land are told to "take of the first fruits... and go to the site that G-d will choose as the

place for the indwelling of His name." But there is a key phrase attached to this commandment, and that is "the land that G-d your L-rd is giving you as a heritage, occupying and settling it..."

In other words, the bringing of the first fruits did not begin until all the Jews occupied the land, and had been apportioned their piece of it. As long as there

was a Jew not fully invested in the inheritance, the joy of all was not complete. (This awareness of the plight of others extends to non-Jews as well; it is evident in the diminishment of the wine at Passover, which symbolizes that our joy cannot be complete if our triumph involve tragic consequences for others.)

In these times when we are not all physically together, still the metaphor and practice of the first fruits applies. You bring your fruit by expressing the love and joy of Judaism and Torah wherever you care. No matter what country you're in, finding another Jew should be a celebration of family, welcome and warmth. There is a virtual Eretz Yisrael, a site for the "indwelling of His name," and it is in your heart and in your acts. That is what brings us together today.

Submitted by Chabad of West Bay Chai Center, Warwick.

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HERALD EDITOR
KIMBERLY A. ORLANDI
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER
MICHAEL FINK

JEWISH COMMUNITY REPORTER
EMILY TORGAN-SHALANSKY
ADVERTISING ACCOUNT REP
DIANA FLORIO

MAILING ADDRESS:
Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 02940
TELEPHONE: (401) 724-0200

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

OFFICE:
1000A Waterman Avenue
East Providence, R.I. 02914

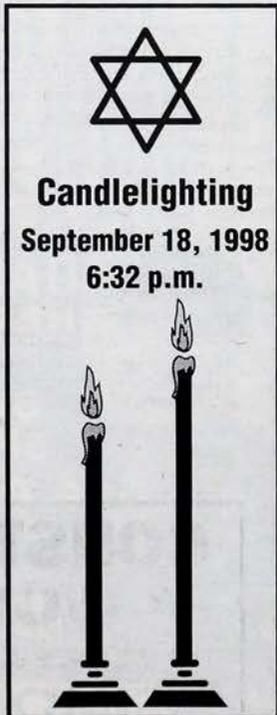
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Candlelighting
September 18, 1998
6:32 p.m.

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

Coffee for Company

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

Down at the shore, there's a small cafe, with a wishing well. John, who works behind the counter, knows a thing or two about coffeehouses. "What to order, how to serve," as he puts it. Maybe one day he'll fix up his own place. They do open out and close down like day lilies. Only the chains stay put and let come what may.

My wife in uniform poured the java in ceramic pink and white cups, with a silver spoon to stir, once upon a time. Far-

tables, hanging pots of fuschia, and gurgling fountains soften the harshness of macadam reality. I actually pick up a hardbound volume and read the account of a World War I German invasion of a French chateau. This odd retreat has individuality and genuine charm. I had taken it for granted until a couple of artists asked me to rendezvous with them for a breakfast meeting.

Speaking and writing of re-discovery, my return to town

The Good Gottliebs

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

Reb Yosef Gottlieb and I keep up a tradition of two. We meet on Thayer at a rendezvous we call La France. He hands me a text on Chassidic heritage. He catches me somehow by gentle surprise before we part. He asks me to lay tephillin right there by the front window in full view of the college crowd. We never fail each other.

But this time new events took over. He called me at home. He calls me "Michel." Not with the Paris accent on the last syllable and the ch sounding like sh. No. It's a Yiddish variation, with the stress at the start and the ch sounding like chai. But the kindly and intimate tone gives me the same sensation of belonging to a world other than my everyday Mike identity.

Anyway, it's another Reb Yosef: He's a married man now with a wife to share and grace our table in town. I rush out to greet and welcome them on their Shabbat weekend on Hope Street. Zahava—I know her name from Cary Eichenbaum's rich account of their wedding in a recent issue of this journal—is a lovely, calm, and thoughtful kallah, who narrates the story of how

the couple met. "A schoolmate from Australia called and set up our date. First, my father phoned around to check out backgrounds and reputation, and then smiled and said okay." Yosef added, "I was almost engaged once before. This time it was beshiert, it was just right." Whatever clicked and fit, they look happy, tranquil and ideal as a team. They also went over the details of the nuptial ceremony. "For a fortnight before the wedding, bride and groom do not meet or speak. I sent

Zahava your Herald story about me, and she got to know us both through the printed word." It was the new wife who inscribed the message on the flyleaf of the book they gave me. "With friendship and esteem," she penned neatly and signed.

"She accepts me as a somewhat Bohemian

Chassid," Yosef said with a laugh. "I even hope that in a year or so we may come back to Providence. It reminds me of Jerusalem. It is built on hills, and it summons pilgrims from everywhere seeking spiritual safety." I promised to take them to our snug harbor Jerusalem on their next visit. Then Yosef took out a small but sturdy shofar, stood up and put it to his

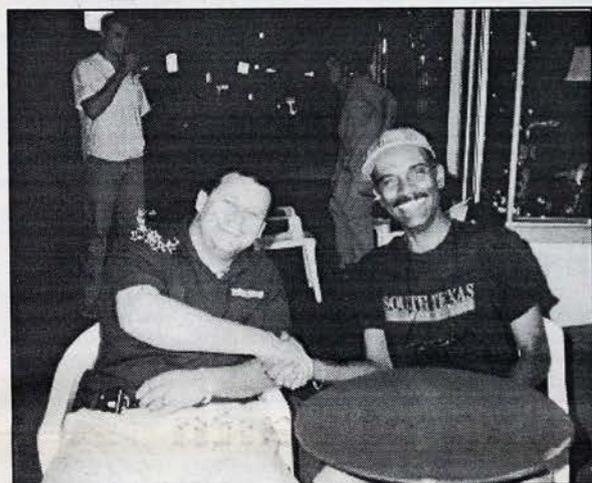
lips. He tooted that horn good and clear to wish me a happy new year. I didn't mind one bit putting on the phylacteries in broad daylight, and then, still another astonishment. My tall and cheerful daughter Lily, a Brown sophomore and resident

In the Beginning

דבר ראשון היה יום ראשון, שבתה של
היה זה היום

Dear Michel, no
This is a token of our
esteem and friendship.
Wishing you and your
mishpucha a sweet New
Year.

Fondly,
Zahava and Yosef
Gottlieb



Alex Naydich and Rusty Smith

Herald photo by Mike Fink

ther back in history, after my high school days were done till the morrow, I might stop at a drugstore counter to sip a cup with a saucer, even, and maybe a Vienna roll and butter on a dish, with a teacher smoking a Chesterfield at the next stool. Coffee offers the minimum and also the maximum degree of socializing, its very essence like the aroma and the mist, like poetry.

But getting back to that beach club, this salon blossomed like an exotic plant, or perched like a fancy feathered friend, beside a laundromat, upon an acre of asphalt, with gas pumps and even a donut shop alongside. Eric the owner came out of the north, Providence that is, where his ancestors operated a graveyard, "with over 700 varieties of shade trees," as well as the late, great Leroy Theatre in Pawtucket. "What I inherited from their artistic and creative genes was the love of arranging things, like food or furniture," the proprietor tells me as I move about admiring the environment he has crafted.

Raiding grandparent storerooms, attics and basements, my host has set a mahogany dining room into the main space, and upon Grecian columns has placed groups of early century books, model sailboats, carved bird sculptures, or an offering of cubes of vanilla cake. Beyond the portals in dappled sun and shade, tiny oases of chairs,

brought me back to the Gallery Cafe, sporting a new marquee and staff. Co-owners Rusty Smith and Alex Naydich mix immigrations east from Texas and west from Russia. Alex, a.k.a. Sasha, introduces me to his dad, who won a wartime medal as a boy in World War II, where he had lived in an orphanage. His dad, Alex' grandfather, returned from a German camp in 1947. "He drank, and he died," Alex says simply. So far, I have only a sketchy account of Jewish life under the Soviet regime, but it adds to the sense of security here, in a public coffeeshop in the land of the free.

The night I first refound this pleasant spot on earth Lindsay Adler was singing Porter and Gershwin tunes. Lev Poplow was hanging his show of photographs for the September opening reception event. People popped in and out looking for chess partners. Groups gathered in the back chamber for a smoke. A guy named Chris claims his father was a Jewish American World War II vet in post D-Day France, who came back and denied his religion! You don't have to travel in time or space. A cafe carries you inward and outward, backwards and forwards on wings of words.

Of all the tables in town or country the most intimate and inviting is still for now The Little Place, where you pick one of

(Continued on Page 19)

Some Stories on Screen

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

I made the Cable Car my home away from home during the week of waiting for back to school and shul. The stories on screen kept me quiet company during spells of drought or downpour. There was the tale of the Soviet soldier who makes and meets fate on a train in 1952. A small boy watches him loving, using and abusing his mother. But his hatred mixes in with other emotions as the fake hero teaches him lessons in growing up. Sometimes he rescues the little lad, helps and guides him. Other times he handles him roughly and loutishly. The most striking scene in this unique drama occurs outside a gulag prison. Women come to visit their men, but barking guard dogs drown out their words and keep them apart with only the snow to absorb the shouts. "Your wife gave birth! Your father died!" Then the poor inmates are carted off in trucks to another jail in the bleak landscape.

The youngster is orphaned when his mother dies of an abortion. He avenges himself by shooting her lover, leaving him as bereft as the solitary and tragic time and place. "The Thief"—a poetic and terrible movie with an austere beauty.

"Henry Fool" presents the devil as a randy phony who lures a pathetic janitor into believing he is a genius and a poet. But it spoils its fascinating premise by indulging in arbitrary and ca-

pricious acts of violence and rapine and plain sophomoric grossness. American directors have no confidence in public taste, now that it has been debased and vulgarized by mass conditioning. I had the same impression, at another cinema, of "Studio 54," which wrecked an intriguing story with blatant images that pretend to realism but amount only to unsubtle stupidity. The Jewish creator of this Manhattan disco is far and away the most striking portrait and possibility, but the motion picture is made only to tease, never to teach. Compare and contrast to "Last Days of Disco" and see the difference between independent or foreign filmmaking and products made only for profit.

Finally, to end on an upbeat note, you must see "The Chambermaid" wherever she appears. You may have read some plot notes. A miner meets a maid on the eve of the Titanic departure. Nothing happens

until a yarn is spun like the threads of fate. The made-up hot and tragic romance transforms a working-class fellow into a high-class artist and performer, who covers the landscape in a gypsy wagon drawn by stout white steeds. As the version of the affair changes and develops, its inner meaning, too, grows into something deeper and higher. The casting of this show is superb, and the austerity and ethereal beauty of the images carries you away from any formulaic response onto a thoughtful plane. A perfect picture, a relief and a reassurance that the screen can vie with a page or a canvas.

This is not a ream of reviews of recent fare. It is a celebration of camera culture, lyricism through a lens. And it's a journal of a week of waiting for my communities to commence, ensconced on a close-up couch at the Cable Car, taking it all in, imprinted like a leaf upon sidewalk.

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

RI Holocaust Memorial Museum Present Films

The Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum located on Elmgrove Avenue in Providence, will begin a new continual film series on Sept. 28. Two film will be shown on Sept. 28: "The Diary of Anne Frank" and "Miracle at Moreaux" (the story of Jewish children fleeing Nazi Germany who are saved by Sister Gabrielle).

On Oct. 1 the film series continues with "A Portrait of Elie Wiesel" and "A Friendship in Vienna" (friendship of young schoolmates causes tension between families but their friendship triumphs over discrimination). Films will be shown at 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. on these days.

All films are free and open to the public. Call 453-7860.

Swiss Bank claims and dormant accounts information packets are available through the museum until Oct. 26.

If you are interested in becoming a program committee member, a volunteer museum docent or want to find out more about the museum, come Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Orthodox Union Works With Authorities of Swissair 111 Crash

Working in concert with Swissair and Delta Air Lines, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the Atlantic Jewish Council, representatives of the Orthodox Union, who flew to Halifax in the wake of the Swissair air crash, are spearheading the effort to help authorities with the identification of the 19 Jewish victims.

In order to assure a timely Jewish burial and to resolve issues of marital status, the Orthodox Union is acting as liaison between the families of Jewish victims of Swissair Flight 111 and the authorities. Rabbi Moshe Krupka, director of the Union's Synagogue Services Division, and Alan Miller, a Union vice president whose father, Joseph K. Miller, was murdered in the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, in 1988, are helping the Swissair 111 families provide information to the RCMP that will help with identification, such as dental records and descriptions of what the victims were wearing at the time of the crash.

Upon request the Union is also attending to the religious and pastoral needs of the families, including providing books on bereavement.

The Orthodox Union is grateful to Canadian Chief Medical Examiner John Butt for his cooperation with Rabbi Krupka and Miller and his sensitivity to issues of Jewish halacha. Dr. Butt also approved the Union's invitation to forensic expert Dr. Jay Levinson, chief doctor of the Israel Police, to assist with victim identification. Levinson's knowledge enables him to deal with the complex halachic questions involved in the identification process.

The Union extends its gratitude to New York Attorney General Dennis C. Vacco for facilitating our role as liaison with chief medical examiner Butt. We also want to acknowledge and thank the Jewish community of Halifax for reaching out to the families and providing food and support in the true spirit of Klal Yisrael, the brotherhood of all Jews.

Mt. Hope Day Care Center Fundraiser

The Mt. Hope Day Care Center on Hope Street in Providence, is a not-for-profit center offering daily enriching programs for preschool children ages 3 to 5, a full-day kindergarten program, and a before and after school age program for 6- to 12-year-olds.

The center, established almost 32 years ago, is housed in a refurbished old school building. The brightly painted rooms sparkle with the activities and happy sounds of its children. However, the playground area is sadly inadequate to provide safe, sturdy, and age-appropriate outdoor play equipment for more than 100 children.

To raise funds to purchase new equipment and improve the grounds an event is planned for Saturday, Sept. 26. Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres will be served at the center from 6 to 7 p.m. followed by a buffet dinner at St. Martin's Church on Orchard Avenue, Providence, at 7:30 p.m. There will be music, entertainment, and a drawing at 9 p.m. for a 1998 BMW red convertible, valued at \$38,000 or \$30,000, in cash. Tickets for the dinner at \$35 per person may be purchased by calling 351-0358.

DEA to Process Identification Cards

The R.I. Department of Elderly Affairs processes identification cards for persons 60 and older and disabled persons age 18 to 59, weekdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 160 Pine St. in Providence. Persons 60 and older must present proof of age, such as a birth certificate, driver's license or Medicare supplement insurance card. Disabled persons must present verification in the form of a Social Security disability award letter or Veterans Administration disability card. The DEA identification card contains the owner's photograph, date of birth, Social Security number, address, and signature. DEA identification cards cannot be used for transportation on RIPTA buses. A \$2 donation per ID card is requested.

In addition, the DEA mobile ID card unit will be at the following locations during October:

Oct. 7 — Narragansett Senior Center, 53 Mumford Road (12:30 to 2:30 p.m.).

Oct. 20 — Coventry Senior Center, 50 Wood St. (12:30 to 2:30 p.m.).

JERI Plans For Second Annual Service For Elderly

Last year, JERI inaugurated a new program. For the first time ever, Jewish residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities throughout our state were brought together to celebrate Rosh Hashanah. The service was designed to, and did, meet the spiritual needs of the more than 100 residents who attended.

Building on the success of last year's service, JERI is again offering a service for Rosh Hashanah. It will again be held at Temple Beth-El at 70 Orchard Ave. in Providence from 1:30 to 3 p.m. The service will take place on Sept. 22, 2 Tishrei 5759. It will be led by Rabbi Deanna Douglas and our volunteer cantor, Dr. Joshua Gutman. Steve Amowitz will blow shofar for us on that day. An oneg will follow.

Activities directors in nursing homes and in assisted living facilities have been notified. Many have been cooperative and are hoping to bring resi-

dents. In addition, family and friends are invited to share this Holy Day with "their" resident; it would make this special occasion even more so.

Additional help from our community is needed, so let us know if you can give us a hand on that day. For additional information, contact us at 621-5374. Begin the New Year with Mitzvah!

Stay Tuned

The JERI program's services for Rosh Hashanah will be aired on Cable Interconnect B on:

Sept. 20, 7 to 8 p.m.; Sept. 21, 6 to 7:30 p.m.; Sept. 22, 12:30 to 2 p.m.

The service for Yom Kippur will be aired on Sept. 29, 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. and Sept. 30, 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Cox Cable will air our videos on: Sept. 20, 7 p.m.; Sept. 21, 1 p.m.; and Sept. 22, 1 and 3 p.m.

The services for Yom Kippur will be shown on Cox on Sept. 29 at 4:30 p.m. and Sept. 30 at 2 p.m.

New Jersey Teen Takes Highest Honors in 'Olympiyeda'

A 15-year-old high school sophomore from Livingston, N.J., has become the first American to win first prize in the Olympiyeda—the international science competition sponsored by the Israel National Museum of Science. The contest attracts gifted youngsters from North America, Great Britain, Australia and Israel.

Jeremy Medow, who attends Livingston High School, received the contest's top award of \$2,000 for beating out seven other youngsters in the competition's finals, which was televised throughout Israel. The runners-up were two Israeli teens — Shahar Abin of Holon, who won the \$1,000 second prize, and Nir Dreiman of Ra'anana, who received \$500 as third prize winner. The remaining five finalists were each given a \$200 award.

Medow is a modest youngster who loves to read advanced math, science books, and articles. He is a skilled computer programmer, working in three programming languages.

In addition to academics, he enjoys biking and music. He is a member of his school's chorus

and enjoys performing. The Olympiyeda represented his second visit to Israel, a country he finds "beautiful, both physically and spiritually."

Defined by its officials as an "Olympics of the Mind," the Olympiyeda contest is highly acclaimed for its role in encouraging young people to take up science and technology careers.

During the televised championship round, viewers across Israel crowded around TV sets as the eight youthful finalists, selected from 50 semi-finalists representing Israel, the United States, Canada, England and Australia, waged a fierce battle to win the coveted contest.

Medow and the other seven Olympiyeda finalists spent months preparing for the televised competition. They were the last stage survivors of an elimination process that saw 50 semi-finalists from Israel and abroad selected from hundreds of original applicants through a rigorous series of preliminary tests. The semi-finalists were given an all-expense-paid three-week stay at a science summer camp under the auspices of the Israel National Museum of Science in Haifa, where they vied to be among the eight finalists in the televised closing round.

The founder of the Olympiyeda is Dr. Zvi Dori, professor of chemistry at Technion University, who also founded the Israel National Museum of Science. A principal objective of the museum and the Olympiyeda is to encourage youthful interest in science and technology and promote science as a career goal.

The competition also provides an opportunity for non-Israeli youngsters to learn at first hand about Israel and make friends with Israelis of their own age who hold similar interests in science.

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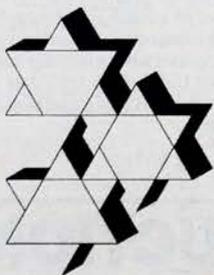
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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Starbucks CEO Receives '50th Anniversary Tribute Award'

Howard Schultz, chairman and CEO of the Starbucks Coffee Company, recently traveled to Israel on El Al to participate in The Jerusalem Fund's 50th Anniversary Tribute Mission, sponsored by Aish HaTorah and the municipality of Jerusalem.

During the high-level mission, Schultz was honored with the Tribute Award at a gala ceremony in the Knesset attended by such dignitaries as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, former Prime Minister Shimon Peres, Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert and Jordan's Crown Prince Hassan.

Each year the Jerusalem Fund of Aish Hatorah honors business leaders, political figures and entertainers who are pioneers in their fields and committed to assisting Israel. Schultz is credited with founding Starbucks and developing it into the leading brand of specialty coffee in North America.

The Aish HaTorah outreach organization, based in Jerusalem, is committed to instilling Jewish pride and unity around the world through Jewish educational programs.



STARBUCKS COFFEE CEO Howard Schultz.

Kurz Named Director of Communications at New Israel Fund

Seeking to expand its strategic communications capacity, the fast-growing New Israel Fund (NIF) announced the hiring of Norman J. Kurz as its new director of communications. Working closely with NIF Executive Director Norman Rosenberg, Kurz assumes responsibility for NIF's message development, advertising, media relations, publications and other communications needs.

Kurz moves in-house after working for years as a public relations consultant at The Kamber Group, where he was vice president, and at Abernathy/Anderson. Kurz's prior experience also includes serving as press secretary to U.S. Senator Wyche Fowler of Georgia and to the late U.S. Rep. Les

Aspin, then-chairman of the House Armed Services Committee. In addition, Kurz has worked as a consultant on many political campaigns, including those of current U.S. Senators Joe Lieberman of Connecticut and Paul Wellstone of Minnesota.

The New Israel Fund, is a partnership of North Americans, Israelis and Europeans dedicated to promoting civil and human rights, religious pluralism, and Israeli-Arab cooperation. NIF provides grants and other assistance to more than 200 public interest organizations, and works to educate Israelis and others about the challenges to building Israel's democracy and the development of civil society.

Annual Memorial Services

For the 50th consecutive year the Jacob Grossman Memorial Chapel-in-the-Woods at Sharon Memorial Park will be the setting of the traditional open-air memorial services, which will be held on Sept. 27 at 10 a.m.

The service will be conducted by Rabbi Lieberman, who will deliver the sermon. The traditional prayers will be chanted by Cantor Marilyn Becker. Sylvia Pitnov will be the organist. Relatives and friends are invited to participate.

The Retired Enlisted Association

The next regular meeting of the Narragansett Bay Chapter 79 will be held on Sept. 19 at 10 a.m. at the Fleet Reserve Club, Connell Highway, Newport.

All members, the auxiliary, enlisted retirees of all uniformed services, spouses and widows and enlisted active duty with 10 or more years of active service are invited to attend.

This will be the first meeting after the summer recess.

World Union for Progressive Judaism Names New Leader

Rabbi Richard A. Block has been chosen as the new executive director of the World Union for Progressive Judaism, the international organization that aims to promote and sustain liberal Judaism around the globe. Rabbi Block will succeed Rabbi Richard G. Hirsch, who has served in that capacity since 1973. Rabbi Block, currently the senior rabbi at congregation Beth Am in Los Altos Hills, Calif., will assume global leadership of the Jerusalem-based organization next July.

The World Union for Progressive Judaism combines the efforts of more than 1,200 Reform, Progressive, Liberal and Reconstructionist congregations in more than 40 countries in their objective of fostering a stronger movement. The World Union reforms new synagogues and schools; recruits, trains, and places Jewish leaders; and provides support for Jewish communities throughout the world.

This change in organiza-

tional leadership comes at a time of unprecedented growth and support for the movement, fueled in part by its role as a driving force behind the fight for religious pluralism in Israel. Rabbi Block, who will be moving to Jerusalem next summer, said the World Union plays a vital role in shaping the international Jewish community for the future.

Rabbi Block said he looks forward to the challenge of leading the World Union into the 21st century.

Since 1987, Rabbi Block has been senior rabbi of Congregation Beth Am where he has created a variety of innovative programs aimed at reinvigorating Jewish education and synagogue life. He previously served as rabbi for the Greenwich Reform Synagogue in Riverside, Conn. Prior to his rabbinic studies, Rabbi Block graduated from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and from Yale Law School.

New Officers Lead 1998-99 CAJE Board

Four newly-elected officers and two appointees to the Board of the Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education were installed at the Twenty-third Annual Conference on Alternatives in Jewish Education. Sylvia Abrams of Beachwood, Ohio, was re-elected to a second term as the chairperson of CAJE. She installed Jeffrey Schein of Shaker Heights, Ohio, as program chair, and Jay Lewis of Costa Mesa, Calif., and Bonnie Slavitt-Moore of Mountain View, Calif. as board members-at-large. She also welcomed Steve Grossman of Atlanta, Ga., and Phil Warmflash of Philadelphia, Pa., to their positions as regional representatives. The new officers reflect the professional and geographic diversity of the coalition. CAJE is a membership organization of 4,000 Jewish educators who are involved in every aspect of the transmission of Jewish tradition and culture. For more information about CAJE, contact the national office at 261 W. 35th St., floor 12A, New York, NY 10001.

UAHC Press Names New Publisher

The Union of American Hebrew Congregations Press, the world's largest provider of Reform Jewish informational resources, recently named Kenneth Gesser as its new publisher, marking the beginning of a new era of growth for the century-old organization.

Gesser, whose previous experience includes Kluwer Law Book Publishers, John Wiley & Sons, and Thompson Publishing Group, has a Juris Doctor degree from Brooklyn Law School. He will oversee the workings of the UAHC Press, which offers hundreds of books, videocassettes, compact disks and CD-ROMS for home and congregational use. The UAHC Press is the publishing arm of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, which represent 875 Reform congregations and 1.5 million Jews across North America.

Cranston Senior Guild

The Cranston Senior Guild will hold its membership meeting on Oct. 14 at Temple Torat Yisrael. Entertainment will be by Cranston Music Makers, featuring music of the '40s, '50s and '60s. A social hour and refreshments will follow.

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Jacob Grossman Memorial Chapel-in-the-Woods

Officiating

RABBI ALVIN LIEBERMAN

CANTOR MARILYN BECKER

Organist SYLVIA PITNOF

JEWISH COMMUNITY

Jewish Eldercare of RI to Appoint a New Rabbi

Rabbi Natan Shafer will begin working for the Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island this month. He was inspired by his mentors to become a rabbi. "I have been very blessed to have some teachers who were the heart of kindness and gave me so much encouragement and so much strength."

The rabbi is excited about working with the elderly population. "I enjoy working with people, especially with Jewish people. G-d sent me into the world as a Jew for some reason. This is my family. I understand it a little better than someone else's family." Rabbi Shafer is well-known for his storytelling. He said, "I enjoy sharing stories about real people, it helps me to understand who I am." He also

hopes to listen. "I'm coming to learn from the elderly, to have many occasions for a good laugh and to be a friend to those who need one."

The JERI program provides statewide outreach to Jewish elderly residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities through JERI staff and a corps of more than 100 volunteers who visit and provide programming, holiday observations and a Jewish presence and act as advocates. The JERI program is administered by Jewish Family Service. Funding is provided by the Jewish Home Corporation and the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island.

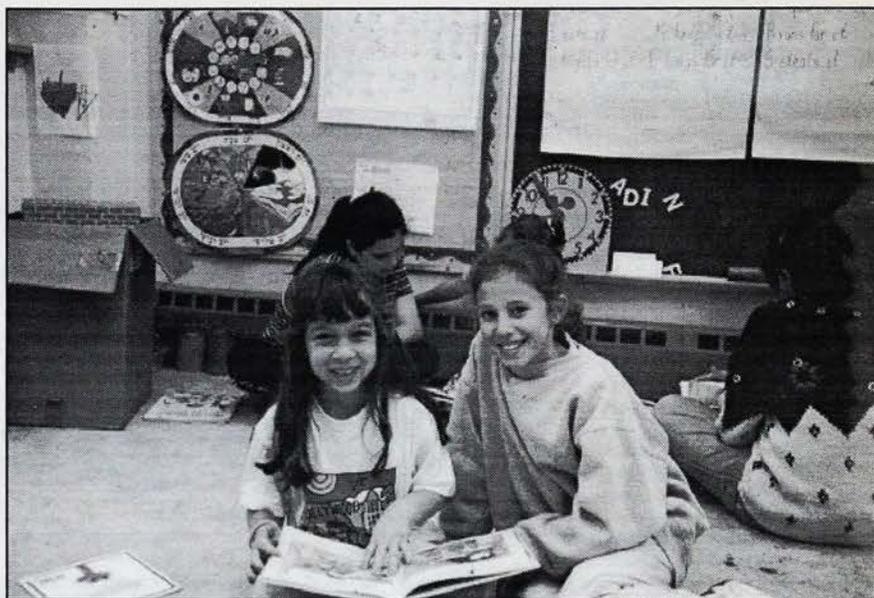
For more information, contact JERI at 621-5374 or (800) 350-3785.

Calling All Aspiring Actors and Actresses

The Jewish Theatre Ensemble announces auditions for their January 1999 children's musical, "The Sabbath Peddler." This play, set in an early 19th-century Jewish village, tells the story of a mysterious visitor to the village who helps the townspeople experience a very special Sabbath.

Male and female performers from ages 9 to 17 are encouraged to audition. Everyone will be asked to read from the script and perform a song of their choice. A pianist will be available to accompany those who bring their own sheet music. Auditions will be held in the social hall of the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence, on Oct. 21 and 22, from 6 to 8 p.m.

For those interested in helping out with the production team for this play or for any other questions, contact Sue Suls at 861-8800, ext. 108.



A Friend and a Book

Ruth Furman, grade 6, reads to Miriam Tinberg, grade 1, as part of a school service project.

Photo courtesy of ASDS

Encouraging Women to Take Advantage of Their Opportunities as Veterans

The U.S. Department of Labor is seeking artists who are also veterans to participate in the National Women Veterans Original Art Design Search, sponsored by the department's Women's Bureau, U.S. Employment Service, and Veterans' Employment and Training Service.

The contest's goal is to ob-

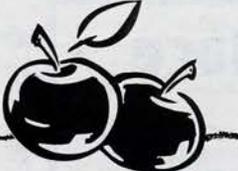
tain art work which will be used for posters depicting the theme, "Hire a Vet: A Model of Success," designed to encourage women veterans to take advantage of the opportunities afforded them by their veterans' status. Winning art work will be chosen from entries submitted by outstanding and talented veteran artists from across the country and the posters will be exhibited in offices where women veterans seek employment and retraining opportunities.

Many women veterans are unaware of their benefits so they don't take advantage of them,

especially if they have not been in combat. The posters are intended to remind all women veterans to identify themselves as military veterans when seeking employment. U.S. military veterans are eligible for employment benefits and preference in hiring in government agencies and in many private sector organizations that place a premium on military service.

The National Women Veterans Original Art Design Search guidelines are available on the Internet at <<http://www.dol.gov/dol/wb>>. Information may also be obtained by calling (800) 379-9042.

Did you build
or decorate
a sukkah?



Don't forget to send photos to the *Rhode Island Jewish Herald*! Black & white and color photos will be accepted until October 22 for inclusion in the community sukkot feature in upcoming issues of the Herald. Please be sure to label all photos and write captions for each one.

Send photos to: R.I. Jewish Herald, P.O. Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 02940, Attn: Sukkot. If you'd like the photos returned, please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.

September Means Back to Touro

Friendship Lodge will hold a barbecue with kosher hamburgers, hot dogs, and all the fixings on Sept. 23 at 6 p.m. at Touro Hall. The cost is just \$1 or one Bagel Buck in advance or \$6 or six Bagel Bucks at the door. R.S.V.P. by Sept. 18 at 944-1333.

The special guest speaker is Ellina Khaykin, who is the March of the Living scholarship recipient.

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Celebrated Cantor to Chant at Congregation B'nai Israel

by Michael Holtzman

A former singer in the Russian opera who became a cantor after immigrating with his family to the United States in 1981 will chant the hymns of the High Holidays this season at Congregation B'nai Israel.

Samuel Yanovsky of Needham, Mass., has chanted from the Hebrew *mahzor*, or prayer book, for Sabbath services and High Holidays throughout the country — in New York, Chicago, San Diego, several locations in Massachusetts and in Canada.

Yanovsky, 53, the father of two grown married children with his wife Yelena, and a grandfather of two, received his training to become a cantor first in Chicago, then in Boston. During his early years in this country, he was a cantor in Hyde Park.

"It connects you with your roots," said Yanovsky of the profession he chose here. Although not religious, his mother in Russia was a devout Jew.

He calls singing "the phenomenon of using your voice," and says he greatly enjoys "ceremonial things."

Yanovsky, who chants from the Hebrew texts, said he reads but does not understand the language. He's also trained to sing from memory in several other languages, including German, French and Italian.

"I used to speak Italian," he said. "When I stayed for two months in Italy, it all started to come back to me."

That was in 1981, just before the family immigrated here from Moscow.

At that time, Samuel and Yelena Yanovsky had two teen-

age children, a son, Efraim, and a daughter, Tatiana. Together, they had been trying to immigrate for about four years.

The father remembers his son did not wish to come here. "He would leave me notes: 'I am not coming with you.'"

Asked why, Yanovsky said his son was very close to his maternal grandmother, and she did not want to leave Russia. Five years ago she did, because of failing health. Other relatives and friends have followed.

The Yanovsky family had greater problems with leaving Russia during those years when Jews in America and Israel were fighting furiously with Russian authorities to loosen immigration laws.

"They practically closed the door for awhile," Yanovsky said. The family spent two years collecting the necessary paperwork, then another two years awaiting permission to leave.

"It was a hardship," he said simply.

"I wanted to leave when I was very young (and newly married). But my wife was not ready. We lost some years. We would have been much better off," he said, a trace of sadness in his voice.

But they caught a break in Moscow. A person of influence who had lived in their apartment previously wanted to live there again. Their papers for immigration were approved. "It was by luck," Yanovsky said.

He was asked what leaving was like.

"On the one hand it was a hardship leaving behind relatives and friends. At that time, we thought we were leaving them forever. We thought we

would never see them again," he said.

Why did they ultimately come? "Because of different freedoms," Yanovsky said. He recalled stories of singing with the Korov Opera in St. Petersburg.



SAMUEL YANOVSKY of Needham, Mass., a former singer in the Russian opera who became a cantor after immigrating with his family to the United States, will chant the hymns of the High Holidays this season at Congregation B'nai Israel on Prospect Street in Woonsocket.

burg. "I've sang all my life because of my father," he said. His father had been a boy cantor with a man named Kvartin, known as one of the greatest cantors of the century.

But when Samuel Yanovsky was singing with the opera, he was forced to change his first

name. "People would laugh and say, 'What type of a name is Samuel?'" They would know the name was Jewish.

"I was scared to death when people would ask my real name, and I frequently would lie. I was afraid to be identified by anti-Semites as a Jew," he said.

"I had a name, Emile, for the stage," he said. "It was a complicated thing."

He recalled filling out his passport application, and something known and dreaded for would-be immigrants, known as "the fifth paragraph."

The questionnaire would ask for one's name and address, it would ask where the person was born on the fourth paragraph; on the fifth, it would ask for one's nationality.

Yanovsky said when he came to the United States his intention was to continue singing opera. "But my situation was not helpful for me," he said, struggling for the right words. He would later recall, "even in Russia, a lady friend said, 'You have a voice like a cantor.'"

he did not respond well to that description at the time.

"It was like an insult to me," he said. "It had some kind of tear, the sound of my voice."

For those who have heard the chanting of a cantor, it is often a piercing, soulful, almost wailing sound, particularly during the High Holidays, when Jews are instructed to seek repentance.

Yanovsky has been rehearsing this summer for his chanting role with Congregation B'nai Israel's longtime organist, Joan Carey. The organist, who lives

in Blackstone, has played during the High Holidays at this synagogue for 31 years, and counts seven cantors she has performed with.

Their timing together must be precise. "It's unbelievable to work with someone you cannot see," said Carey, who for some years had also been the temple secretary.

"We're working had," Yanovsky agreed. "she's a very nice lady. That's what makes it easier."

While the Yanovsky family lives a better life in America, with Yelena an internationally known designer of wedding gowns, they continue to share the pain of their countrymen.

Two examples about food tell a poignant contrast.

Samuel Yanovsky remembers returning to Russia with his wife in 1989. They returned to "see absolutely empty shelves, no simple food. And now it is even more disastrous," he said.

For his son during his earlier teen-aged years, there was a turning point about coming to America from Russia. In Moscow, there was an American farm exhibit. The father remembers the American exhibitors "fell in love with our son." He talked to American boys and girls there.

"He saw incredible food he's never seen before, and he said, 'I might go with you.'" Yanovsky recounted. "It was a change."

Michael Holtzman is a staff writer for the Woonsocket Call. Article published with permission of the Woonsocket Call.

Local Teen to Speak on Travels to Poland And Israel

Two years ago the members of Touro Fraternal Association attending a regular meeting were spellbound by a report made by the young student the association had sponsored in the annual March of the Living program.

That event will be repeated Sept. 23, when Ellina Khaykin of Cranston, this year's recipient of the Touro March of the Living Scholarship, will report on her travels to Poland and Israel this past spring. Khaykin was one of 6,000 Jewish teens from throughout the world making the biennial excursion which this year coincided with the 50th anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel. Sixty students from New England made the trip, nearly a third of them from Rhode Island.

Khaykin's presentation will be made following a meeting of the association at its headquarters at 45 Rolfe Square.

Khaykin, a student at Cranston East High School, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lev Khaykin.

The March of the Living Scholarship is part of Touro Fraternal Association's ongoing program of community

participation programs. "And this has been one of the most gratifying," according to Arthur Poulten, chairman of the association's board of directors.

Prior to the regular meeting the association will hold a special session to act on several

Constitutional amendments. The 6:30 p.m. meetings will be followed by the group's annual fall barbecue and then Khaykin's report at about 8 p.m.

It is open to all Touro members. Reservations may be made by calling the association at 785-0066.




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Couple Makes Commitment to Israel

Gerald Cohen, deputy chairman of the Rhode Island Israel Bond campaign, announced a new \$100,000 commitment by Carole and Eddie Shorr to purchase State of Israel Bonds.

Eddie is a new member of the Rhode Island Israel Bonds Campaign Cabinet, and the pledge coincides with the 1999 kickoff to the Rhode Island Israel Bonds campaign and the elevation of Cohen to chairman of the campaign.

For more information about Israel Bonds, call Michael Shuman at the Israel Bonds office, (800) 752-5651, ext. 127.

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SCHOOLBEAT

Winners of the Saul Abrams Memorial Essay Contest

The children and youth committee at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island announced the winners of this year's Saul Abrams Memorial Essay Contest. This contest was established by Lillian Abrams in honor of her late husband, who was a leader of the JCCRI for many years. This writing contest takes place in the late spring of every year to recognize outstanding Jewish youth in the fourth to sixth grades.

This year's topic was "How do you see Israel 50 years from now during its 100th birthday celebration?" Ben Beraha, son of Dr. Nathan and Karen Beraha, won this year's contest and received a \$100 savings bond, \$25 credit to the JCCRI for classes, and was recognized at the JCCRI's September board meeting.

Molly Goodwin, daughter of Dr. George and Betsy Goodwin, was the second place winner and received a credit for \$25 to be used toward programs at the JCCRI. Both students attend Alperin Schechter Day School.

Israel at its One Hundredth Birthday

by Benjamin A. Beraha
Grade 6

In fifty years Israel will probably be better than it is today. Jews and Israelis will try to make peace, get along with neighbors, and govern their country. The country will still not be perfect in fifty years. In fifty years Jews will still be trying to make the state of Israel a free Jewish Homeland.

Orthodox, Conservative and Reform Jews do not get along now in Israel. Orthodox Jews sometimes do not even consider Conservative and Reform Jews, Jewish. It's not clear whether or not different sects of Judaism will get along. Different sects of Judaism will realize that they have to work together to achieve goals and make themselves free. Some will not agree and that could cause war. If all the Jews are united they will be able to achieve peace. They will have a much better chance of getting along with the surrounding countries and the enemies living in Israel.

The government might be Arab and Jewish mixed. There could be two governments if the Arabs and the Jews do not get along. If they make peace there could be a mixed government. Right now Israel is 80 percent

Jewish and the remaining are mostly Arab. There are more Jews in Israel so this means that chances are the leader of the country will be a Jew if they have a mixed government.

The Jews will be much more peaceful. They could make peace with some groups. They will probably not make peace with all the groups. Every century there has been somebody who has tried to murder or make war with Jews. There probably always will be. After the Holocaust the Jews have been very successful by making peace treaties with countries for example: Jordan and Syria. Jews have tried to make peace with the Arabs that live in Israel. The Jews have come along way from when they first arrived in Israel (when it was called Palestine). Jews have made a lot of peace treaties. They have done a lot of work. They will probably continue to have some enemies.

All Jews hope for peace in Israel of 2048, but nobody knows what Israel will be like. We do not know how Jews get along with other Jews, govern their country, or relate with neighboring countries. People do not know about Israel in fifty years. The Jews have faith that the land of Israel will be a free Jewish Homeland.

How Israel Will Be in 50 Years

by Molly Goodwin
Age 11

Changes, new people, more tourists, this will be our homeland Israel in the next fifty years. Peace is one of Israel's greatest wishes, and the most important. We as a people can and will work together and bring Israel peace.

The nation of Israel is a place where Jews, and people of all religions, can come together and celebrate. The land in which our ancestors lived and worked will be an area where people can do what they please.

War is part of Israel today and can't continue to be. How Israel will be in 50 years is based on how well we can work together. Israel's peace is something that is necessary. When Israel and America come together in the next 50 years, there will be changes in the life of an Israeli as compared to today.

Israel needs to have a higher security policy. These bombings that happen in Israel are just wrong, they need to stop.

Israel can be put back together with teamwork.

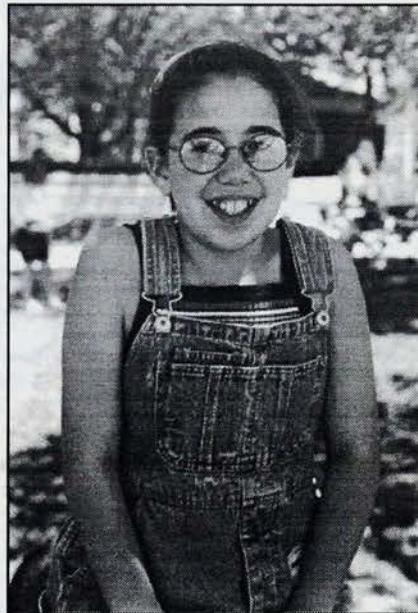
Geographically speaking, Israel probably will get smaller. By Israel getting smaller, it will get tighter, closer, and stronger. When all Israel can work to-

gether and be one people, then everyone will get along.

The nation of Israel has a strong religious culture. There are Jews, Muslims, Catholics, people of all faiths call Israel home. In the next fifty years, all people will pray and hope that everyday Israel will get stronger.

Peace is such a strong and beautiful word. In 50 years when Israel finally has peace, the world will glow. To know that our people are living in complete peace is a gift to the world.

Israel is part of the world and the world needs all the help it can get. I hope parents will teach their kids to be against war, and to care about everyone, no matter the color of their skin or if they don't believe in what you believe in. Our nation of Israel is important and will survive. People will start to care and in 50 years our world will be an outstanding example of love, and peace.



Molly Goodwin

PHDS Welcomes 13 New Families

The beginning of a new school year is always exciting at Providence Hebrew Day School. This year the school is pleased to welcome 15 students from 13 new families who are attending the pre-kindergarten, elementary school and the girls' high school. Also, many of these students are coming to Providence from different parts of the country.

Renana Herzog, who is entering the kindergarten, comes to PHDS from Bath, Maine; Atira Main, whose family lives in Cleveland, Ohio, is a new ninth-grader at the New England Academy of Torah. Joining the second grade from Portland, Maine, is Nathan Rosenbaum. Two more girls attending N.E.A.T. for the first time are Chana Sydranski from Brook-

lyn, N.Y., and Chanita Bar Chaim from Elizabeth, N.J. Our newest student is Tyler Somberg who lives in Johnston, R.I., and Nechama Cusano joins the fourth grade from Sharon, Mass. Our other new students from the Providence area are Sorah Taitelbaum and Dovid Weisman in the pre-kindergarten, Jessie and Shoshana Klein (fifth and kindergarten), Lior and Evan Goodman (fifth and third grades), Henry Barcohana in fourth grade and Yerachmiel Taube in third grade.

Although the curriculum and orientation of PHDS is based in traditional Judaism, the school welcomes Jewish students from all backgrounds and affiliations.



Welcome Back to School

Mrs. Werner, first grade general studies teacher gets things off to a great start. Photo courtesy of ASDS

SCHOOLS OPEN

Let the Herald know about new and exciting programs and activities in your school.

Send your information, photos and stories to:

The R.I. Jewish Herald
P.O. Box 6063
Providence, R.I. 02940
(Attention: Schoolbeat)
or fax to (401) 726-5820

A Checklist For Helping Your Child With Homework

Make sure your child has...

- A quiet place to work with good light.
- A regular time each day for doing homework.
- Basic supplies, such as paper, pencils, pens, markers, and a ruler.
- Aids to good organization, such as an assignment calendar, book bag, and folders.

Questions to ask your child.

- What was your assignment today?
- Is the assignment clear? (If not, suggest calling the school's homework hotline or a classmate.)
- When is it due?
- Do you need special resources (e.g., a trip to the library or access to a computer)?
- Do you need special supplies (e.g., graph paper or posterboard)?
- Have you started today's assignment? Finished it?
- For a major project, would it help to write out the steps or make a schedule?
- Would a practice test help?

Other ways to help.

- Look over your child's homework, but don't do the work!
- Meet the teachers early in the year and find out about homework policy.
- Review comments on returned homework and discuss them with your child.
- Contact the teacher if there's a homework problem or need you can't resolve.
- Congratulate your child on a job well done.

SCHOOLBEAT



Welcoming New Students

On the first day of school, third-graders took kindergarten students on a tour of the school, to help them feel comfortable. Judaic studies teacher Rina Wolfgang reads a story to both grades.

Photo courtesy of ASDS

Welcome Back to ASDS

Calendar of Events

September

- 21 and 22 — Rosh Hashanah, No School
- 27 — Board Retreat, 8:30 a.m. to noon
- 29 — Erev Yom Kippur, 11:15 a.m. dismissal
- 30 — Yom Kippur, No School

School News

Dawn Costa, who has accepted a teaching post in the public sector, will be missed. Costa was a valued member of the ASDS faculty. We wish her success and happiness in her new post. We will also miss Michelle Carlson, secretary, and Barbara Saint Germain, book-keeper, who have decided to pursue new interests: Carlson will be a day care provider, and Saint Germain will be a business educator.

Several new positions have been created: Reading Specialist, Nicole Hennessey; Rabbi-in-Residence, Rabbi Miriam Spitzer; Special Needs Coordinator, Dr. Marjorie Fradin; Activities Coordinator, Margery Maidman; Computer Technology Specialist, Nathan Yamuder; and Algebra/Geometry Teacher, Natalie Jackvony.

From the Library

Students are eagerly sharing their favorite summer books.

Have children bring in their Summer Reading Records to receive a special award.

Thanks to all parents for helping children develop their reading skills over the summer. The list of grade-appropriate books sent home from the library last spring can still be used for suggestions of reading material. Contact Mrs. White for copies of those lists or for further suggestions.

In The Schechter Family

The Cohen/May family is on Sabbatical in Jerusalem. They send New Year's greetings to all and look forward to hearing from you. Their address until July 31, 1999, is Yehoshua bin Nun 9, Jerusalem 93145, Israel. Telephone: (011) 972-2-561-8365. E-mail: <miriammay@aol.com>; shaye@brown.edu or <jonach oen@aol.com>.

Swing Dance Class

Swing dance class will be offered for Middle School students on Fridays, 2:45 to 3:30 p.m., from Sept. 18 to Oct. 16. Cost is \$10 for the five-week session. Fill out the enclosed form and return to the school office. Class size will be limited, so sign up early!

Soccer Team

• Tuesdays through Thursdays, 3:20 to 4:30 p.m.

- Boys and girls are welcome
- We will play other schools
- See Mr. Walter with any questions

• Cost \$30 for the season.

The number of games played against other schools depends on the number of students who come out for the team. There will be no cuts, all that want to play are welcome. Practice will be held at the JCC field on Tuesday and Thursday and at ASDS on Wednesdays. Soccer season will end before basketball season begins. Come out and have fun, learn some skills, and get in shape! Dates are Sept. 17, 23, 24 and Oct. 7, 8, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 27 and 29.

ASDS Toy Sale Committee Meeting

A committee meeting will be held Sept. 24 at 7 p.m. in the ASDS conference room. Things are beginning to take shape, and sound great! The toy sale has been scheduled for Dec. 6. Wish list includes: toys, sports equipment, bicycles and ride-on toys, books in good condition, computers and electronics, videos and cassette tapes, and children's furniture. Call Penney Stein, 751-2470. Collection days are every Friday in the school office or call to make an appointment for pick-up at your home. Get involved! Bring a friend!

Scholarship Program Offers College Funds to High School Seniors

Nominations are now being accepted for the EF Global Citizen Awards — a new scholarship program offered by student travel operator EF Educational Tours. Based on student essays, EF will offer scholarships to 12 seniors — 10 from the United States and two from Canada. Each student will receive \$1,000 toward their college tuition and a 10-day expense-paid educational tour of Europe.

The scholarship program was established to inspire students to think about their evolving roles in our increasingly global community. Applicants, who must be nominated through their schools, are asked to write about what they feel it means to be a global citizen. In addition to receiving funds for college, scholarship recipients will travel together in July on an expense-paid educational tour of London, Paris and Rome. The dual nature of the scholarship award reflects EF's belief in the importance of experiential learning and in the lasting value of a global perspective.

Each high school in the United States and Canada is invited to nominate one candidate for the awards. Students seeking nomination are asked to contact their school's guidance or career development office for information. Educators may request nomination forms by mail: Global Citizen Program, EF Educational Tours, One Education St., Cambridge, MA 02141, by e-mail: <scholarships@ef.com>, or on the Internet at <www.ef-tours.com>.

The application deadline is Feb. 15, 1999.

EF Educational Tours is a group travel organization dedicated to providing teachers and their students with opportunities to expand their classrooms and broaden their horizons through worldwide travel. A division of EF Education, the world's largest private educational organization, EF Educational Tours draws on more than 30 years of involvement in the fields of language instruction, educational travel, and intercultural exchange.

Short Story Competition

Judaica Librarians' Choice Award

The Association of Jewish Libraries, in partnership with Pitspopy Press, announces once again our 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 publication of children's literature of high literary merit with positive Jewish focus, content, and values. Winners and runners-up of the Judaica Librarians' Choice Award will receive monetary prizes and their stories will become the property of Pitspopy Press. While the Association of Jewish Libraries cannot assure publication of the prize-winning stories, it is the plan of Pitspopy Press to consider the winning entries for potential future publication.

The topic for the 1998-99 competition is "Jewish Science Fiction."

Manuscripts must be post-marked by Feb. 1, 1999. Winners will be notified by May 15, 1999.

The winning story will receive an award of \$1,000 and three runners-up will receive awards of \$250 each. The winning author will be invited to receive the award at the closing banquet of the Association of Jewish Libraries Convention in June 1999. One night's hotel and banquet costs will be covered by the sponsors of the award.



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

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PHDS Elects New PTF Leaders

The Parents-Teachers and Friends of Providence Hebrew Day School have selected two new co-presidents for the upcoming school year. Elissa Felder, the parent of three children at the school, moved to Providence one year ago from Poughkeepsie, N.Y. She has been an active volunteer at the school and has participated in many school functions in the short amount of time her family has been here. Miriam Abrams-Stark, her co-president, also has three children at PHDS and has lived in Providence for four years after moving from Portland, Maine. Abrams-Stark has also been involved with the PTF flower sales, wine sales, and luncheons. Both Felder and Abrams-Stark have exciting ideas for the upcoming year, including guest speakers at monthly meetings, welcoming committee for new families, renewing the room parent's system, and fund-raisers for specific items for the school.

Abrams-Stark and Felder both agree that their main goal this year is to make every parent feel welcome and to make them full partners in the school and its activities. The co-presidents are taking over from the previous PTF president, Deborah Hirschon, whose tireless efforts helped to establish a number of popular programs for the school.

FEATURE

U.S.-Israel Relations Reflect Ups, Downs of Peace Process

by Matthew Dorf

WASHINGTON (JTA) — When Yitzhak Rabin grasped Yasser Arafat's extended hand five years ago, observers from around the world tried to describe the sea change in Israeli-Palestinian relations that took place on the White House lawn.

Almost all agreed that no superlatives adequately characterized that moment in history.

Exuberant guests, including American Jewish and Arab American leaders, who gathered for the Sept. 13, 1993, signing of the Declaration of Principles bubbled with hope that negotiators had solved one of the seemingly intractable conflicts of the 20th century.

After decades of bloodshed, the Palestinians and Israelis had committed themselves to negotiate a peaceful solution to their conflict.

And they had achieved their initial agreements through direct talks without the assistance of the United States.

Five years later, the nature of the American role in the peace process has shifted dramatically — U.S. officials are actively involved in the talks and an American plan for advancing the process is on the table.

At the same time, the warming in U.S.-Israel relations that followed the 1993 agreement has chilled considerably since the peace process deadlocked some 18 months ago.

Few anticipated the dramatic impact the signing ceremony would have on this relationship. Struck in Oslo one month earlier, the Declaration of Principles laid the road map for the historic reconciliation between the Israelis and the Palestinians.

But as the hope generated by a series of Israeli-Palestinian agreements, the Israeli-Jordanian peace treaty and the launching of Israeli-Syrian peace talks eventually gave way to terrorism, assassination and stalemate, Israel's relations with the Palestinian Authority regressed — and the rocky road in the Middle East did not spare relations between Washington and Jerusalem.

Many analysts argue that there are in fact two chapters in the Oslo process: the one written by Rabin and Peres, in which Washington played the role of a friendly observer; and the sec-

ond, which began after Benjamin Netanyahu became prime minister in 1996 and the United States became directly involved.

The Oslo accords caught the Clinton administration off-guard. American officials did not learn of the agreement until after a small group of Palestinians and Israelis concluded secret talks in the Norwegian capital.

Rabin called then-U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher in August 1993, told him that "something important has developed" and asked him to meet with Peres.

Two weeks later, the accords were signed and Rabin and Clinton began a closeness that an Israeli premier and an American president had never before shared.

Rabin was like a father figure to Clinton. In meetings he was known to interrupt Clinton, treating him with a brash intimacy that shocked many veteran Israeli and American diplomats.

After Rabin was struck down by an assassin's bullet in November 1995, Clinton emerged puffy-eyed from the Oval Office to eulogize his friend in the Rose Garden.

The White House then unofficially put its weight behind Peres in the Israeli election.

After Peres lost in May 1996, one Jewish official compared the likely future to the biblical story of Joseph's dream.

But instead of seven years of good harvest followed by seven years of famine, this official speculated that the U.S. and Israel, which had just enjoyed four years of good relations, would suffer through four years of tension.

Indeed, Netanyahu's administration has been marked by periods of open strife with the White House over the peace process.

In fact, Clinton is known to have told friends that he blames Netanyahu for nearly destroying the peace process. According to one friend of the president, Clinton once became animated during a conversation and said he's not going to allow Netanyahu to scuttle an agreement that he personally signed.

But in spite of the ups and downs, which saw Clinton close the White House doors to Net-

anyahu, there is no impact on the overall relationship between the two allies, most pro-Israel activists say.

"The peace process has always been an essential ingredient of the U.S.-Israel relationship since the time of Camp David," said Howard Kohr, executive director of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, which is marking the anniversary by hosting a Capitol hill briefing on the accords.

Because America senses that something has been given and then retracted, "it's created long-term problems."

The relationship between the two allies has deteriorated since Netanyahu invited the United States to take a greater role in the peace talks.

For the first time American negotiators sat between the Palestinians and Israelis, mediating their differences. Now the parties are negotiating over an American peace plan, a far cry from the secret talks conducted directly between the Israelis and Palestinians in Oslo five years ago.

"Does that raise problematic questions? Yes. But the alternative to America not playing that role is the end of Oslo," said Rabbi David Saperstein, director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism.

Saperstein was scheduled to speak at a pro-Oslo-accords rally that has been endorsed by the Reform and Conservative movements and leaders of many other Jewish groups.

Oslo is still "a process that holds the best chance for peace in the Middle East," he said.

Of course, not everyone in the Jewish community agrees with the rally's premise.

The Zionist Organization of America recently published a scathing 52-page report of Palestinian violations of the Oslo accords.

But with negotiators on the brink of a breakthrough agreement on the transfer of additional West Bank land to the Palestinians, the rally could turn into a celebration.

Israeli and American officials in the United States have begun to make arrangements for a possible summit meeting between Clinton, Netanyahu and Arafat at the end of this month.

Both Arafat and Netanyahu plan to speak around Sept. 23, which is the opening of the U.N. General Assembly.

Scholar Wants to Dig For Lost Ark

by Douglas Davis

LONDON (JTA) — A latter-day Indiana Jones believes he has found the burial site of the Ark of the Covenant, which contains the Ten Commandments — in a part of the West Bank that Israel has already handed over to the Palestinian Authority.

Michael Sander, 58, bases his theory on satellite images, coupled with a study of ancient Egyptian papyrus documents from the British Museum in London and other accounts.

The British-born Sanders, a publisher of classical university texts who now lives in Irvine, Calif., has spent more than 25 years researching biblical history.

Now he is planning to excavate the site, where he has detected the contours of an Egyptian temple that he believes may have been built over the burial site of the biblical Ark of the Covenant.

The Ark of the Covenant — and the Ten Commandments that were inscribed at Mount Sinai around 1250 BCE — disappeared from Solomon's Temple in Jerusalem after a raid by an Egyptian king in the 10th century BCE.

It was never recovered, and its location is one of the most enduring and fascinating biblical mysteries.

Sanders believes the ark was seized by Egyptian King Shishak when Solomon's Temple was

plundered in 925 BCE, the first in a series of Egyptian raids on Jerusalem.

He says papyrus documents in the British Museum have identified an Egyptian temple at the southern end of the West Bank, beneath which the Ark may have been buried.

In 1830, the American explorer Edward Robinson walked the route that had been taken by the invading Egyptians and found ancient ruins at the village of Dhahiriya, which Sanders believes are the remains of an ancient Egyptian temple.

Jonathan Tubb, an expert on Syrian and Palestinian archaeology at the British Museum, agrees that it is "very reasonable" to suggest the Ark was looted by Shishak because that would have been the first opportunity to remove it from Solomon's Temple.

"If an Egyptian temple can be identified, it would be a great place to dig," he said. "It could solve all sorts of mysteries."

However, Sanders must overcome two hurdles before he can put together a team to search for the lost Ark.

First, he faces the bureaucratic problem of where to go for permission to dig — to the Israeli or Palestinian authorities. Second, there is a security problem: The location of the site is also a training ground for Hamas terrorists, he said.

Man Attempts to Blackmail Prime Minister's Wife

by Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM (JTA) — An Israeli man faces charges of attempting to blackmail the wife of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Shmuel Elimelech, 37, was detained recently after having telephoned the premier's office and demanding payment to prevent the publication of "embarrassing information" about Sara Netanyahu.

Only after he was arrested did police discover that what Elimelech possessed was a collection of Sara Netanyahu's third-grade notebooks. The books were found among articles that had been left in her old house in the town of Tivon and discarded by the new owners.

Elimelech, who lives in Tivon, originally demanded about \$3,000, but then settled for less than \$1,000. An officer met with him, handed him the money — and then arrested him.

Elimelech, who was released on bail, told reporters that during the negotiations he had even invited the Netanyahus for a Moroccan dinner at his home.

News At a Glance:

- The Tripartite Gold Commission is wrapping up more than five decades of work. The panel, run by the United States, Britain and France, has finished distributing the 336.5 tons of gold Nazi Germany looted from European countries and will turn its archives over for storage to the French Foreign Ministry. The World Jewish Congress has been pressing the commission to open its archives in hopes that the documents may shed light on how much of the gold was stolen from individuals.

- Israel said it is planning a joint naval exercise with Turkey and would invite Egypt and Jordan to participate. The move, announced during Turkish premier Mesut Yilmaz's visit to Israel, comes after the two countries held joint exercises in January. Arab states called the earlier exercises an act of aggression.

- The war crimes trial of a man who headed the Lithuanian secret police during World War II is scheduled to resume in the capital of Vilnius. The trial of Aleksandras Lileikis, 91, has already been postponed three times this year. In 1996, Lileikis was stripped of his U.S. citizenship for lying about his wartime activities. Lithuania created a commission to investigate war crimes committed in the Baltic nation during the Nazi and Soviet occupations. The commission will be headed by Julius Smulkstys, who was named government liaison to the Jewish community in June.

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Russian Jews Weigh Emigration Amid Economic Crisis

by Lev Krichevsky

MOSCOW (JTA) — Irina Meerzon knows she is in financial trouble.

The retired accountant's pension, which had been the equivalent of \$60 per month as recently as mid-August, is now worth roughly \$20 as a result of the ruble's free fall — in the same time period, the prices of staple goods have risen 50 to 60 percent.

"I always had to count every penny," the 74-year-old woman said, "but now I'm virtually on the verge of poverty."

Roman Libin, 34, who published a small advertising magazine for furniture wholesalers, said he had to go out of business recently because "no one needs now what I've been doing for the last four years."

Like other Russians, Jews here are watching with dismay as the country endures yet another period of chaos, perhaps the most serious crisis since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991.

But, with an eye on what has historically happened here when Russia faces economic and political uncertainty, Russian Jews are watching the unfolding events with more uncertainty and fear than their neighbors.

With an increasing number of Jews concerned about recent events leading to a possible outbreak of anti-Semitism, another exodus of Russian Jews appears to be possible, and the crisis is already threatening the Russian Jewish communal structure that has been set up since the fall of communism.

In mid-August, the Russian government stopped trying to prop up the ruble. In less than two months, the currency, which was relatively stable during the past two years, plunged by about 300 percent. And as is usually the case when inflation skyrockets, consumers have been especially hard-hit.

In the fallout that ensued, the young, reformist Prime Minister Sergei Kiriyenko resigned, and the country's Parliament has moved slowly to agree on a new candidate for the premiership. Meanwhile, rumors continue to swirl about the ongoing deterioration of the health and mental competence of President Boris Yeltsin.

All of which has Russian Jews, in particular, feeling anxious.

Sources at the Israeli Embassy in Moscow said recently there has been a flurry of inquiries in recent days about immigration visas.

Yuri Teitelbaum, a Jewish activist in Krasnodar, said most of those who have been emigrating from the southern Russian region were either pensioners or younger Jews. Now, he said, Jews worried about providing for and protecting their families are likely to consider leaving Russia.

Though there has not been an increase in the number of

actual emigrants, some are predicting that emigration — to Israel and to Germany — could skyrocket if the economic and political situations continue to deteriorate.

Israel has begun preparations for a possible wave of Russian immigrants.

"In October, we will have long lines in our office," said a senior Jewish Agency for Israel official in Russia.

If the effects on aliyah are not yet clear, the financial crisis is already affecting Jewish domestic charities.

The Russian Jewish Congress, a group of local Jewish entrepreneurs and financiers that has spent millions of dollars in the past two years on various communal projects, is likely to cut its budget substantially.

Vladimir Goussinsky, the multimillionaire businessman who is president of the congress, told delegates at the group's biennial convention in Moscow recently that the coming months will be a "tough period" for the organization.

In addition to the country's chaos, all of the mechanisms that have triggered previous outbreaks of Russian anti-Semitism are in place. During the past several years, many Jews, of whom Goussinsky is the most well-known, have become prominent members of Russia's market economy.

Several members of recent Russian Cabinets have had Jewish ancestry. In the last Cabinet, for instance, Kiriyenko and his first deputy Boris Nemtsov were half-Jewish and Economics Minister Yakov Urinson and the chief presidential adviser on economic affairs, Alexander Livshitz, were Jewish.

Jewish leaders fear that if the situation does not improve quickly, some Russians will hold Jews responsible.

So far, this has not occurred. "Thank G-d, no one now is blaming Jews for what is going on," said Alexander Osovtsov, executive vice president of the Russian Jewish Congress.

Though the Kremlin has repeatedly promised to stick to reforms, many Jews fear that early elections could spell trouble.

"Every scenario now seems possible," one Jewish activist said. "Jews fear that using this turmoil, the Communists may come to power and the country will change its course," said Evgeniya Lvova, a Jewish leader in St. Petersburg.

Parliamentary elections are scheduled for December 1999, and presidential elections for 2000.

"If the situation does not stabilize in two weeks, people will begin leaving the country in bigger numbers than usual," said Lvova.

"The longer the situation remains uncertain, the more likely there will be an outburst of social discontent."

Polish Extremists Seize Control Over Auschwitz Crosses

by Ruth E. Gruber

ROME (JTA) — The crisis over the forest of crosses at the site of Auschwitz has demonstrated that the fight for the memory of the former death camp is far from over.

But the struggle has also taken on deep political, religious and national overtones that have exposed several fault lines in modern Poland.

Extremists have seized control of the debate, hobbling efforts by both the Roman Catholic Church and the government to defuse the situation and damaging Poland's image abroad.

Since the end of July, Roman Catholic fundamentalists have erected more than 200 crosses to commemorate the 152 Polish Catholics who were killed at Auschwitz — and to "defend" a much larger cross that was used by Polish-born Pope John Paul II during a mass at Birkenau in 1979, and erected outside Auschwitz 10 years ago.

The cross affair has given a prominent public platform to virulent anti-Semites normally on the fringe of political life.

The two leaders of the campaign to put up the crosses, Kazimierz Switon and Mieczyslaw Janosz, "use the affair for self-promotion and to spread ethnic hatred," Stanislaw Krajewski, a board member of the Union of Jewish Communities in Poland, told JTA in a telephone interview from Warsaw.

News reports, he said, quoted Janosz as saying that Jews controlled Poland, the government,

the media, and the courts, and that the Mossad had infiltrated the country. He was even quoted as calling the Polish church hierarchy who have condemned the crosses "Jewish bishops."

Some 3.5 million Jews lived in Poland before World War II. More than 3 million were murdered in the Holocaust. Only about 10,000 to 15,000 Jews live in Poland today.

The standoff has also pitted Catholic radicals against the mainstream Catholic church in what Krajewski described as a "religious war."

This was exemplified by the fact that a German priest from the Society of St. Pius X — right-wing followers of French-born Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre, who was excommunicated in 1988 for refusing to accept the reforms of the Second Vatican Council — blessed the crosses and attacked Polish bishops.

Krajewski said it might take direct intervention by the pope himself to move a roughly 25-foot-high cross — the so-called papal cross — that is at the center of mounting Catholic-Jewish tensions.

Jewish and Israeli organizations, as well as some Polish figures, have called for the removal of all crosses and religious symbols at Auschwitz, including the papal cross.

Poland's Roman Catholic hi-

erarchy and the Polish government have condemned the erection of the smaller crosses and called for their removal, but both have stated that they believe that the papal cross should remain in place. So far, the pope has remained silent on the issue.

Krajewski, noted, however, that divisions on how to approach the cross issue have also emerged within Poland's Jewish community.

Members of the board of the Union of Jewish Community distanced themselves from a hard-line pronouncement by Chief Rabbi Menachem Joskowicz last month. Joskowicz, himself an Auschwitz survivor, declared that the presence of any cross prohibits Jews from praying at Auschwitz; one cross, he said, was as bad as 1,000 crosses.

Krajewski faulted some Jews for failing to recognize that even though 90 percent of the 1.5 million people killed at Auschwitz were Jews, Polish Catholics, too, have a right to consider Auschwitz a symbol of Nazi persecution and to mourn the thousands of Poles who were murdered there.

Poles, he said, have the impression that Jews ignore the fact that Poles also were killed at Auschwitz. "Defending the cross" has been made into a symbol of Poles' right to commemorate these victims.

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Governor and Mrs. Lincoln Almond

FEATURE

Senator Urges U.S. to Seek Extradition of Arab Terrorists

by Julia Goldman

NEW YORK (JTA) — A leading U.S. senator has joined with the parents of terror victims in urging Washington to press for the extradition of Palestinians suspected of killing 11 American citizens.

Sen. Alfonse D'Amato (R-N.Y.) said that the United States should set a deadline for Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat to turn over 12 Palestinians for trial here.

Failure to comply should result in the loss of U.S. financial aid to the Palestinian Authority, D'Amato said at a Sept. 8 news conference organized by the Zionist Organization of America.

The news conference took place outside a federal building in lower Manhattan, only blocks from the courthouse where two suspected terrorists will be tried for the Aug. 7 bombings of American embassies in Kenya and Tanzania. Twelve U.S. citizens were among the more than 250 people killed in the explosions.

The anti-terrorism act of 1996 permits the prosecution on American soil of individuals who allegedly kill U.S. citizens abroad.

D'Amato announced that he would send a letter to Secretary of State Madeleine Albright demanding that she seek action to extradite and try Palestinians identified by the Israeli government as having been involved in the deaths of American citizens during the past four years.

Also speaking at the news conference were Stephen Flatow, Joyce Boim and Vicki Eisenfeld, the parents of three of the Americans killed in terrorist attacks.

The news conference attracted some local media coverage and a few curious passersby — an illustration, some in attendance said, of the lack of attention the call for U.S. prosecution of Palestinian terrorists has generated.

But in May, the House of Representatives unanimously supported, in a vote of 406-0, a bipartisan resolution calling on President Clinton to address the matter.

Earlier that month, 62 congressional representatives sent a letter to Attorney General Janet Reno calling on the Justice Department to "investigate, indict, and prosecute any individual who kills, attempts to kill, or engages in a conspiracy to kill a U.S. national in a foreign country pursuant of a terrorist act."

D'Amato's involvement in the cause follows his successful campaign on behalf of Holocaust survivors to wrest payment from Swiss banks and an Italian insurance firm. His appearance at the news conference also comes amid his re-election campaign.

Noting that the Palestinian Authority receives \$100 million in U.S. aid annually, D'Amato said it was "not acceptable" to allow Arafat "to continue business as usual."

The Shofar Ten

We sound the shofar each weekday for an entire month (except Shabbat) in order to prepare ourselves for the Day of Judgment, Rosh Hashanah. Jews celebrate Rosh Hashanah as the Jewish New Year by the sounding of the shofar. Be sure to hear the shofar blown this year on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Practice blowing your shofar so that you can help others fulfill this important mitzvah.

The ten messages of the shofar as explained by Rav Saadlah Gaon

1. When a new king begins to rule, a proclamation is issued, accompanied by trumpet blasts. Every year on that day his rule is again proclaimed with the sound of a trumpet.

The creation of the world was completed on Rosh Hashanah, and Hashem's rule of the world began. Every year on that day we proclaim His rule with the shofar's blast.

2. When a king issues a decree, the horns blow and a warning is issued. The Ten Days of Teshuvah (Repentance) begin on Rosh Hashanah. Improve your ways! — we are warned, and as this warning is issued, the shofar flows.

3. When we received the Torah on the slopes of Har Sinai, the sound of the shofar filled the air.

On Rosh Hashanah, we dedicate ourselves to Torah life again, as the sound of the shofar fills the air as it did when

were received the Torah on Mount Sinai.

4. The words of our prophets of old rang out like a shofar blast. We remind ourselves of their corrective words of reproof



when we hear the shofar blast.

5. Our enemies blew on their trumpets when they destroyed our Holy Temple in Yerushalayim — the Bet Hamikdash.

When we blow the shofar on Rosh Hashanah, we pray the New Year will bring the rebuilding of the Bet Hamikdash.

6. At the Akeidah, Yitzchak willingly offered himself as a

sacrifice, as Hashem commanded, but at the last minute he was replaced by a ram.

On Rosh Hashanah we blow on a ram's horn to remind ourselves — and Hashem — of our forefathers' loyal devotion.

7. Could a shofar be blown in a city, and the people not tremble with fright? (Amos 3:6) The shofar makes us tremble in fear of Hashem's judgment and awakens us to better our ways during the coming year.

8. Near is the great day of (judgment by) Hashem; near and rapidly approaching — a day of the shofar and shouting. (Zefaniah 1:14, 16)

The Rosh Hashanah shofar reminds us of the final day of judgment.

9. "It will be on that day, the great shofar will be sounded, and the lost will come from the land of Ashur, and the rejected from Egyptland." (Yishayahu 27:13)

The sound of the shofar reminds us of Mashiach's great horn — we hope and pray it be sounded this year to gather all the Jews scattered about the globe.

10. The inhabitants of the dust will arise... when the shofar will be heard. (Yishayahu 18:3)

The shofar reminds us of the day of *Techiyas Hameisim*, when the dead will arise from their sleep, and Mashiach will redeem us.

Costa Rican Ambassador Discusses His Jewish Roots

WASHINGTON — Jaime Darembum's father could not move to the United States because of American immigration quotas.

Instead, he settled in Costa Rica, one of the few Latin American countries that granted visas to Jews and others fleeing Europe on the eve of World War II.

Now, Darembum, the first Jew to serve as Costa Rica's ambassador to the United States, sees his service here as an important way to give back to his country, which became a safe haven for many Jews.

"For my wife and for myself, it was a way of giving back to the country that was so generous and hospitable to our parents and grandparents," Darembum said in a recent interview here.

Darembum, 57, was appointed in May to be ambassador by newly elected President Miguel Angel Rodriguez. The two men have been friends since high school and went to law school together. And for the last 12 years, Darembum has served as Rodriguez' foreign policy adviser, primarily on issues dealing with the United States.

Coming to Washington as his country's representative seems natural for Darembum, who has many ties to the United States.

His paternal grandfather came to New York early in the century to work as a tailor before moving back to Poland.

Darembum himself traveled to the United States many times with his father, who came on business and would also take his son to Manhattan's Lower East Side to hear socialist speeches and see Yiddish plays. Darembum is fluent in Yiddish.

Later, having received several fellowships, including a Fulbright, Darembum came to the United States in the 1960s to study at Tufts and Harvard universities. He later worked in Washington as an economist at the International Monetary Fund for three years.

Darembum and most of the 3,500-strong Jewish community in Costa Rica were raised in traditional homes and schools. Today, the mainstream of the Jewish community is modern Orthodox, said Darembum, who maintains a kosher home.

The Costa Rican Jewish community, which is centered in the capital of San Jose, was started in the late 1920s and early 1930s by immigrants who came from the small shtetls of Poland.

Costa Rica, a nation of 3.5 million people that is overwhelmingly Catholic, also has had good relations with Israel. It was one of the first nations to recognize the Jewish state in 1948, and was the first country to establish its embassy in Jerusalem. The only other country is El Salvador.

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Five Years Later... What Happened to The Declaration of Principles

by Mitchell Danow

NEW YORK (JTA) — The following is a time line of key events since the Israeli-Palestinian peace process was launched five years ago on the White House lawn. The period was marked by at least 15 bombings of Israeli targets by Palestinian terrorists — as well as numerous drive-by shootings and stabbings of Israelis — several of which are included here:

- Sept. 13, 1993 — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasser Arafat exchange an historic handshake on the White House lawn as the two sides sign the Declaration of Principles, a timetable for launching Palestinian self-rule in the Gaza Strip and West Bank.

- May 14, 1994 — Israel and the PLO sign the Cairo Agreement for establishing self-rule in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho. Jericho comes under self-rule on May 13. Israel completes its withdrawal from Gaza on May 18.

- Sept. 28, 1995 — Rabin and Arafat sign the Interim Agreement, which sets the stage for an Israeli withdrawal from six West Bank towns.

- Nov. 4, 1995 — Yitzhak Rabin is assassinated by Yigal Amir, a 25-year-old religious Jewish law student, after a Tel Aviv peace rally. Shimon Peres steps in as prime minister.

- Jan. 20, 1996 — Palestinians in the territories vote for the first time to elect an 88-member legislative body. Arafat is elected leader of the Palestinian Council with 90 percent of the vote.

- Feb. 25 to March 4, 1996 — Israel is left reeling by a series of Hamas suicide attacks in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Ashkelon that claim 59 innocent lives and wound some 220 others.

- May 29, 1996 — Israelis narrowly elect Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu as prime minister.

- June 22 and 23, 1996 — Egypt hosts the first Arab League summit in six years to develop a united front against the new Netanyahu government's approach to the peace process.

- Sept. 4, 1996 — Netanyahu and Arafat hold their first meeting. Both sides agree to discussions on redeployment from most of Hebron, the last West

Bank town to be turned over to the Palestinians.

- Sept. 25, 1996 — Palestinian rioting erupts in response to the opening of a new entrance to an ancient tunnel alongside the Temple Mount in Jerusalem's Old City. In three days of violence, 15 Israelis and 61 Palestinians are killed. Hundreds are wounded.

- Oct. 1 and 2, 1996 — Netanyahu, Arafat and Jordan's King Hussein attend an emergency summit in Washington after the previous week's violence. The summit ends with an agreement for Israel and the Palestinians to launch intensive discussions aimed at reaching an agreement on Hebron.

- Jan. 14 and 15, 1997 — Netanyahu and Arafat reach the Hebron Agreement during a late-night summit held at the Erez Crossing separating Israel from the Gaza Strip.

- Jan. 19, 1997 — Arafat is greeted by thousands of cheering Palestinians when he returns to Hebron for the first time in 30 years.

- Feb. 9, 1997 — Netanyahu and Arafat meet at the Erez Crossing to discuss the next stages of the peace process.

- Feb. 11, 1997 — Israel releases 31 Palestinian female prisoners, among them some who had been convicted of killing Israelis. The move marks the second time, after the Hebron redeployment, that the Netanyahu government acts to fulfill clauses of the Interim Agreement.

- March 18, 1997 — Israeli bulldozers begin construction work for the new Jewish neighborhood of Har Homa in eastern Jerusalem. The Palestinian Authority soon suspends negotiations with Israel.

- March 21, 1997 — Three days after the start of construction at Har Homa, a Hamas suicide bomber detonates an explosion at the Cafe Apropro in central Tel Aviv, killing 3 Israelis and wounding 47 others.

- July 30, 1997 — Two suicide bombers strike in the Mahane Yehuda open-air market in Jerusalem, claiming 16 victims and wounding 170 others.

- Aug. 20 and 21, 1997 — Arafat holds "National Unity Conference," during which he embraces political leaders of Hamas and Islamic Jihad. Israeli officials question Arafat's com-

mitment to cracking down on terrorists.

- Sept. 4, 1997 — Three suicide bombers detonate near-simultaneous explosions at the Ben Yehuda pedestrian mall in downtown Jerusalem, killing five and wounding more than 190.

- Sept. 7, 1997 — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu tells a Cabinet meeting that Israel will not "follow the normal course of the Interim Agreement" because of the clear "violations on the part of the Palestinian Authority."

- Sept. 10, 1997 — U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright makes her first visit to the Middle East since becoming America's top diplomat in January. After leaving Jerusalem three days later, Albright admits that she made little progress in her meetings with Israeli and Palestinian officials. She states that she will not return to the region just to "tread water."

- Oct. 1, 1997 — Israel frees Hamas spiritual leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin. Five days later, Yassin returns to a hero's welcome in Gaza.

- Oct. 7, 1997 — For the first time since the furor erupted over Har Homa, Israeli and Palestinian negotiators meet to discuss implementing portions of the Interim Agreement — including a safe-passage route, an airport and seaport in Gaza and the return of Palestinian prisoners. None of the issues have yet been resolved.

- Oct. 8, 1997 — Netanyahu and Arafat hold a pre-dawn meeting at the Erez Crossing. The two have not met since.

- Jan. 19, 1998 — Netanyahu begins a three-day visit to Washington. His meeting with President Clinton is overshadowed by a breaking scandal involving former White House intern Monica Lewinsky. Reports in the Arab press allege that the sex scandal was a Zionist plot aimed at deflecting Clinton's attention from the stalemated peace process.

- May 4 and 5, 1998 — Albright holds separate meetings in London with Netanyahu

(Continued on Page 19)

Scholar Satloff

(Continued from Page 3)

in the Knesset great power, he went on to examine the Israeli reaction to the new system.

"Half of Israel thinks it works, and half thinks it doesn't," he said. "The Israelis will decide what kind of government they really want."

Next, Satloff moved through the triumphs and sorrows that have characterized aliyah, or emigration of Jews to Israel.

"Fifty years ago, 600,000 Jews lived in Israel," he said. "That was a huge increase over the 25,000 Jews who had lived there 100 years ago. Today, there are 5 million Jews in Israel. That means more than one in every three Jews in the world lives in Israel. That's a huge achievement."

That influx, said Satloff, is continually reshaping the nation.

"Immigration is only half the battle," he said. "It's a matter of what you do once you get there. In Israel, there are more Ph.D.s per capita than anywhere else in the world, and there are also more high-tech companies."

Still, said Satloff, hundreds of thousands of Israeli immigrants face poverty and prejudice, and their problems have dramatically affected Israel's religious versus secular debate.

Fifty years ago, said Satloff, Ben-Gurion made a bargain with the ultra-Orthodox, telling the then-tiny minority that secular Israelis who served in the army would run the country while the religious would run the family.

"At present, there are upwards of 50,000 religious Jews who do not serve in the army, and that has led to growing resentment," said Satloff. "The secret is that the religious parties have gotten very good in politics. There are more members of Knesset from religious parties than there are from Likud."

Satloff went on to show how a religious party such as Shas might gain support from a poor but largely secular family.

"If you are a Sephardi living in a shantytown, the Shas party can pick up all of your children at 7 a.m., feed them breakfast and lunch, and bring them back at 7:30 p.m.," he said. "At a regu-

lar public school, you have to buy your own food and pay extra for after-school programs. If you're in that situation, you'd have to be crazy not to vote for Shas."

That, said Satloff, is why the religious parties are so popular.

"About 90 percent of Shas supporters go to soccer matches on Saturday afternoon," he said. "Until the government is able to solve some of the family's problems, the religious parties will be very popular."

Another issue, the search for peace, has met with more success than is generally perceived, said Satloff.

"In the last 50 years, Israel has made peace with two of its four neighbors," he said. "The struggle with the Palestinians is ongoing, but the rhetoric has changed."

According to Satloff, Israel has relations with 175 countries.

"They told me they do not have enough diplomats to send overseas," he said.

Relations with the diaspora, also a concern of Israel's founders, will become a great issue over the next 50 years, said Satloff.

Diaspora support for Israel has become divided by personal and political concerns, he said.

"You can't just send a former general around anymore and expect people to open their wallets," he said. "American Jews want to know where their money is going, and they want a much greater proportion of it to stay at home."

Satloff finished by presenting the results of a survey that had been given to Israeli citizens.

Those polled were asked whether Israel would exist in 60 years, and only 66 percent said that they were sure that it would.

"There is a long list of challenges ahead, and at the end, we must convince that last third," he said.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

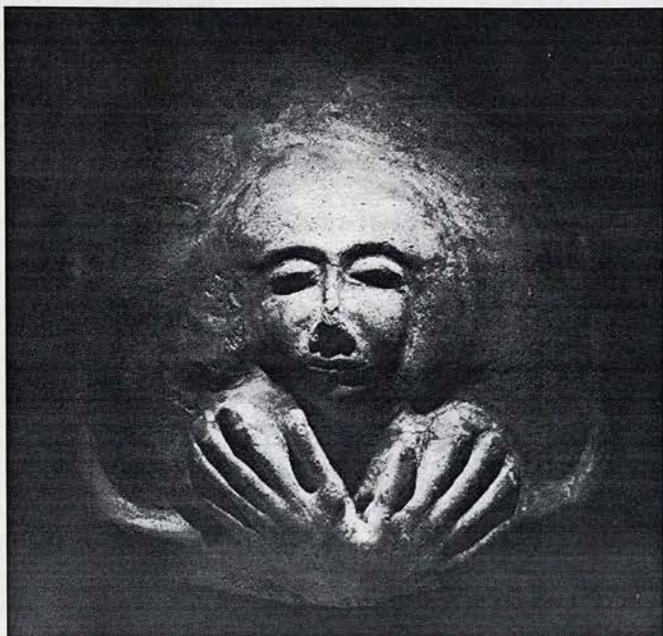
Canaan And Ancient Israel Exhibition

The Canaan and Ancient Israel gallery at the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology opens Oct. 18.

The ground-breaking Canaan and Ancient Israel gallery is the first major North American exhibit dedicated to the archaeology of ancient Israel and neighboring lands. The all-new, permanent exhibition features more than 500 rare ancient artifacts dating from circa 3000 to 500 BCE, principally excavated by University of Pennsylvania Museum archaeologists in Israel, Jordan, and Lebanon.

Canaan and Ancient Israel features a wealth of ancient artifacts offering insight into kinship, culture, and everyday life as it evolved in the Bible lands through several millennia. From pottery and statuary to inscribed jar handles and seals, weapons and weights to personal objects of gold, ivory and semi-precious stones to large and compelling faces modeled on ancient clay sarcophagi, the archaeological record speaks volumes about the ancient peoples — the Israelites and Canaanites, Philistines, Phoenicians and others — who lived and developed their identities in the land between powerful and influential Egypt and Mesopotamia.

For more information about the museum, call (215) 898-4000. For more information about Philadelphia, call the Philadelphia Visitors Center at (800) 537-7676 or visit our website <www.libertynet.org/phila-visitor>.



NATURALISTIC COFFIN LID from the site of Beth Shean, Israel, circa 1175 B.C.E.

Unveiling of Restored Grand Lobby at PPAC

The 1998-1999 season at the Providence Performing Arts Center will begin in grand style as the theater opens its doors to the public on Sept. 19 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The magnificent, newly restored Grand Lobby will be unveiled that day, and there will be special theater tours at 11 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m. Subscriptions, and tickets to most individual shows in the upcoming season will be on sale at the box office window and by calling 421-ARTS. Tickets for most shows will also be available through Ticketmaster.

This open house provides an ideal opportunity for patrons who may be considering a se-

ries package to come in and check out seat locations available for subscription seating. Theater staff will be on hand to assist visitors and patrons with any questions they may have about the theater or shows in the new season.

WSNE's Chuck Hinman of the popular "Jones and Joan" morning show will be on hand from 10 a.m. to noon to meet and greet patrons and there will be ticket drawings for "Gullah Gullah Island Live" coming to the theater for two shows on Sept. 26.

There will be complimentary refreshments for visitors. All open house activities are free and open to the public.

Shakespeare's 'Cymbeline' at Leeds Theatre

Shakespeare's "Cymbeline" will be presented by Brown University Theatre, Sept. 24 to 27 and Oct. 1 to 4 in Leeds Theatre at 8 p.m. The Oct. 4 production will be a 3 p.m. matinee only.

Renaissance romance, Jacobean skullduggery and Roman mythology collide in this little-known tale of the bard, complete with suffering lovers, evil royals, lost infants, invading armies, and a headless corpse!

Under the direction of Mark Cohen, the cast includes Adam Arian, Alison Cimmet, David Edison, Gregory Howe, Noam Katz, Norm Lee, T.J. Morton, Katharine Powell, Rebecca White, Brooks Witter, and Chi-Wang Yang.

Tickets are available at the Leeds Theater box office, 77 Waterman St., Providence. Ticket prices are \$13 general admission, \$9 for senior citizens (65 and over), and Brown faculty/staff, and \$5 for students. Phone reservations are accepted with VISA/Mastercard. Box office hours are Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and one hour before curtain on the evenings of performance. For more information or to make reservations, call 863-2838.

Ocean State Chamber Orchestra Celebrates 1998-99 Season

The Ocean State Chamber Orchestra kicks off its eighth season on Oct. 3 at 8 p.m. at St. Martin's Church, 50 Orchard St., Providence.

The chamber orchestra will be performing pieces by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Johann Sebastian Bach, Ralph Vaughn Williams, and Edvard Greig.

Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$9 for students, and children under the age of 12 are invited to attend free of charge. For more information, call 421-8408. The audience is invited to a reception following the concert.



Members of the Ocean State Chamber Orchestra

1998/1999 City Children's Series Opens on Sept. 26

Tickets are on sale now for two performances of "Gullah Gullah Island Live" at the Providence Performing Arts Center on Sept. 26 at 1 and 4 p.m. This touring production, based on the popular television series which airs in the Nick Jr. block on Nickelodeon, opens the 1998/1999 City Children's Series. Ticket prices are \$8.50, \$10.50 and \$12.50 and may be ordered from the Performing Arts Center box office by calling 421-ARTS; tickets are also available through Ticketmaster locations. For group rates and information, call 421-2997, ext. 3121.

"Gullah Gullah Island Live"

marks the first live show originating from Nick Jr., Nickelodeon's preschool programming block. "Gullah Gullah Island," set off the coast of South Carolina, features native Gullah hosts Ron and Natalie Daise. The lovable yellow frog Binyah Binyah Polliwog also joins the Daises as they welcome preschoolers to their "island home" for participatory songs, stories and games that engage young viewers and guide them through everyday life lessons. The live performance mirrors the television show by engaging the theater audience with popular music, stories and gameplay from the show.



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Trinity Rep's Upcoming Performances

"Threepenny Opera," being held now through Oct. 11. Join the musical manhunt through London's underworld for the dazzling and dangerous Mack the Knife.

"Nine Armenians," begins Sept. 25 and runs through Nov. 8. Join an Armenian American family as they search for the meaning in the lives of their ancestors.

Call 351-4242 for tickets.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Pumpkin Championship at Castellucci Farm

The fifth annual Rhode Island State Giant Pumpkin Championship will be held on Oct. 10 at Castellucci Farm on Harris Road in Smithfield. Weigh-off day will start at 10 a.m. with the unloading of the biggest pumpkins in the state of Rhode Island. The weigh-off is set for 1 p.m. There will be pumpkin painting for the kids along with food and refreshments in a beautiful farm setting. Bring the whole family to see the goats, sheep, chickens and rabbits along with the biggest pumpkins you've ever seen. The purpose of this event is to determine the largest pumpkin grown in the state for 1998 and to crown a Rhode Island champion. A new Rhode Island record was set in 1997 by John Castellucci with a 724-pound pumpkin. The New England record is 929 pounds and the world record is 1,061 pounds.

To get to Castellucci Farm, take Route 295 to Exit 8A (Route 7 South/No. Providence), follow Route 7 for a 1/2 mile to Harris Road on left. Follow Harris Road for 1 mile to Castellucci Farm and the Rhode Island Giant Pumpkin Championship. Bring your children for a day of enjoyment.

Anyone interested in competing in this year's event, or receiving additional information, should contact Don Langevin at (508) 222-9069 at night and on weekends.

Roger Williams Park Zoo Hosts Teddy Bear Rally

On Sept. 26, Roger Williams Park Zoo is hosting its ninth annual Teddy Bear Rally. This year's celebration honors the zoo's moon bears, George and Gracie, as well as the zoo's newest resident bear, Triton, a 10-month-old polar bear cub.

Children are invited to bring their own bear to the zoo for this special celebration. Activities, which are free to the public with regular zoo admission, include a musical Teddy Bear Jamboree, honey demonstration, and scavenger hunt. A host of costumed bear friends including the Honey Dew Bear and the

Moon bear are also scheduled to join in the festivities.

For bears needing special TLC, zoo "vets" and orderlies will be available for checkups and minor surgeries in a customized M*A*S*H unit. In addition, zoo staff will host polar bear talks in the Meller-Danforth Education Center.

The zoo is open every day from 9 to 5 p.m. Teddy Bear Rally activities take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Zoo admission is \$6 for adults; children 3 to 12 and seniors are \$3.50; children under 3 are free. For more information, call 785-3510.

PPAC Announces Their 1998-1999 Broadway Series

"Riverdance," on Sept. 30 through Oct. 11.

"Camelot," starring Robert Goulet, on Oct. 13 through the 18.

"Show Boat," on Nov. 20 through Dec. 13.

"Victor Victoria," starring Toni Tennille, on Jan. 26 to 31, 1999.

Call 421-ARTS or 331-2211 for ticket information.

Circus Maximus Coming to Town

Palestine Shrine presents the all new 1998 Circus Maximus. This annual event will be held from Sept. 24 through 27 at Quonset Point/Davisville, Route 1, North Kings-town. Circus maximum features wild animal performance, clowns, jugglers, acrobats, magicians and children's activities including pony rides, elephant rides and moon rides. Circus stars from around the world will be presented.

Show times and prices are as follows:

Sept. 24 and 25 shows at 1:30 and 7:30 p.m., Sept. 26 at 1:30 and 7:30 p.m. and Sept. 27 at

1:30 and 5 p.m. Adult admission is \$10; children ages 3 to 12, \$6; children under 3 are free.

Tickets may be obtained by calling 941-5301. Advance tickets will be available at the Shrine Circus booth at the Warwick Mall on July 18, 25 and Aug. 1 from noon to closing.

Gift Giving is Easy When You Use Your Imagination

Kimberly Ann Orlandi
Herald Editor

Are you tired of receiving flowers for your anniversary, only to have them die within 24-hours? Or a box of chocolates that you're not supposed to eat because you're on a diet, but can't throw away because you don't want to waste them? Forget the traditional gifts of cards, flowers, candy, or the tie that just sits in the closet waiting for someone to wear. When choosing a gift for that special someone, be creative. Express your feelings through music, and have a song written for you and your loved one.

That is the premise of a new business run by husband and wife team, Matt Goldman and Charlene Korza of Massachusetts. "Your Song," puts your words, feelings and experiences to music to create a personalized song for any occasion.

Since its inception in March 1998, the business, according to Korza, has just taken off.

"It's amazing," said Korza. "We were worried at first that there would be no market for us, but that fear has been eased quite a bit."

"Over the past year, I've written personalized songs for family and friends, and that evolved into the idea for our company," said Goldman.

The idea first materialized when he and Korza were planning their own wedding in February 1998. A self-employed DJ, Goldman specialized in weddings for more than 15 years, and yet both he and Korza found it an impossibility to pick out their "special song" for their wedding.

"It's such a monumental task," said Goldman. "Something that the two of you will remember for the rest of your lives, so it should be special and unique."

With that in mind, Goldman set out to write his new bride her own song to which Korza and her father walked down the aisle. According to both Goldman and Korza, the traditional top 40's songs are fine for some, but they are often overused. "Your Song" gives the consumer the opportunity to have something special designed especially for them.

Generally, Korza writes the lyrics for the songs and Goldman writes the music, but they often reverse roles depending upon the needs of their customer. Each song is written with specific details in mind using a guitar, drum, bass, keyboards and other effects through a synthesizer.

"Let's face it," said Goldman, "these popular songs are about general subjects, so there's no way they can pertain to a particular family or wedding situation."

The first song he and his wife wrote was a slow "first dance" song for a wedding. The song received such a tremendous response for the customer's family and friends, that it sparked other songs to follow.

"We wrote a song for a woman on her 70th birthday who enjoyed traveling. She had had a problem with mice in her basement and her nickname was Munchkin because she was so short. So the lyrics incorporated all of that and referred to her as a traveling Muncie, all in good fun of course," laughs Goldman.

All of the personal information is provided to Goldman and Korza through a questionnaire filled out by the customers, which gives them the information they need to personalize each song. Customers then choose the musical style (country, rock, pop) for their song. Each song is recorded in Goldman's recording studio and

transferred onto a high-quality compact disk or cassette. The song lyrics are presented on a fabric paper, which is suitable for framing, and wrapped along with the cassette or compact disk.

Goldman and Korza met on Feb. 13, 1992, Friday the Thirteenth, while he was playing at a lounge. He tells a romantic story of how he saw her across the smoke-filled room, and from there the two were inseparable. They were married six years later to the day, and opened their business one month later. Like most couples who live and work together, Korza said it took some getting used to, but that they both work off of each other's energy and creativity to write songs.

"The biggest adjustment for me was now being self-employed and finding the motivation to get up in the morning and work at home," said Korza. "Matt had an advantage in that respect."

Goldman and Korza will write songs for any occasion — weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, bat and bar mitzvah. What is unique about "Your Song" is the fact that many of the songs are written from scratch — creating original music and lyrics for each customer. An original custom-cut package will cost \$195. You may also choose from a variety of pre-written songs and then have personalized lyrics added, which costs \$125.

"This is a less adventurous approach, but customers still find it sentimentally rewarding," said Korza. "All of our songs are one-of-a-kind, and they will become lasting keepsakes for family and friends. It's a wonderful way to create unique and special memories."

For more information about "Your Song," call Matt or Charlene at (800) 559-4020.

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OBITUARIES

ETTA BIGNEY
BOCA RATON — Etta Bigney, 89, of Boca Raton, Fla., died Sept. 11 at Boca Community Hospital in Florida. She was the wife of the late Benjamin Bigney.

Born in Russia, a daughter of the late Israel and Hannah (Kuzulin) Slutsky, she lived in Florida 20 years, previously living in Providence, and in Cranston for 16 years.

She was a graduate of the former Walker School of Drama and had taught drama at her home in Cranston. She was a past Matron of the Hope Link, a member of Hadassah and a member of the Women's Association of the Jewish Home for Aged.

She leaves one daughter, Shirley Friedman of Providence; two sons, Paul Bigney of Providence, and Arnold Bigney of Manahawken, N.J.; one sister, Dora Seay of Worcester; eight grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held Sept. 13 at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Post Road, Warwick.

HARRY LEIBOWITZ

FALL RIVER — Harry Leibowitz, 82, of 58 Warburton St., Fall River, died Sept. 11 at the Charlton Memorial Hospital. He was the husband of Sylvia (Tauber) Goldberg-Leibowitz and the late Bessie (Lincoln) Leibowitz. He was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., and moved to

Fall River 50 years ago.

He owned and operated Harry's Restaurant from 1954 until his retirement in 1982.

He was a member of the board of directors of Temple Beth-El. For 50 years, he organized blood drives for the American Red Cross. He was a past commander of the Jewish War Veterans Post #168 and started the "Classmates Today — Neighbors Tomorrow" program for the Jewish War Veterans. He was a member of the Watuppa Masonic Lodge and a 32nd degree Mason. He was also a member of the Jewish Community Council, B'nai B'rith, the Fall River Jewish Home for the Aged, Jewish Friendship Club, and Fall River Chamber of Commerce.

He served as a First Class Petty Officer in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He was also a member and instructor of the U.S. Naval Reserves.

Besides his wife, he is survived by two daughters, Judith Friedman of Hingham, Mass., and Karen Silken of Newton, Mass.; two stepsons, Barton Goldberg of Somerset, Mass., and Richard Goldberg of Short Hills, N.J.; a stepdaughter, Diane Friedgut of Israel; a brother Martin Levine of Edison, N.J.; a sister-in-law, Marion Lincoln of Fall River; four grandchildren; and many stepgrandchildren and stepgreat-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Sept. 13 at Temple Beth El, 385 High St., Fall River, Mass. Burial was in Hebrew Cemetery, Fall River. Arrangements were by

the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

JULIA MARGOLIS

NEW BEDFORD — Julia Margolis of the New Bedford Jewish Convalescent Home died Sept. 6 at home.

She was the daughter of the late Rev. Simon I. Margolis and Rose (M. Meyerhoff) Margolis.

A lifelong New Bedford resident, she was a life member of Tifereth Israel Congregation and its sisterhood, a life member of Hadassah, a life member of the Jewish Convalescent Home, a member of the Jewish Federation and other philanthropic organizations.

She is survived by three sisters, Raye Bloomberg, Rebecca Margolis and Jeanne M. Rotenberg, all of New Bedford. She was the sister of the late Dr. Barney J. Margolis, Marjorie Margolis and Eva Scher.

Funeral services were held Sept. 8 at Plainville Cemetery, New Bedford. Arrangements were by the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

NATALIE B. MILLER

NORTH SALEM, N.Y. — Natalie B. Miller, 78, of 47 Bloomer Road, North Salem, N.Y., a school teacher in Rhode Island for many years, died Sept. 9 at home. She was the wife of the late Jacob Miller.

Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Charles and Anne (Rosen) Rouslin, she lived in Providence for most of her life

before moving to North Salem in 1992.

She was a graduate of Brown University. She taught adult education and adult literacy in Providence.

She was a former member of Temple Beth-El and Temple Emanu-El, and a life member of Hadassah, and the Jewish Home for Aged. She was a member of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island.

She leaves a daughter, Andreea White, with whom she lived; a son, Philip Miller of Marlboro, N.J.; two sisters, Muriel Yoken of Providence and Thelma Isenberg of Denver, Colo.; and three grandchildren.

A graveside service was held Sept. 11 in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. The service was coordinated by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

MICHAEL ZALKIND

MANHATTAN — Michael Zalkind, 51, of New York City, died Sept. 1 at New York University Medical Center in Manhattan.

Born in Fall River, the son of the late Norman and Esther

(Yamins) Zalkind, he was a graduate of Durfee High School and attended Bryant College. He subsequently moved to New York City where he earned accounting and business degree from Baruch College. He worked as a tax specialist and financial consultant for Warner Brothers and other corporations. He was also a passionate advocate for Jewish and Israeli causes, having worked for six months on an Israeli kibbutz during his youth. In recent years as his health declined because of juvenile diabetes and a kidney transplant, keeping him more homebound, he took up computing and gourmet cooking, and spent considerable time researching his medical condition and other subjects of interest on the Internet.

He is survived by a sister, Shelley Zalkind of New Haven, Conn., and several cousins, uncles and aunts.

Funeral services were held Sept. 4 at Temple Beth El, 385 High St., Fall River. Burial was at Beth El Cemetery, Fall River. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

Jewish Leader Doubts Sincerity of Lithuania's Self-Examination

by Lev Krichevsky
MOSCOW (JTA) — Lithuania has officially established an international commission to examine war crimes committed during the Nazi and Soviet occupations of the Baltic nation.

Julius Smulkstis, an adviser to Lithuanian President Valdas Adamkus who was named government liaison to the Jewish community in June, was quoted as saying that the commission's main function is "to investigate the World War II period and its immediate aftermath in order to come up with answers to various questions concerning the Jewish and Lithuanian genocide."

But a top Jewish leader is skeptical.

Simonas Alperavicius, the chairman of the Lithuanian Jewish community, said he doubts that the commission will be successful in digging up the truth because the commission has too many people with different views on how to confront the country's past.

Some members of the commission have vowed to investigate both Lithuania's crimes against the Jews during the Nazi era and Jewish crimes against Lithuanians during the Soviet occupation of the country.

Earlier this year, the presidents of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia agreed to set up commissions to investigate the Soviet and Nazi occupations of their countries.

The decision was made during a summit of the three presidents in May.

The commission will be co-chaired by Emanuelis Zingeris, the only Jewish member of the 141-seat Lithuanian Parliament.

Meanwhile, the war crimes trial of a man who headed the Lithuanian secret police during World War II was once again delayed.

The trial of Aleksandras Lileikis, 91, has already been postponed three times this year.

In 1996, Lileikis, a former Massachusetts resident, was stripped of his U.S. citizenship for lying about his wartime activities.

This most recent decision raises doubts that the trial will ever take place, said Alperavicius.

Lileikis denies the charges of genocide, saying his case was fabricated using documents forged by the Soviet KGB.

If it does take place, the trial would be the first for Holocaust crimes in any of the three Baltic states since they gained their independence from the Soviet Union in 1991.

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News at a Glance

• Five Israeli police and five Palestinians were wounded in a clash at a refugee camp near Jerusalem. Residents of the camp, who threw stones at Israeli security forces, were angered by the death of a heart-attack victim who they maintained could have been saved if an Israeli ambulance had not been delayed because of security procedures.

• Jordan's King Hussein is responding well to cancer treatment at a U.S. hospital, Jordanian officials said. Suffering from lymphatic cancer, Hussein is undergoing a cycle of six chemotherapy treatments that began in late July. His brother, Crown Prince Hassan, is acting as regent in his absence.

CLASSIFIED**University of Rhode Island**

(Continued from Page 1)

from home." Some place they could gather to feel the familiarity of home while learning about other students of differing ethnic and social backgrounds. Thus was born the university's first Multi-Cultural Center. In the years to come, the center would go through several facelifts and three locations. Today, the University of Rhode Island is proud to welcome to its campus the latest incarnation of the new Multi-Cultural Center with its grand opening scheduled for this weekend along with the induction of four local alumni who have made a considerable contribution to the efforts of easing racial and ethnic tensions. George Wiley, founder and director of National Welfare Rights Organization, and Noreen Coachman, M.D., a radiation oncologist who conducted research on radiation therapy, will both be inducted posthumously. Leo DiMaio, director and one of the founders of URI's Special Programs for Talent Development, and educator Jose Manuel Gonzales, director of Equity and Access for the Providence School Department will also be inducted.

"In a time where our country, our school, and our society is so fragmented by divisions, we hope to build a community both within groups and across racial lines," said Melvin Wade, director of the Multi-Cultural Center.

Centrally located on the Kingston campus next to the Memorial Union, the Multi-Cultural Center has been in construction for three years, first breaking ground on April 27, 1995. It was just recently complete in August. The center will serve as a place to educate students and faculty on cultural diversity and to build healthy relations despite that diversity.

"When you look at all of the social problems we have, so many of them come as a result of our mismanaging relationships," said Wade. "It is such a difficult problem to address. I will be happy when people realize the magnitude of the problem and then begin to devise their own solutions."

According to Wade, on most levels, racial and ethnic relations on campus seem to be improving, but they are still not at the level he would like to see. Through programs such as the Faculty Fellows Program, Learning from the Heart, the Annual Lecture on Multiculturalism, Unity Weekend and Diversity Week, Wade is determined to bring the university into the 21st century on a wave of cultural tolerance. For Wade, education doesn't just start and stop with the students, it transcends to administration and faculty as well.

"Faculty at most universities are the true decision makers and they're the ones who can most legitimize change on campus," said Wade.

By involving the faculty, Wade hopes to get to the heart of the decision and policy making on campus which gives both students and faculty the opportunity to work together to influence change. According to

Wade, URI's Center is different from that of other multicultural centers in that many of those centers are choosing to emphasize student relationships only; URI, on the other hand, is working to influence both students, staff and administration.

As a child of the 1960s, Wade knows firsthand how the power of voice can change history. Although students today are not like they were 30 years ago, Wade agrees that they do have an edge over his generation, especially in terms of technology.

"They are different students with different approaches. They aren't quite like we were, but at the same time they have the informational technology skills that we lacked," said Wade.

Wade further describes this generation of senators, congressmen, lawyers, doctors, researchers and policy makers as having higher aspirations than his generation. And with those aspirations, comes less idealism and more pragmatism in nature. But, at the same time, Wade says that one of the things that unite these students is their ability to be more spiritually grounded.

"I'm confident that the students are prepared to hear the message of the Multi-Cultural Center," said Wade.

With nearly 50 nationalities represented on the campus, cultural unity is an important issue at the university. Although the university population is no less diverse than any in other states, Wade says that the state does present a unique challenge because of its size and intimacy among its residents.

As with all new endeavors, the preliminary excitement around the campus community is high for the Multi-Cultural Center, but Wade warns that the excitement is only temporary. What he has to concentrate on is foregoing a long-term relationship with the community and keeping the excitement going past its initial stages.

"I want to see the Multi-Cultural Center help the university present its case for more money, more of a sense of priority in the state," said Wade. "Ultimately, I'd like to build a relationship and partnership between the university, the Multi-Cultural Center and the State of Rhode Island."

Addendum

On Sept. 3, the R.I. Jewish Herald ran a front page story about the Veterans' Memorial Cemetery in Warwick, R.I.

The article mentions that Seymour Davis is continuing the veteran tradition of decorating graves in the Newport and Middletown cemetery, but neglects to mention that Michael Mitchell will also continue to perform that job. Mitchell is the son-in-law of the late Benjamin Helfner, who made a practice of decorating the graves, and plans to continue it in his honor.

Coffee

(Continued from Page 5)

three tiny mosaic circles to lay down your cup. Or you can carry your gear to the front garden terrace and watch a world go by. Alice and her son Rob seem to have come here by magic to offer their friendship and fellowship to the East Side. There's something about a sojourn with the regulars at such an enchanting encampment. It's not like a bar room with a boom of bravado. Coffee stimulates quiet thought. It sharpens even as it soothes. Journals and java go together like horses and carriages.

I get home morning, afternoon or evening and my family will ask with frowns, "Where have you been?" Trouble brews like the other aspect of the percolator, not the dark of the bean. Those who join you for java make up another, separate world. There's no harm in it, just charm in it. It's a wondrous waiting room, where you find what you seek, the simplest of satisfactions, sitting still and feeling the world come by you and go round you on your island of dreams.

Five Year Later

(Continued from Page 15)

and Arafat in an effort to move the deadlocked peace process forward. The parties discuss a widely reported U.S. proposal, floated for months, under which Israel would redeploy from a further 13 percent of the West Bank in exchange for specific Palestinian steps against terror. The talks are inconclusive.

• Aug. 27, 1998 — Bomb filled with nails explodes in a trash can in Tel Aviv. Twenty-one people are injured in the attack.

• Sept. 9, 1998 — U.S. Middle East envoy Dennis Ross arrives in the region for another round of shuttle diplomacy aimed at breaking the stalemated peace process. Political observers believe his trip signals that the talks are in the final stretch. The more optimistic among them say that Israel and the Palestinians will sign an agreement on or near the fifth anniversary of the historic Rabin-Arafat handshake.



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Making Room

(Continued from Page 1)

ancement opportunities, to equalizing pay. Most importantly, Jewish communities and organizations must give women volunteers and staff a greater voice in strategic planning and the allocation of funds—the seat of power of all volunteer and philanthropic organizations.

There is plenty of room for real talent in the upper echelons of our professional and volunteer world. Yet, somewhere between the front door and the executive suites and board rooms, women are getting lost in the shuffle. During 5759, it is incumbent upon us to regain our bearings and provide women with the boost they need to advance consistently toward the top. I'm sure Carole Solomon would welcome and appreciate the company!

Marlene E. Post is national president of Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America, the largest Jewish organization in the United States.

Save a Life

(Continued from Page 1)

government so people do not get the disease. "Yes, it is time to find a cure for this disease, but I'd like to see some of that money be allocated for prevention," said Goldsmith.

According to Goldsmith, the environment contributes greatly to cancer. Toxins like radon, paint thinners, and other elements that can not be detected by smell or sight, are part of the reason people are getting cancer. For Goldsmith, that's where it begins.

To be a donor, you can attend one of two donor registrations. The Jewish Community Center, Elm Grove Avenue, Providence, Sept. 27, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Congregation Agudas Achim, Attleboro, Mass., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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Memorial Books Offer Glimpses of The Past

by Norma Faingold
Jewish Bulletin of
Northern California

SAN FRANCISCO (JTA) — Not even the observance of Passover could illuminate the dark, impoverished alleys known as Mitzraim, the pre-World War II Jewish ghetto in Kobrin.

The small Russian town and the majority of its population were wiped out by the Nazis. Its history is known primarily because of a Yizkor memorial book.

Each of the estimated 800 to 1,000 books — most of which were self-published in the decade after the war — is a compilation of writings by survivors from towns like Kobrin. Over the last 18 years, the San Francisco-based Holocaust Center of Northern California has amassed the largest collection on the West Coast, with copies of nearly 50 of the rare books.

Last month, the center began a project to copy the collection onto microform, having received a partial grant from the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany.

Generally, the manuscripts are written in either Yiddish or Hebrew. However, included in the San Francisco collection is an English translation of the 406-page Kobrin volume that the center published. Originally published in Tel Aviv in 1951, it features vintage photographs and dozens of accounts covering daily life, history and notable local personalities.

A particularly vivid section, written by former resident Joseph Schwartz, is titled "A Passover Evening in the Alleys of 'Mitzraim.'" Mitzraim is the Hebrew word for Egypt.

"As old people whose backs are now crooked under the oppressing yoke, so look the shaky homes who seemed to be ready to fall from any light wind and are sinking in the mud," Schwartz wrote. "They are connected and close to one another like neglected orphans who are trying to find cover from the cold and rain."

In its new format, the material will become more accessible

to historians and institutions.

The books are part memoir, part scrapbook. The Kobrin volume includes a map of the town, historical chronicles broken down by years 1904 to 1913, lists of known survivors and those killed, profiles of religious and secular organizations and institutions, and personal reflections.

San Francisco resident Lonny Darwin, one of the center's founders and a current board member, donated a major portion of the collection after acquiring the books in Israel.

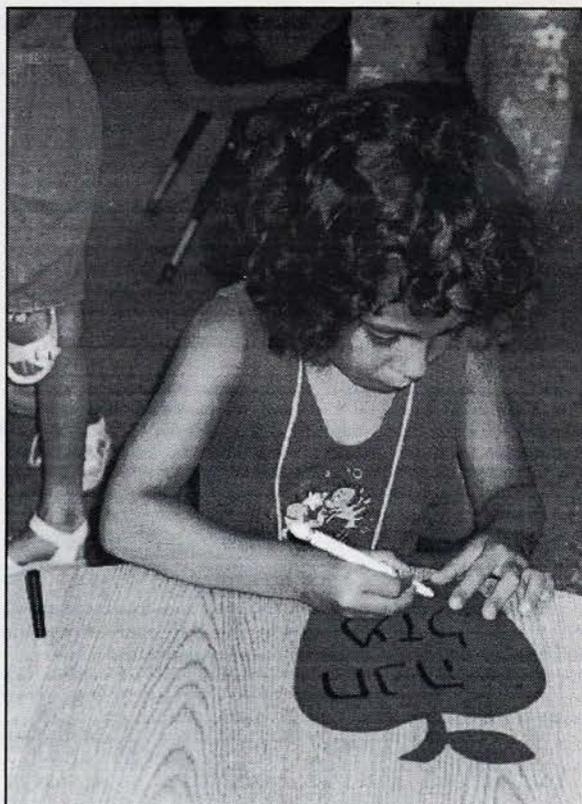
Jerusalem's Yad Vashem Holocaust center has the largest collection of Yizkor books in the world.

The only other Yizkor book the San Francisco center has translated into English is a short one about Kosow Lacki, a Polish town six miles from Treblinka.

The book was compiled by Rivka and Moshe Barlev, originally from Kosow Lacki. The Barlevs, who lived in Palestine during the Holocaust, located three survivors of the town in 1976 and began meeting with two of them.

Pictures of people sitting on stoops along narrow, cobblestone streets make it easy to imagine life in Kosow before the war.

While the town was 85 percent Jewish, wrote translator Oscar Berland, "The church, the statue [of St. Mary], the bell-ringing every Sunday morning, was a reminder that no matter how many Jews lived in this town, and no matter how many centuries they had lived here, Kosow was Polish and Catholic and the Jews were outsiders."



Apple Day

Nita Mukand works on her "Name Apple" at kindergarten Orientation.

Photo courtesy of ASDS

YMCA Offers Introduction to YOGA

The Pawtucket Family YMCA will offer a six-week Introduction to Yoga course starting the week of Sept. 21.

The class will be held at the following times: Mondays at 6:45 p.m., and 8 p.m., Tuesdays at 10:45 a.m. or Thursdays at 1 p.m.

There are many health benefits of Yoga. Practicing Yoga can help increase your strength and agility, tone your muscles and joints, improve your overall health, gain a sense of calm as you let go of stress and bring balance, poise and self-confidence into your life.

The cost for one class per week is \$40 for full members, \$55 for activity members, \$70 for non-members and \$60 for senior citizens who are non-members.

Yoga's simple and relaxing techniques can help create a healthy body and a wonderful sense of well-being.

For more information on this class, or any other fitness class, contact fitness director Sue Jack at the Pawtucket Family YMCA, 20 Summer St., Pawtucket, 727-7900.

Volunteers Needed! Training Program Available

The Network to End Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault will offer a comprehensive training program for anyone wishing to volunteer as a victim advocate with the Blackstone Shelter. The network is an innovative, statewide partnership among agencies dedicated to ending violence against women. The Network Training will train and certify advocates who are working in the field of domestic violence or sexual assault. There are seven training sessions beginning Sept. 26. If you are interested, contact Deb Romano by Sept. 18 for application information at 723-3057.



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5th Zero Coupon Bond 6.10%

Effective yield to maturity and current price of \$3,268 for bonds purchased September 15 through October 26, 1998. Matures: At \$6,000, ten years from issue date (last day of Sales Period in which subscription is accepted by Fiscal Agent).

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Series-B: 6.00%
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7th Development Issue (DI) Bond

Current Income Bond: Annual interest rate is 4.00% per year, payable by check once a year on May 1.

Savings Bond: Matures at 180% of issue amount, resulting in an effective yield to maturity of approximately 4.00%.

Matures: 15 years from issue date. Denominations: \$500 and multiples of \$500. Additional Feature: Bonds at least 1 year old may be cashed in Israel, up to \$2,500 a month per person, for Israeli currency, to defray tourist expenses.

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Non-interest bearing. Can be cashed in Israel for \$100 in Israeli currency after a minimum of 1 year from issue date. El Al Israel Airlines will accept State of Israel \$100 Certificates that are at least one year old toward the purchase of a round trip flight to Israel, under current provisions. Five Certificates in the same name and held for one year may be exchanged for a Development Issue (DI) Bond. Upon maturity, may be redeemed in the United States for \$100. Matures: 5 years from issue date.

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