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Man's Best Friend...The Dog

by Kimberly Ann Orlandi
Herald Editor

Why do we love dogs? This seems to be a question that has many answers depending upon who is asked. For some, a dog is a companion. A friend who keeps you company when you're alone, a protector when trouble arises. For others, a dog is an extension of their family. Treated as one of their own, the family dog becomes much more than just a dog, he becomes another family member, with access to all of the benefits of being within a family. I guess that's where I fall. My dog, Garbo, a 5-year-old Shepard/Collie mix was a stray I took in, cleaned up, brought to the veterinarian's office and who has since been assimilated within my family, so much so I often wonder whether or not she knows she is a dog!

The question of why we love dogs is the topic of a new book by author and photographer, Kim Levin, *Why We Love Dogs*. The daughter of Mitch and Shirley Levin of Narragansett, Levin was born and raised in Cranston, where she graduated from Cranston High School



Kim Levin

West and later from Syracuse University, New York. A self-taught photographer, Levin spent seven years in the advertising and marketing profession but always had an eye and passion for photography. She now resides in New Jersey, just across the river from New York. For her first book, Levin has combined her love of dogs and talent for photography to create a whimsical answer to the question, why we love dogs.

Glancing through the pages of this book will bring a smile to your face, whether you are a dog lover or not. There is nothing like the smiling face of a beloved pet when everything in the world that could go wrong has, and as you turn each page

each dog seems more expressive in their behavior and feeling than the one before.

"There is a certain humor to dogs," said Levin. They can be both happy and sad at the same time, but can still lift your spirits."

Photographed in black and white on the streets of Manhattan, Levin captures the true qualities of a dog by photographing them in their natural setting. Whether these four-legged companions are stretching out in the warm sun, gazing enthusiastically into the eyes of their owner, or just being a dog, all of the dogs pictured generate a distinct personality which shines through with every photograph. It was something Levin was conscious of when she began photographing the pets.

"I want to bring out the dogs' personalities and to do that I have to get down to their level," said Levin. Which often means just that, getting down on all fours, camera in hand, and capturing that special look or expression.

An avid lover of dogs herself, Levin always had dogs while growing up. In fact, her parents dog, Katie, is featured within the book and the book itself is dedicated to all of the dogs Levin had while growing up. Her current dog is Charlie, a 5-month-old Collie she and her boyfriend picked up at the A.S.P.C.A., an organization she works closely with by donating her services at the local dog shelter.

"I'm a relatively happy and optimistic person, but Charlie makes it enjoyable to come home," said Levin.

Taking a chance that the public would be receptive to a book about dogs, Levin left her secure advertising job three years ago to pursue photography full time. Up until that point she had been juggling a career in advertising and the pursuit of opening her own business, Bark & Smile Pet Portraits. In addition to taking photos for her books, Levin also takes portrait photos of pets for their owners, as well as photos of dog events around the city. According to Levin, she never thought that the market would be that narrow and specialized, rather she was afraid that it would be too big and her audience too broad. But, Levin called upon her years in advertising and marketing to back her book's endeavor, and in July 1997 it paid off with a deal from Andrews McMeel Publishing.

"I was totally surprised," said Levin. "Initially I was looking for a licensing deal. I was delighted with the book deal."

The deal with Andrews

McMeel also includes a line of greeting cards and coffee mugs which will feature photographs of the dogs created by Levin and distributed through the publishing company. Eventually, Levin hopes to expand the product line and possibly publish another book.

For many of us, the love of a dog is like nothing else. Its unconditional, forgiving and nurturing. They offer us their friendship and devotion and ask only in return for food, love and exercise. According to Levin, it is a strange phenomenon, a person's capacity to love a dog the way they would a person. Maybe it's because a dog will never reject you or judge you harshly, they just accept you for what you are.

Levin will be at *Borders Books, Garden City, Cranston*, on Nov. 18 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. for a book signing. The book is on sale now.



Annual Rosh Hashanah Service

Rabbi Deanna Douglas (center) leads the Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island's second annual Rosh Hashanah service at Temple Beth-El as Dr. Joshua Gutman (left) and rabbinical student Tom Alpert looks on. The service drew 109 residents from 21 nursing homes and assisted living facilities as well as community members and volunteers.

Herald photo by Emily Torgan-Shalansky

RI Holocaust Museum Holds 10th Annual Yizkor Service

by Emily Torgan-Shalansky
Jewish Community Reporter

Agonizing memories. Teary eyes. Memorial candles.

All of these, along with tremendous determination never to let the world forget, burned at The Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum's annual Yizkor service.

Initiated 10 years ago for those touched by the Holocaust and scheduled for a time of year when Jews traditionally visit the graves of loved ones, the Sept. 27 Yizkor service combined prayers for the dead with reminders of the obligations that now confront the living.

In the museum's sunny Memorial Garden, President of the Rhode Island Board of Rabbis Marc Jagolinzer opened the service with a tribute to the power of memory.

"We remember them," he began of those who perished in Nazi-occupied Europe. "As long as we live, they, too, will live."

Preserving the Holocaust and more, Jagolinzer explained, is not a choice but a Jewish obligation.

"You shall not forget and you shall remember is a biblical dictate," he said. "We are a people, and we are the guardians of the memories."

By reading a Hillel Zeitlin poem, Holocaust survivor Leah Eliash said that only Jewish preservation of the Holocaust's legacy could prevent it from succumbing to the same indifference that initially allowed the horrors to occur.

"World, hear!" she read.

"Hear and listen to the shouting of Israel. The blood of the tortured, of the innocent child thrown alive into the fire, will not be forgiven. Listen, world that betrayed the people of Israel — who stood by and did nothing."

Taking up the cry for collective awareness, State Representative David Cicilline called the service and Holocaust museum weapons in the ongoing fight against revisionism.

"Today I hope that each of us, after remembering those who have died and recalling the devastation, will recommit ourselves to the elimination of bigotry and hatred wherever we see it," he said.

As *Rhode Island Jewish Herald* writer, and RIHMM honorary member Michael Fink spoke of how contact with Holocaust survivors had shaped his life, he showed how the Holocaust has become an inextricable part of Jewish culture that must never be allowed to disappear.

"I learned respect from the survivors," Fink said, as he recalled his childhood awe of a European cantor's voice and his interest in the survivors' stories about their terrifying experiences in Europe.

Calling the Holocaust Museum a center of the universe, Fink considered the role of those who will live beyond the survivors.

"Now it is time that the second generation, raised between the awful wisdom of their parents and, to me, what is the bland

reassurance of our canned culture, must take over the mission of memory," he said. "They already have, of course."

During the new millennium, Fink said, memorials such as the RI Holocaust Memorial Museum will become even more essential.

"We must protect the structure, but more importantly, we must make it a marker of the lives of the survivors for their children and grandchildren," he said. "I learned respect from the survivors, and I think my children did too. I hope that my grandchildren and my students will take inspiration from the same journey."

President of the Rhode Island Holocaust Survivors Association Paul Formal also emphasized the impact that the Holocaust has had on world Jewry.

"There are people we know as 'the survivors,'" he said. "Their children are gone, and they are without family or friends. But we are all survivors, members of a single family. We mourn the lost innocence of our youth, the dignity of our martyrs, and the murder of innocents."

As six memorial candles dedicated to the memory of the 6 million Jews who perished glowed, Rabbi Jagolinzer led the participants through memorial prayers.

As he read the names of family members of Rhode Islanders who had lost their lives in the genocide, all guests rose and stood still, as a hush washed over the crowd.

HAPPENINGS

Entertainment For Kids

October

- 1 **Paint-a-Pumpkin Contest.** Oct. 1 to 31. Providence Children's Museum, 100 South Street, Providence, 455-0844. Paint a pumpkin and bring it to the museum by Oct. 31 at noon to be displayed in the museum windows. \$5 donation if you don't purchase your pumpkin at museum. Prizes!
Providence Puppetry Festival, Oct. 1 and 2, Chinese Take Out Theatre performed by Perry Allen Theatre. Perishable Theatre, 95 Empire St., Providence. Call 331-2695.
- 10 **"The Busy World of Richard Scarry,"** Oct. 10 and 11. Rhode Island Mall, Route 2, Warwick. Musical stagelights, 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 467-0215.
- 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.

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Calendar: October 1st to 7th

- 1 **"Cymbeline" by William Shakespeare,** Leeds Theatre, Brown University, Oct. 1 to 4, 8 p.m., Oct. 4, 3 p.m. only. Call 863-2838.
Newport Harvest-By-The-Sea Festival. Oct. 1 to 31. A monthlong celebration of fall events. Call 849-8048.
South Kingstown Farmers Market, URI Keaney Gym parking lot. Saturdays, 9 a.m. to noon. Outdoor market of fresh produce, flowers, plants. Call 789-4012.
"Riverdance," Providence Performing Arts Center, Oct. 1 to 11. Call 421-ARTS or 331-2211.
Threepenny Opera, Trinity Rep, Washington St., Providence, Oct. 1 to 11. Call 521-1100.
"Womyn to Womyn Healing Spirit." A candlelight, non-denominational healing service featuring inspirational speakers and soloist Debbie Waldman sharing traditional Jewish healing songs. St. Francis Chapel, Providence, 7 p.m. Call 822-7984.
- 2 **"Norman is That you?!" The Newport Playhouse and Cabaret Restaurant.** Every Friday, Saturday and Sunday through Nov. 15, matinees every Sunday. Tickets \$38.95 for dinner, play and cabaret, \$8.50 for play and cabaret only. Call 521-1100.
Block Island Birding Weekend, Oct. 2 to 4. Learn about the island's flora and fauna, admire the island architecture while relaxing at a snail's pace. Call 949-5454.
"See Our Faces... Feel Our Journey." Photographic exhibit — a tribute to women with breast cancer. State House, Providence. Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Call 822-7984.
- 3 **15th annual Cranston Historical Arts & Crafts Show,** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sprague Mansion, 1351 Cranston St. Sixty artisans from Southern New England, food vendors, entertainment. Call 944-9226.
RISD Alumni & Student Art Sale, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Benefit Street, Providence. Items created by RISD alumni and students for sale. Free admission. Call 454-6100.
Steven Kirby Jazz Quartet, CAV, 14 Imperial Place, Providence. 9:30 p.m. Call 751-9164.
Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology, 300 Tower St., Bristol, presents "Discover Mount Hope," 10 a.m. to noon. Examine the daily lives of the Wampanoags in the 17th century. Call 863-3580. Fee: \$15 per person.
The Legends Live on in Concert. Mario Lanza/Sergio Franchi, with Victor Lanza and Arturo Coppola, 8 p.m., Veterans Memorial Auditorium, Brownell Street, Providence. 724-8588.
"Therese: The Story of a Soul," one woman show by Maggie Mahrt, 2 p.m., Bishop McVinney Auditorium, 1 Cathedral Square, Providence. 421-0820.
"USO Show: For Sentimental Reasons," 8:15 p.m., Westerly Armory, Westerly. 596-8554.
Zeiterion Theatre, 684 Purchase St., New Bedford, presents an evening of "American Masters" featuring jazz legend Dave Brubeck Quartet, 8 p.m. Call (508) 944-2900 or (508) 999-6276.
The Community Players theatre group presents "The Heiress," Oct. 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 16, 17 and 18. Jenks Junior High School, Pawtucket. Call 726-6860.
- 4 **Annual Harvest Festival & Apple Pie Contest,** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Smith Castle, 55 Richard Smith Drive, N. Kingstown, featuring johnnycakes, clamcakes, apple pie, cider, arts and crafts. Call 783-5400.
- 5 **RISD presents** at Salomon Center, Brown University Green, the annual Gail Silver Memorial Lecture, with artist Janine Antani, 6:15 p.m. Free and open to public.
Providence Children's Museum, 100 South St., Providence, presents "Where the Sidewalk Ends," a flower show and exhibit, 9:30 a.m. to noon.
- 6 **Women's Expo,** Rhode Island Convention Center, One Sabin St., Providence. Call 458-6000.
Volunteer Services for Animals annual volunteer workshop, 6:15 p.m., Vasa Hall, Bald Hill Road, Cranston. Call 944-3313.
"Pink Ribbon Tea Celebrating Breast Cancer Awareness," Share the opportunity to inscribe the name of a woman diagnosed with breast cancer on a state banner to be carried in a national march in Washington in May. State House, Providence, 3 to 5 p.m. Call 822-7984.
- 7 **Providence Journal Bulletin Job Fair,** R.I. Convention Center, One Sabin St., Providence. Call 277-7757.

IRS Sponsors Small Business Workshop

The workshop provides information regarding general tax guidelines to new or prospective small business owners. Topics include the advantages and limitations of various types of business organizations; rights and responsibilities regarding record keeping; federal and state filing requirements, employment taxes and business deductions.

The workshop is free and at the Community College of Rhode Island, Knight Campus, Conference Room West, on Oct. 23, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Registration is required. Call (860) 240-4149 to register.

Library Holds Fall Book Sale

The Friends of the Providence Public Library, Rochambeau Branch, will be holding their Fall Book Sale, Oct. 21 to 25 in the Library Community Room, 708 Hope St.

Prices for books will be \$1 for hardcovers, 50¢ each (or 3 for \$1) for paperbacks, and 25¢ for all children's books. Special items will be priced as marked. On Oct. 25, all books will sell for \$2 a bag! Hours will be: Oct. 21, 5 to 7 p.m.; Oct. 22, noon to 7 p.m.; Oct. 23, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Oct. 24, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Oct. 25, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

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

Providence and Vicinity

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

JEWISH COMMUNITY

Fein Opens RI Reading Training

by Emily Torgan-Shalansky
Jewish Community Reporter

Although Leonard Fein is widely known as the chairman of the Reform Movement's Coalition on Social Action and the founder of both *Moment Magazine* and *Mazon*, the Jewish Response to Hunger, he is widely revered for something else altogether — his ability to motivate people.

Therefore, after he offered in 1996 to help the Clinton administration upgrade its campaign for literacy by providing it with 100,000 Jewish literacy volunteers, people listened.

One of those who heard Fein was Barrington resident Sandra Rosenberg, a reading specialist who has worked in the Barrington public school system for 30 years.

Rosenberg, who was familiar with literacy problems from her own work and well aware of the Reform Movement's Coalition on Social Action through her husband, Rabbi James Rosenberg of Temple Habonim, knew that she wanted to help Fein in his plans to combine Judaism and literacy.

Shortly thereafter, Fein founded the National Jewish Coalition for Literacy, an organization dedicated to finding 100,000 Jewish literacy volunteers who would each agree to spend an hour a week helping youngsters with their reading skills.

Under Rosenberg's leadership and with the help of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island's Community Relations Council, Rhode Island has become one of 12 pilot cities involved in the coalition.

The Rhode Island Jewish Coalition for Literacy has drawn some 107 volunteers and 21 sponsoring organizations thus far.

After Fein came to the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island on Sept. 27 to promote and explain the National Jewish Coalition for Literacy immediately before the reading training was to begin, the project gained even more volunteers.

As he faced an audience of about 150, Fein discussed what he considered the obvious and the less obvious purposes for the coalition.

Stating that he would begin with statistics, Fein declared that 24 percent of America's children under the age of 6 live in poverty.

"That goes beyond tragic and into scandalous," Fein said. "The roots of the word scandal translate into a crime against G-d."

Fein then stated that statistics also show that 40 percent of school-age children in America are reading below grade level.

"It has been demonstrated that if children can read at grade level by the end of grade 3, things will probably be all right," he

said. "If the child cannot, he or she will be in trouble. That's why we're concentrating on grades k-3."

According to Fein, the reasons for participating in such an effort are self-explanatory.

"We're committed to seeing that every child can read by the end of third grade," he said. "Who would be opposed to that? The more interesting question is why there needs to be a Jewish Coalition for Literacy."

The first reason, Fein said, was a "selfish" wish to perpetuate the type of stable, economically sound society that has been beneficial to the Jews since Diaspora began.

"We do not do well in conditions of chaos or in a society that is as fractured as ours is coming to be," he said. "As grotesque levels of economic inequality grow ever larger and 40 percent of American students are unable to read at grade level it is a predictor of instability. So, bless them, let them lead normal sane lives so that society functions."

Fein called the second reason for a Jewish Coalition less intuitive.

"We all know that we are in a continuity crisis," he said. "I do not think the reasons for that are the conventional ones such as the high intermarriage rate or anti-Semitism. I think the principal enemy of the Jewish community is boredom."

According to Fein, many young Jewish people experience their faith as something that is fundamentally boring and disconnected from their lives.

"They don't have the foggiest notion of what the Jewish community stands for," he said. "I hear it directly from them — they know who we used to be and who we claim to be, but not who we are."

If there is one universal statement that might be applied to this fractured people, he said, is that if there is a G-d there is only one.

"Also think there's another," he said. "I think almost all those alive today would say that this world isn't working the way it should and that as Jews, we're implicated in its repair."

The tradition of helping to heal the world, he said, is not a passing fancy but a deep tenet of a very ancient faith.

Turning to Isaiah 58:1-14, Fein quoted a passage in which a person inquires about what is sought after during a time of fasting.

The seeker is told, Fein said, that the religion calls for someone who will "let the oppressed go free, and break every cruel chain."

"Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and to bring homeless people into your house?" he read. "When you see the naked, clothe them, and never hide from your own kin."

According to Fein, that message must be reiterated for today's youth.

"It's not about fasting, it's about clothing the naked and feeding the hungry."

Fein then told the popular

Deuteronomy story of how, during the March of the Israelites towards Canaan, Amalek appeared and smote down the weak and the sick who were lagging behind.

"I agree with an interpretation of the story that was written by an 18th century Chasidic rabbi," he said. "He said that if the Jews had not permitted their brothers and sisters to lag behind, Amalek could not have attacked them."

Fein concluded with some letters he has received about his National Jewish Literacy Coalition, which he hopes will have 35 Jewish communities involved by 1999.

"I am sending you \$90 in memory of my brother," he read from one woman's letter. "The last communication ever received from him was a letter begging a Christian baker for bread because he was starving. It gives me great satisfaction to do for my neighbor what no one did for my brother."

According to Fein, the trauma of 20th century Jewish life have led some Jews to forget the rest of the world.

"I'm sorry to say, some have done just that," he said. "But we who know what affliction feels like have sworn that what we mean by 'never again' is that we will never join the back-turners. That's authenticity."

The Rhode Island Jewish Coalition for Literacy is seeking volunteers to work within the Providence school system.

Interested parties are encouraged to call Margaret Gradie at the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island's Community Relations Council at 421-4111, extension 163.

Congregation Beth Sholom Gives New Year's Brit Milah

by Emily Torgan-Shalansky
Jewish Community Reporter

On Rosh Hashanah, Providence's Congregation Beth Sholom simultaneously welcomed a new year and a new life.

On Sept. 21, or 1 Tishri, those who went to the synagogue on the first day of 5759 found themselves attending both Rosh Hashanah services and the brit milah of Eliyahu Yakov Forstadt, one of two twin boys recently born to congregation members Ruth and Michael Forstadt of Providence.

Because of what Mohel Rabbi Samuel Taitelbaum termed a "very unusual situation," Eliyahu's brother, Chaim Binyamin, was circumcised two days after Eliyahu on 3 Tishri, or the Fast of Gedaliah.

In her East Side home with her new babies nestled on her lap, Ruth explained the story of how two Forstadt sons who were born 20 minutes apart had come to acquire brit dates separated by two full days.

"They're healthy and adorable, and I'm incredibly happy, but I haven't had much time to think about the whole thing," Ruth admitted as she tended to her twins and watched her three-year-old son, Shai, play in the living room.

Ruth, who is originally from South Africa, and Michael, a Californian who is pursuing a Ph.D. in Central Asian archeology at Harvard University, moved from Boston to Providence about three years ago after friends suggested they do so.

"It's a nice community," Ruth said. "They're been very supportive throughout this experience."

Ruth, who works for Medical Device Consulting Co., a North Attleboro company that creates FDA submissions for new medical devices, learned that she was pregnant with twins in February.

Very shortly thereafter, she realized that it would be a long nine months.

"The first 20 weeks were hard," she remembered. "I was pretty much at home."

After months of coping with both her nausea and the surprise of a double pregnancy, Ruth's water finally broke on Monday, Sept. 14.

"Michael had slipped on the stairs and couldn't walk," Ruth laughed. "A friend had to rush me to Women & Infant's Hospital while he went to the Rhode Island Hospital for crutches."

But Michael did arrive at the hospital, and several hours later, so did their new sons.

"At about 5:20 p.m., I had an epidural," remembered Ruth. "At 5:35 p.m., I had Eli, naturally."

But because Benji's heart rate was beginning to slow, Ruth's doctor performed a caesarian section to retrieve him.

"I had Benji at 5:55," Ruth said. "It was such a happy time." Soon after learning their ba-

bies' birth weights, the Forstadts learned that the boys who had been so close together would need to be circumcised at different times.

"According to the Halacha, we cannot perform the brit milah on the Sabbath or on holidays for babies who are born through caesarian sections," explained Rabbi Taitelbaum. "Usually we do them eight days after the baby is born, but for caesarians births, we must wait until the Shabbat or holiday that the brit might otherwise fall on is over."

Although Benji's brit was moved to 3 Tishri, Eli's took place on the first day of 5759.

"It was lovely, lovely," recalled Ruth's mother Maureen Lazar, who was visiting from South Africa. "The atmosphere was one of real happiness and mazal."

At Eli's brit, Lazar said, all the little boys and girls gathered at the front of the synagogue to watch closely.

"It was very sweet," she said. "I carried Benji in so he wouldn't lose out on the occasion, and when it was Benji's turn, I brought Eli in so that he could take part."

According to Rabbi Levine of Congregation Beth Sholom, the unusual combination of the holiday and the brit brought exceptional happiness to his New Year's service.

"It uplifts the congregation and the entire Jewish community." (Continued on Page 19)

Do you know any . . . "Unaffiliated-interfaith" families?

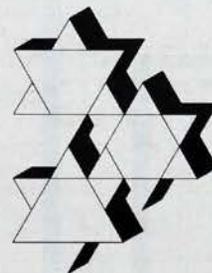
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OPINION

Sealed in The Book of Life

by Velvel "Wally" Spiegler
Yom Kippur, the most solemn day of the Jewish calendar year, is a time when I think seriously whether our self-denial on that day actually secures our inscription in the Book of Life. We greet each other with *L'shanah tovah tichatemu*, May you be sealed for a good year. Is it just a matter of sitting passively in shul all day, denying vital needs, or is there something that we can actively do to assure inscription?

In the Rosh Hashanah liturgy, we find the moving prayer *Untane Tokef* that asks, "who shall live and who shall die" and answers, "repentance, prayer and charity remove the evil of the decree." I can understand repentance and prayer, but how come charity? Charity means giving or for-giving — in favor of giving. To forgive another is being in favor of giving something to yourself.

T'shuvah, returning to the presence of G-d, which in some imprecise way became defined as repentance, is the hallmark of the High Holidays. Somehow repentance is connected to forgiveness. We pray for forgiveness for our sins against G-d; created in the image of G-d, we have to forgive those who hurt us and we have to ask forgiveness of those we knowingly hurt. There must be things we do wrong, even though at the time, we're not aware of it, for which we have to make amends, atone — an eye for an eye.

Atoning for sins is the first step in the process of making *T'shuvah*, of becoming constantly mindful of G-d, a process that began at Rosh Hashanah. Atonement centers around the sacrifices that the high priest performed in the days of the Temple. Sacrifices, like the ritual of the scapegoat, elaborated in the Yom Kippur

liturgy, contain the same sort of magic as those sacrifices that took us out of Egypt as Passover. The first atonement took place on Yom Kippur when Moses prayed on Mt. Sinai for forgiveness of the sin of the Golden Calf, the archetypal sin. Like Moses we are expected to expiate our sins, to pay for our misdeeds through prayer and sacrifice. We sin unknowingly and unwittingly against G-d because we are spiritually insensitive to His plan for the universe and our individual role in it.

When I first came to comprehend Yom Kippur on a deeper level, I realized I had to reflect on prayer and fasting more seriously, rather than just behaving Spartanly for the entire day. I began to listen more carefully and to visualize as the hazzan portrayed the role of the high priest, ritually re-enacting the drama of making expiation for the House of Israel with his entry into the Holy of Holies and ordained sacrifices. It was then that I knew that the mystery of atonement lay hidden in the *mussaf* amidah.

I probed into the nature of sin. I found that *cheyt*, the Hebrew term for sin, finds its roots in the idea of missing the mark, like an archer inaccurately releasing his arrow. If we think of our relationship with G-d as our target, a sin is missing the mark, pointing to something other than G-d. I used to think that sin is an action morally condemned like cheating or lying. Now I know sin as being out of tune with the universe, not hearing the subtle Divine messages that are constantly impinging upon us or worshipping other gods like money, for instance, for what it can buy.

Then I wondered whether I am confessing my personal sins or are we confessing the sins for all Israel like the high priest? It

seems as if confession and the other forms of self-denial make us more humble and vulnerable to the possibility of starting the new year with a clean slate. Maybe that's what being sealed into the Book of Life actually means. The *Al Cheyt* confession, the catalog of sins we admit even if we have no knowledge of doing wrong, is our way of making the sacrifice that compensates for the sins we sinned.

The Mishnah on Yom Kippur offers some discussion on fasting; the Torah requires that we practice self-denial but mentions nothing about fasting; somehow the later sages concluded that the two were synonymous. I found that food deprivation brought me to altered states of consciousness — not hunger — which rendered me more receptive to Divine intervention and a clarity that atonement was immanent.

Throughout the Torah and the writings of the prophets, we are constantly reminded to keep G-d's commandments and we're duly warned of the repercussion if we fail to heed those words. The greater part of Jewish law, particularly the laws

(Continued on Page 19)

Mayor To The Rescue

To the Editor:

Three balls and two strikes and the last of the ninth inning. I received a call from Bill Fagan, the athletic director from the Jewish Community Center. He explained that there is need for a public address system for the Maccabi games that were to be played on that Sunday. It was a late spring Friday, who do you call for a donation. Major Ryan of the National Guard center in Cranston was very nice and offered to lend the Jewish Community Center her bullhorn. With the crown anticipated to be more than 600, a bullhorn would be too small.

Time was running out and the need grew stronger. The games are to be played in Cranston, who do you call at 4 p.m. on a Friday? Ray Votto, the chairman of the school department in Cranston, he would know. "Let me call Mayor Traficante," said Votto. "I will call you in a

few minutes." The call came soon after; the message from Votto was to call the mayor's car phone. Mayor Traficante who was informed of the situation asked what size of public address system we needed. I informed him that we would need a system that would transmit across the football field. "Call Votto, later this evening and we will try our best," said Mayor Traficante.

Sunday morning: It was the first Maccabi games to be played in Rhode Island. Cranston West Stadium was alive with the sounds of "Testing, testing, one, two, three." The sounds were like a bird singing in early morning. The hard work paid off. Mayor Traficante and Ray Votto were my heroes of the day. Thank you for your assistance in our time of need.

David Hochman
Cranston

HAVE AN OPINION?

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

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

The Heavens and The Earth Are Called to Witness

by Allan Smith

To me, perhaps the most distinctive feature of Reform Judaism is that we read text differently from the way other Jewish religious movements do. We are not conflicted by what the text in its most literal meaning does or does not say. We view the text as that of a biblical author in a particular time and a place who is speaking to a people about their destiny. The words of such authors became timeless because the destiny of this people became an eternal destiny and because embedded within the words lies the G-d-Idea of this People Israel. *Parashat Ha'azinu* speaks to us today in just such a way.

Modern biblical scholarship teaches us that the words of this *parashah* were written sometime before the destruction of the First Temple. As you read *Ha'azinu*, do you not sense that the people have already been living in its land for a long time? Do you get the sense that something of an apocalyptic nature is about to occur? The *parashah* begins by extolling and praising the Creator of all, the One who determined that the destiny of all other nations will be judged solely upon G-d's love from the Chosen People. We were plucked from the wilderness, nurtured and given great gifts by the One.

We grew prosperous and successful. And feeling our strength, we grew arrogant and spurned the One who had chosen us. We were neglectful. As a result, frustrated and angry, our Creator determines to use those other nations as a tool of G-d's wrath. They will cause great

suffering and devastation to Israel. However, G-d will not allow the destruction to be complete. Instead, *Adonai* will take us back once more and wreak vengeance on those who sought to annihilate Israel. Those nations who did not know our Creator, who would not acknowledge *Adonai* as G-d, will be driven from the land. This is the destiny of Israel and the dynamic relationship between G-d, Israel, and the nations that the author calls the heavens and earth to witness.

The dramatic poem ends. (Deuteronomy 32:43) The interaction between G-d, Israel, and the nations ends in triumph for the covenant people and their relationship with G-d. This is the history of Israel, the people

sense to it all. But when you study the content as a whole, do you not feel a sense of despair? Should Moses have been denied the Promised Land? Should that be the consequence of some isolated action? Were the Israelites so evil that the biblical author would attribute the responsibility for the impending tragedies to the people?

There are those who say that certain relationships and positions in life should be judged by a high or very strict standard. Is that what *Parashat Ha'azinu* is really about. After all, the author calls upon the symbols of eternal existence, the heavens and the earth, to be witness to this drama. The text seems to be suggesting that Israel is the center of this universe — everything that happens is due to Israel's relationship with G-d. Great gifts are bestowed because of this, but it also imposes great burden in the form of responsibility that exists on its account. The Jewish community in North America, has experienced unparalleled success. We are a people of privilege. Does that require that we be judged by a higher standard than others? Should we teach our children that more is expecting of them because of what we have accomplished? If we are to be leaders in our community, should the consequences of our failings be considered greater than those others with the same failings?

The heavens and the earth are witness against us. In the end, we will be judged by eternity.

Rabbi Allan Smith is the director of the UJA's Youth Division.

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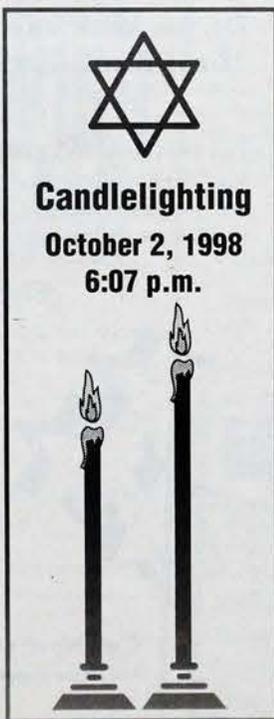
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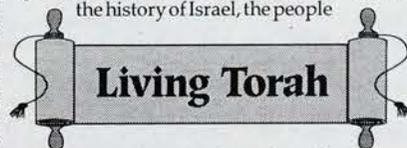
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Candlelighting
October 2, 1998
6:07 p.m.

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



Living Torah

about to emerge from the wilderness. But as soon as it is recited and the desert people are compelled to grasp the intensity of their relationship with God, the very serious nature of it, and the consequences that will result from their inability to deal with the greatness of the gifts bestowed on them, then Moses himself is confronted with his own failings. G-d declares that now Moses is to climb to the mountaintop and see the Promised Land, but he will never enter it. Once seeing it, he will die. "For you broke faith with Me among the Israelite people." (Deuteronomy 32:51)

As we read the words, we experience the richness of the language. There is a triumphal



A Place To Hide Away

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

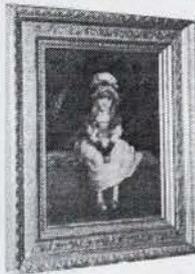
Sometimes we dream of an extra room, a doorway that opens to a happy space we had mysteriously overlooked. Shrinks and soothsayers find things to say about this common reverie.

But an extra room often mushrooms into our lives when our youngsters go off to college or career. The former master bedroom in our cottage served many uses over the years. It played the role of host to overnight guests. It held my bookcases and desk for some time, a retreat for my thoughts. The space got screens to make dorm cells for our girls. Mostly, though, it enfolded the childhood of our firstborn, who filled it with the things of each chapter till now.

The walls held collages from magazine covers. Shelves showed off prom portraits or groups of school friends. Glass vases held dried bouquets from suitors. Postcards or birthday

notes from near and far, today and yesteryear made stacks in shoeboxes. Pennants and plaques galore were thumb-tacked or hung from hooks. Debate trophies stood on windowsills.

Now, this square space looks out through two windows on a stand of trees. The east window, with its dawn's early light, faces an oak that drops loud acorns on car roofs. The south window, with its afternoon warmth, sees a maple and stares downward at the path the mailman takes each morn or noon. The dog stretches on the sill for a snooze, or to bark at a passing pooch. A bonsai elm basks in the sunbeams on that same simple plank. Then there's a strange Depression-era closet that makes no sense for today. It wraps around a corner with a



charming painting my mother left like a lyric hope: a gilded portrait of a Victorian princess, a twilight zone phantom.

This chamber is in transition. It calms the spirit and offers a glimpse both forward and backward, like thought itself. I can step in, sit in one of the two

shelf hard to reach up to. You can't quite see or touch the farthest hanger or highest box. There could be treasure, or trash.

But our daughter has graduated, and the movers took most of her furnishings to an apartment in another state. We have been going over the leavings. By the usual paradox, the less stuff there is, the more you see and study. I remove boxes of litter, and find some essential fixtures of the story. A pair of pink ballet slippers now hang from a nail beside a poster of dancing shoes. The Anne Frank blue poster stays above the bed, and the Hebrew calligraphy

from a naming ceremony and a gold mitzvah in bat frames look backward with pride and promise. So far the romantic movie graphics from GWTW fill some plaster gaps, and share the gallery with superb prints and drawings and

rockers for a moment, move about touching this or that like a curator not a visitor, without fear of teen-age wrath at my intrusion over a closed threshold. Each book, each little fetish, has grown larger, not smaller, because I can dwell at peace upon its scale within her life. But what can we do to make this little lodging a place with a soul? My wife put up new curtains, and laid down a small area rug. She lugged up a large upholstered rocker to keep that smaller one company. I

hailed a pair of tables our eldest had started to paint white, gold and royal blue—but never completed the decoration—and gave them a prominent place among the easy chair thrones. Even so, the room is in transition. Should it protect green things from winter chill? House



G.W.T.W. and Anne Frank

ten into our new corridor and wonder where I have been and where I am going. Only the dog knows for sure. She moved right in, dozing on the bed through the night, curling on the velvet seats through the daytime hours, and dreaming and gnawing thoughts beyond my own.

The Mission of Memory

by Mike Fink

Herald Contributing Reporter

You can show too much respect for a person just as you can show too little. If you put a person on a pedestal you can lose love, you can lose trust. It can keep people away. I bet you don't believe that. I think I read it someplace. People feel they have to live up to your image, and it's trying, wearying. I was the youngest in my childhood family. I hope I was polite to grown-ups, but I believe I only learned true respect from the Holocaust survivors. They came to my school, they came to our synagogue, they came to our street. I can name a few. Of those who came before the war itself, there was our Cantor Hohenemser. The glory, the majesty, of his voice singing Kol Nidre totally enchanted me and changed me. I respected his might, his power, his kindness, his dignity—the glory! When my mother died, I chose the gravesite beside his headstone. He will sing for her in Eden. When I shake hands with Irving Weinrich, or when I nod to Judge Peter Rosedale, I recall their schoolday words about their boyhood in terrible and terrifying Europe. I respected their intelligence, their sadness, a depth perhaps often missing on our ordinary sidewalks and driveways.

I hope that the film Peter O'Neill and I made a decade ago contributed in some small way to the fact of our Holocaust Museum. Certainly it depended

totally on the generous willingness of the community of survivors to help the project by giving of themselves. For me, now, that little museum is like a center of the universe, just as all our Holocaust monuments and libraries are, like the 36 Just, the columns upon which the spiritual world rests. Now it is time that the Second Generation, raised between the awful wisdom of their parents and the — to me—fake and bland reassurances of our canned culture, must take over the mission of memory. They have already done so, of course. Paul Formal

First, the Nazis got out of Europe, welcomed everywhere on earth, their crimes rewarded, not punished. Only later the survivors came to join their enemies in North and South America, indeed all over the planet. They brought their spirit, their words, their children who are here blessedly among us. I feel profoundly honored and privileged to count our local survivors among my friends. I wish I had the time to list them, because I love them, I honor them, I respect them as I respect nothing else. Like artists, they are complex, not easily understood all at once. There is even a strange beauty in the midst of the horror of their confidences. Their stories fix themselves to my soul.

Now we face a new millennium. Of course, such Roman numerals mean little to us as Jews. Time flows by like a river, not like an arch of Titus. Nevertheless, what will become of us as a people? The Holocaust memorial stands not as a structure of stone alone, although we must protect the structure, but more importantly as a marker of the lives of the survivors, their children and grandchildren, who charge us to live up to them. I learned respect from the survivors. I think my children also did. I hope my future grandchildren and my students will take inspiration and counsel from the same sources. I see them on the sands of beaches, on city streets, here among our pews. They are always with G-d. They will always be with G-d.

volunteered as leader of the organization. And Cary Eichenbaum writes with devotion, dedication, and depth not only about his father's soul, but of so many others among us to whom he is fondly grateful. And Cindy Halpern has always contributed the kindest and noblest of stories about her family, her friends, and her thoughts about the Holocaust. All of us here in Temple Emanu-El learned lessons of the highest degree of Yiddishkeit from Leah Eliash and the strongest bonds of connection from Morris Gastfreund.



Words for a Yizkor

Herald photos by Mike Fink

Gifts With a Smile

by Mike Fink

Herald Contributing Reporter

"No, there is no trace of Moses, of Exodus, in Egyptian hieroglyph." Florence Friedman has haunted the ancient palimpsest of Cairo and gleaned the small faience treasures on display at the Rhode Island School of Design Museum, but found no scroll about the Hebrew slave uprising.

I greeted my curator colleague at the opening reception at the president's palatial home on Prospect Street. I snapped her smiling welcome with the Mandle mascot on the porch. We talked Velikovsky's theory titled "When Worlds Collide," and Florence didn't exactly debunk its grand sweep of a statement. She simply said, "Nobody pays much attention these days to his sensational book." You may recall, the headline scholar of the midcentury era claimed that vast volcanic eruptions and disruptions of the seas created all the formative events of folklore. Atlantis and Exodus come together under his pen. "But in fact the wanderings across the desert didn't interest the chroniclers of the Pharaohs partly for political reasons, partly because in the big scheme of things it may not have seemed as prominent an event to them as it did to the runaways, who built a new world—our world." Florence Friedman combines a curator's precision and refinement with an artist's love of the flow of images and ideas. "Could we show Karl Freund's 'The Mummy' with Boris Karloff at the museum to add some glee and gore among the gifts of the Nile?" Instead of frowning at my impertinence, F.F. laughed with good nature. "I love that old movie. Every scene is marvellous. It's a grand notion. I bet kids would go for it!"

Anybody seen that black and white masterpiece in recent months or years? The archeolo-

gists who unearth a treasure trove under the sands release a mummy wrapped and entombed while still alive! He seeks his reincarnated beloved to finish the affair that led to his terrible fate. To possess his love, he must kill her first—the ultimate noir dilemma. But it's not done tongue in cheek. The show has majesty, dignity, Egyptian elegance. Karloff, wrinkled beyond belief, carries off a great line: "Your pardon... I dislike to be touched." When I brought the plot back to life among my fellow Rhode Island School of Design staff at that corner of Bowen and Prospect streets, I also brought some smiles and guffaws to the crowd with their glasses of wine in hand. Current fashion among the arts and crafts seems to touch on laughter. The tables hold small whimsical sculptures. Paintings like puns make you look and think while you drink.

"Gifts of the Nile" features not enormous sphinxes and mummies, but delicate if vivid teal-turquoise objects both beautiful and homely. Little figurines of "faience," a humble but magical material made from the glittering desert sand and salts, suggest both subtly and sharply the craftsmanship once almost taken for granted. Odd cat-women and miniature hippos and davening mice like something to inspire Kafka, along with gorgeous jewelry pieces, strike some awe into the breasts even of the guards and janitors.

It is Florence Friedman who gathered these precious relics and fetishes and adds the flavor of her own delightful spirit.



Photo of Florence and "Soho"

Herald photo by Mike Fink

JEWISH COMMUNITY

Academic Symposium to Explore 50 Years of Israel's Achievements

Oct. 25 promises to be a unique afternoon as hundreds are expected to gather for the symposium "Israel at 50: Progress and Promise," the closing event of a yearlong celebration of Israel's 50th anniversary. Distinguished experts and scholars from Israel and Boston will conduct eight workshops on education, culture, the environment, immigration and science, presenting Israel's progress over the past 50 years and the outlook for the future. Dr. Jehuda Reinharz, president of Brandeis University, is the keynote speaker and Consul General of Israel to New England. Itzhak Levanon will give closing remarks.

Presenters on the afternoon's program include Professor Shlomo Maital from the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, and Economic Consul of Israel to New England Michel Habib, discussing Israel's economy; Dr. Mitchell Rabkin, M.D., Harvard Medical School, and Dr. Amnon Brzezinski, Hebrew University, reviewing the progress of healthcare; Dr. Susan Kahn, Ph.D., Brandeis University, and Dr. Gail Twersky Reimer, Ph.D., speaking on the role of women in forging the State of Israel.

The program, co-chaired by Marjorie and Charles Housen, is a milestone in Jewish com-

munal life in New England. It marks the first time nine American organizations affiliated with Israeli institutions, all of which were instrumental in the building of Israel, have joined with the consulate general of Israel to New England to plan a public event offering a broad range of presenters from Israel and Boston. The symposium begins at 1 p.m. at the Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center, located at 333 Nahant St., in Newton.

Admission is \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door and \$5 for students and seniors. For information and registration, call (617) 566-0666.

Special Evening For Parent and Child at PHDS

This school year the Providence Hebrew Day School will build on an experimental program it began last year to bring parents, children and teachers together for a very special evening. Each grade from kindergarten through grade five held a class dinner at the school. The key element to the dinner is that the parents attend the dinner only with their child in that grade. Siblings were not invited. This allowed the parents to interact with that child exclusively and focus on their child's achievements. Parent volunteers prepare and serve the meal. A d'var Torah is given by the Judaica studies teacher for that class.

According to Maureen Sheehan, the secular studies principal, "The wonderful thing was that last year we had 100 percent participation by students, parents and teachers."

This year there will be class dinners for grades kindergarten through eight. The children and the parents make their own place mats together before they eat dinner. Then the students and parents have an activity together that was planned by the children and their teacher. For instance, last year the fourth grade had read a novel about a special family heirloom and then met the author of the book through a program at the Bureau of Jewish Education of R.I. At their fourth-grade dinner, each student brought in their own family heirloom and described its significance to the other students and parents. The second-graders, this year, will read one of their favorite stories to their parents.

All in all, this program succeeds in bringing parents, students and teachers together in a special way.

Cranston-Warwick Hadassah Luncheon

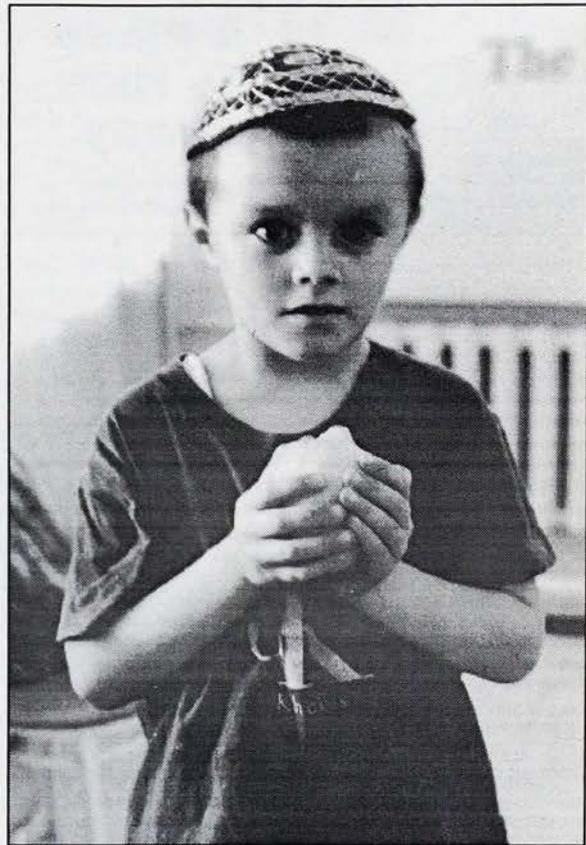
Cranston-Warwick Group of Rhode Island Chapter of Hadassah will hold its 12th annual Special Gifts luncheon on Oct. 4, at noon at the Brown Faculty Club, 1 Magee St., Providence.

The 1998 theme: "Hands of Healing" will emphasize Hadassah Medical Organization, serving all people in the Middle East, regardless of race or color and Hadassah Research Centers serving all the world.

Minimum contribution is \$150. For reservations or more information, call Marian Goldstein at 737-6682 or Shirley Schreiber at 738-0934. Spouses are welcome as guests.

Members of the committee are: co-chairwomen: Norma Friedman and Dorothy Kramer; publicity: Helen Abrams and Ruth Ross; decorations: Bertha Goldberg, Fran Sadler and Shirley Zier; entertainment: Evelyn Wasser and Marian Goldstein; invitations/program: Betty Adler and Fran Sadler; reservations: Marian Goldstein and Shirley Schreiber; secretary: Shirley Zier; treasurer: Arlene Luber; telephone coordinator: Ruth Siperstein.

If you have an event you would like featured on our Jewish Community, please send it to the Rhode Island Jewish Herald, P.O. Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 02940



Preserving Russian-Jewish Youth

Misha (Mendel) Bolshak, age 6, a former street child from Dnepropetrovsk, learns about the Etrog as he prepares to celebrate the first Jewish holiday of his life, Sukkot, in his new home, Tzivos Hashem's Home for Boys. In the former Soviet Union, Tzivos Hashem runs youth activities, Passover and summer camps, youth clubs, orphanages, and a medical clinic. They also publish Russian-language children's books, and circulate a newsletter for the more than 10,000 members of Tzivos Hashem of the CIS. In the United States Tzivos Hashem has more than 100,000 members, and is creating the first ever Jewish Children's Museum.

Photo courtesy of Tzivos Hashem

Rhode Island Hadassah Fall Events

Rhode Island Hadassah is joining with the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island and the R.I. Council of Churches in sponsoring an evening with candidates for state office.

The event will be Oct. 15, at 7 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center, Providence.

The September primary has determined the candidates for state office. Be an informed voter: come listen to the candidates — question — voice your opinion.

Paid-up membership meeting is on Oct. 18 at 10 a.m. at the Shalom Apartments, Warwick.

Join the group for a morning filled with Jewish humor, presented by Burton Fischman, Ph.D.

Come hear a potpourri of stories and jokes based on Jewish comedians we have known.

Partake of a delicious brunch. R.S.V.P. essential: Ruth Ross 781-2478.

The Creative Power of Voice

"The Creative Power of Voice" with Miriam Goldsmith is back by popular demand. Goldsmith returns to Feinstein CCE to conduct four consecutive workshops on finding and using the power of voice. Participants are asked to commit to all sessions so as to be able to benefit the most from the material. The four-part series is held on Oct. 8, 15, 22, and 29 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., room 244.

The cost is \$20/series for URI students and \$40/series for all others. Payment and registration are in room 125 prior to first session. Limited to 20 people.

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Business Owners: New Supreme Court Ruling States Employers Liable for Sexual Harassment Acts They Don't Know About

The seven-member majority sent down the new ruling that presumes companies are to blame when supervisors create a sexually hostile workplace environment.

Providence, R.I. Business Owners only: A FREE Report has just been released that reveals proven ways to help protect your business from unpredictable Employment-Based Lawsuits, such as Harassment, Discrimination, Wrongful Termination and much more! Call 1-800-530-8909, Ext. 404, 24-hours a day, for a FREE RECORDED MESSAGE, and a copy of our "Powerful 13 Step Employment Practices Checklist" to Avoid High-Priced, Employee-Based Lawsuits. Find out what other Business Owners have already learned to protect their businesses and enjoy greater financial security!

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Leading Candidates Will Speak at Temple Sinai

The Brotherhood of Temple Sinai, Cranston, will host state, Congressional, and Cranston and Warwick mayoral candidates at a series of Sunday morning breakfasts, continuing a biennial practice that began during the 1970 elections.

Richard Blackman of Warwick, Brotherhood president, says the programs are intended to inform Temple Sinai members about the candidates and issues. The programs begin with a free breakfast at 9 a.m. in the temple social hall.

On Oct. 4, Warwick mayoral candidates, Mayor Lincoln Chafee, Republican; George Zainyeh, Democrat, and Tim Rossano, Cool Moose, are scheduled to speak, along with the two Cranston candidates for mayor, John O'Leary, Democrat, and Raymond Votto, Republican.

During the morning program, Robert J. Healey, Cool Moose candidate for governor, and John Devine, Reform gu-

bernatorial candidate, also will be heard.

Attorney Joel Chase, who will be the moderator at all three programs in the series, will accept questions from the audience, as time permits.

At the Oct. 18 breakfast, Myrth York, the Democratic candidate for governor; Charles Fogarty, candidate for lieutenant governor, and Secretary of State James Langevin, who is seeking re-election, will be among Democratic candidates appearing.

Governor Lincoln Almond, who is seeking re-election, leads the group of Republican candidates scheduled to speak at the Oct. 25 breakfast program. Also scheduled are Gen. Treasurer Nancy Mayer, the GOP candidate for attorney general; Ed. Lopez, candidate for secretary of state; James Bennett, who is running for general treasurer, and James Mattson, the party's Second Congressional District candidate.

JTS Kicks Off Fall Havruta

In havruta, participants of all ages study, argue over, and add their own commentary to a text of Talmud, theology or mysticism. Following small group study, a master scholar presents a lecture on the text. JTS's widely acclaimed havruta program is open to those on all levels of skill; no Hebrew knowledge is required. The subjects change each semester, but the learning continues.

The fall 1998 program offers these three engaging topics:

- The Theology havruta, Jewish Liturgy: Between Conflict and Meaning, taught by Rabbi Neil Gillman, explores the liturgical formulation of some biblical and classical Jewish doctrines, beginning with selections from the High Holy Day liturgy, and continuing with the central portions of the daily and Shabbat liturgy. Monday evenings: Oct. 19, 26; Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; Dec. 7.

- The Talmud havruta, Getting A Trial Started: Sanhedrin, Chapter Three, taught by Rabbi Joel Roth, focuses on setting up a court and running a trial. Tuesday evenings: Oct. 20, 27; Nov. 3, 10, 17, 24; Dec. 1, 8.

The Jewish mysticism havruta, How to Read a Hasidic Text: The Case of R. Nahman of Bratzlav, taught by Dr. Shaul Magid, focuses on some longer homilies of Rabbi Nahman of Bratzlav, an early Hasidic master whose personality and writings have been the inspiration of generations of religious seekers. This course will pay particular attention to the way he reads canonical Jewish literature. Wednesday evenings: Oct. 21, 28; Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25; Dec. 2, 9.

The series opens with a special session for all classes in the JTS Sukkah on Oct. 8 at 8 p.m. Thereafter, classes will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. for eight weeks. The cost for each program will be \$200. Discounts available for students and senior citizens.

The Jewish Theological Seminary located at 3080 Broadway at 122nd Street, New York, NY 10027-4649, (212) 678-8000 or <www.jtsa.edu>.

Arthur Levin Receives Ram Award

The University of Rhode Island Alumni Association recently selected Arthur M. Levin as recipient of the Ram Award for Meritorious Service.

The award is presented in recognition of Levin's long, continuous, and outstanding service to the alumni association and the university. This is the highest award the alumni association can bestow.

With 260 alums from URI living in Arizona, Levin is the chapter leader of the Arizona URI Alumni "Rhode Runner" chapter.



Left to right: Robert Beagle, vice president of University Advancement; Laura Levin, honorary alum 1996; Art Levin, Class of '51; University President Dr. Robert L. Carothers.

Ben-Gurion University and the Environment

American Associates, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev announced the presentation of a workshop by Professor Uriel Safrieli, director of the Jacob Blaustein Institute for Desert Research at Ben-Gurion University, entitled "Development and the Environment: Conflict or Symbiosis." Professor Safrieli will focus on the challenges in the environment, looking at the past, present and future, and how the Blaustein Institute and Israel as a nation are helping other countries in this aspect.

The goal of the Jacob Blaustein Institute is to carry out research on the desert environment, required for promoting sustainable uses of the Negev Desert and other drylands which comprise more than 40 percent of the global land area. Approximately 100

scientists from other Israeli universities and foreign institutions are currently collaborating with BIDR, a demonstration of the national role and international significance of this Ben-Gurion University's institute for desert research.

The workshop will be a part of the Israel at 50: Progress and Promise program on Oct. 25 at the Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center, Newton. Together with the consul general of Israel to New England and nine American organizations affiliated with institutions in Israel, we invite all to attend this event, an historic first for New England, as we reflect on and celebrate the past, present and future of Israel in a wide scope of topics.

For more information, call (617) 566-0666.

Film Series at RI Holocaust Memorial Museum

The following films will be shown at the RI Holocaust Memorial Museum during the month of October:

Oct. 1 — "A Portrait of Elie Weisel," 10 a.m. and "A Friendship in Vienna," 1 p.m.

Oct. 7 — "Rescue in Scandinavia," 10 a.m. and "Survivors of the Holocaust," 1:30 p.m.

Oct. 9 — "The Shop on Main Street," 10:30 a.m. 1965 Academy Award-winner Czechoslovakian film (black and white with subtitles).

Oct. 15 — "The Long Way Home," 10 a.m. 1997 Academy Award winner which traces the intimate stories of courage between the end of World War II and the formation of Israel.

Oct. 19 — "Looking Into the Faces of Evil," 10 a.m. and "Liberators," 1:30 p.m.

Oct. 23 — "They Risked Their Lives," 10:30 a.m.

Oct. 26 — "Road to Wannsee" 10:30 a.m. and "The Wave," 1:30 p.m.

Oct. 28 — "Schindler's List," 10 a.m.

All films are free and open to the public.

For more information about the film series or the RI Holocaust Memorial Museum, please visit the museum on the lower level of the JCCRI or call Tara V. Liscandro, executive director, at 453-7860.

Breakfast Meeting at Temple Torat Yisrael

The Men's Club of Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., is planning a breakfast meeting on Oct. 11 at 9:30 a.m.

Guest speaker is Mr. Neil Dowling, financial columnist for Money Line featured in the *Providence Journal*, will speak on IRAs. All member of the temple are invited.

Assistant Surgeon General Speaks at Miriam Hospital

Susan J. Blumenthal, M.D., M.P.A., Assistant Surgeon General, Rear Admiral, and Senior Science Advisor in the Department of Health and Human Services is scheduled to be the keynote speaker at The Miriam Hospital Women's Association's Equipment Event Brunch on Nov. 23, at 11:30 to 2 p.m. at the ballroom of the Biltmore Hotel in Providence. Blumenthal is the highest ranking female medical doctor in the Clinton administration and a recognized authority on women's health issues.

According to Blumenthal,

behavioral and lifestyle factors contribute to more than 50 percent of the top 10 killers of American women. Among these factors are smoking, alcohol and drug abuse, unsafe sexual practices and failure to wear a seat belt.

The Miriam Hospital Women's Association, the group that founded The Miriam Hospital, celebrates its 102nd year, and currently has more than 1,400 members. The Equipment Event is the association's annual drive to purchase additional needed equipment for the hospital.

Temple Emanu-El Leisure Club

The Leisure Club of Temple Emanu-El will have its opening program on Oct. 4 at 2 p.m. in the Meeting House. We will present Stephen Martorella, an accomplished pianist, in a concert entitled "From Bach to Joplin and Everything in Between."

The Leisure Club is a dynamic group open to all those 60 years old and above. We offer a variety of social, educational, and cultural programs and classes. In addition to weekday classes, we offer monthly Sunday programs and trips three to four times each year. Our first day of regular classes will be Oct. 15. Membership is \$15 per year and entitles you to all these wonderful activities.

For more information, call Chairperson, Marjorie Yarnel, 463-9226, or the program coordinator, Miriam Abrams-Stark, 331-1616.

Claims Conference Goodwill Fund Deadline Extended to December 31, 1998

Individuals who failed to register claims for restitution of Jewish property in the former East Germany by the December 31, 1992 German Government deadline may apply to the Claims Conference Goodwill Fund.

The Claims Conference Goodwill Fund shares net proceeds from the recovery of properties which it obtained as the legal successor to unclaimed Jewish property.

Applications to the Goodwill Fund will be accepted through December 31, 1998. Please write to the address below, indicating:

- The address of the property
- The name of the original property owner
- Your relationship to the original owner
- Your name and mailing address

Claims Conference Successor Organization Goodwill Fund
Sophienstrasse 26
60487 Frankfurt am Main, Germany

To aid applicants who do not have complete information, the Claims Conference is establishing a Department for Property Identification. If you believe that you or your relatives may have owned Jewish property in the former East Germany, please include as much information as possible in your application and the Department will endeavor to identify such property. Please write by December 31, 1998 to Mr. Peter Heuss, Department for Property Identification, at the above address. There will be no charge for this service.

JEWISH COMMUNITY

Author at Hadassah Study Weekend

Dr. Carol Diamant, the national director of education for Hadassah, the women's Zionist Organization of America, will serve as scholar-in-residence for a Shabbat study weekend sponsored by the Western New England Region of Hadassah. The event is scheduled for Oct. 31 and Nov. 1 at the Radisson Hotel in Burlington, Vt.

The theme for the weekend is "Jewish and American: Facing the Challenge." Study sessions will revolve around the five units of the book, *Jewish Women: Living the Challenge*, which Diamant edited. This book recently received the Simon Rockower Award for excellence in journalism.

Diamant has held the post of director of Jewish education at Hadassah since 1986. Before coming to Hadassah, Diamant was professor of Jewish history

of Queens College, having earned her doctorate in Jewish history at Yeshiva University. She is the first, and to date, the only woman to have completed a doctorate in Jewish studies at YU.

Diamant chairs the distinguished Hebrew Language Committee of the American Advisory Council of the Joint Authority for Jewish/Zionist Education and has been active in many community organizations. She presides over education institutes, and implements education seminars and symposia throughout the country and in Israel, along with her ongoing editorial duties in producing Hadassah publications.

Deadline for registration is Oct. 10. For more information, call Sydell Roth at (518) 781-4078, or Karen Dannin at 846-8030.

Young Judaea Movement Comes to Burlington

The Young Judaea youth movement has announced that it is forming new clubs in the Burlington, Vt., area. The first programs will take place at 7:30 p.m., Oct. 31, at the Radisson Hotel in Burlington. Children in third to sixth grades, seventh and eighth grades, and ninth through 12th grades will each have their own targeted activities during An Evening of Fun with Young Judaea.

New England Region Assistant Director Mor Barzel, along with other Young Judaea leaders, will lead the group in activities designed to introduce them to the movement. Barzel, a citizen of both Canada and Israel, holds a B.S. degree in physiology and psychology from McGill University, Montreal, and an M.A. in child development from Tufts University. She joined the Young Judaea regional office in

1977, after several years of experience as a camp director, and as a summer staff counselor and guide for Young Judaea Summer Programs in Israel.

Young Judaea, founded in 1909, is sponsored by Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America. Its members come from all movements within Judaism, as well as from secular families. The organization sponsors year-round youth clubs and summer camps in the United States, and summer and yearlong Israel experiences.

There is no cost for this event, but advance registration is strongly encouraged. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call Burlington area Young Judaea leader Miriam Sturgis at (802) 879-0463, Sydell Roth at (518) 781-4078, Carol Goodman Kaufman at (508) 753-4488.



Bank Rhode Island Donates to JFS

Doing the honors at the Bank Rhode Island East Side grand opening were Governor Lincoln Almond, Bank Rhode Island CEO and President Merrill W. Sherman, Bank Rhode Island Chairman Malcom G. Chace and Providence Mayor Vincent A. Cianci. The 137 Pitman St. branch hosted a grand opening celebration to highlight branch conveniences, including the East Side's only drive-up ATM. To celebrate the grand opening, Bank Rhode Island will donate \$25 to an East Side non-profit group for every deposit account that is opened in the branch during the next four weeks. In recognition of the important support that the Jewish Family Services supplies, Bank Rhode Island has designated this organization as one of those to receive funding.

Photo by Constance Brown

'Nature's Sculptures' Program at Temple Beth-El

Four communities will benefit from the proceeds of a joint meeting planned by garden clubs of the Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs.

Angle Tree, The Dirt Gardeners, Eden Garden Club, and Rehoboth Garden Club will present "Nature's Sculptures" on Oct. 15 at 1 p.m. at Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave. in Providence.

Gloria Freitas, creative floral designer, will demonstrate.

Angle Tree Garden Club maintains Route One Friendship Garden and Herb Garden at Woodcock Garrison House, North Attleboro, seasonal plantings at the post office, Richard Memorial Library and Elm Terrace, and provides new

books to the Richard Memorial Library.

The Dirt Gardeners are involved with landscaping the area surrounding the Constance Witherby Memorial Statue on the center strip of Blackstone Boulevard.

Eden Garden Club maintains the Biblical Gardens at Temple Beth-El.

The Rehoboth Garden Club is involved in many community endeavors. Among them are awarding a yearly scholarship to a local student in related studies, maintaining the triangle entrance to Rehoboth Village, and decorating the Rehoboth public buildings in December. In addition, they maintain the herb garden and memorial gar-

den at the Carpenter Museum.

The meeting is open to the public for a fee of \$5. There is no fee for the participating clubs. Dessert will be served.

For information and/or directions: In Rhode Island, call 751-5616 or 331-5616, in Massachusetts call (508) 695-6443 or (508) 399-8308.

A tour of Temple Beth-El and/or the Biblical Garden will also be available at no extra cost.

Nancy D. Lurie Promoted

Nancy Lurie, a 1994 graduate of Cleveland College of Jewish Studies Fellows program has been promoted to the director of distance learning at the College of Jewish Studies.

Upon completion of the Fellows program, Lurie worked as retreat director at Anshe Chesed Fairmount. Prior to her appointment at The Cleveland College of Jewish Studies, she lived in Jerusalem where she studied Hebrew. She worked for Ramah Programs in Israel at the Ramah Israel Institute as a program coordinator planning and overseeing educational trips for eighth-grade day school, 10th-grade community school and family trips to Israel.

She was also a program development intern at the Melitz education organization in Israel. She developed a course in family education for tour educators in Israel and created family educational experiences within the framework of an inter-organizational think tank funded by the Ministry of Education and produced extensive sourcebook for courses in family education.

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MILESTONES

Amy Feldman Weds Robert Pressman

Quidnessett Country Club in North Kingstown was the setting for the wedding of Amy Feldman and Robert Pressman on July 19. The bride is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Martin Feldman of Warren, R.I., and the bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Pressman of Hyde Park, Mass.

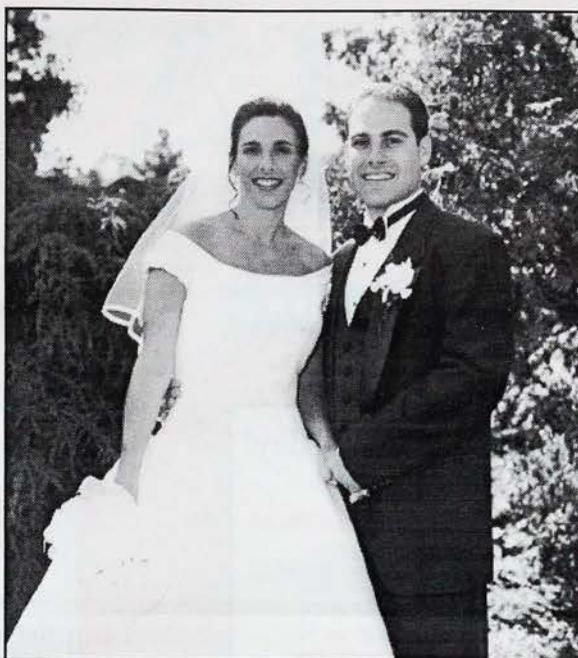
Rabbi James Rosenberg officiated at the 11 a.m. ceremony. The reception was held at the Quidnessett Country Club.

The bride was given in marriage by her father, Dr. Martin Feldman.

Julie Feldman, sister of the bride, was honor attendant. Wendy Feldman and Laurie Feldman, sisters of the bride, were bridesmaids as were Jeanne Scarella and Tosca Eckhardt.

Joel Pressman, brother of the bridegroom, was best man. Ushers were Andrew Feldman, brother of the bridegroom, Gary Miller, Jamie Dame, and Shea Stickler.

The bride graduated from Barrington High School, Syracuse University and has a master's from Rhode Island College. She is employed as a teacher of English as a second language for the Providence School Department.



Mr. and Mrs. Robert Pressman

The bridegroom is a graduate of Boston Technical High School and Suffolk University and is a marketing assistant at

Asthma and Allergy Physicians in Brockton.

They honeymooned in Hawaii and reside in Providence.

Ami Smith to Wed Daniel Biran

Susan and Harvey Smith of Providence, R.I., and Carol Smith and Richard Glowacki of Weston, Fla., announce the engagement of their daughter, Ami Smith of Allston, Mass., to Daniel Biran of Allston, Mass., son of Ellie and Asiya Berditchevsky of Tel Aviv, Israel.

The bride-to-be graduated from Syracuse University with a B.A. and from the University of Massachusetts with a M. Ed. She is the manager of the Foxboro Furniture Leather Gallery in Foxboro, Mass.

Her fiancé is currently attending Northeastern University in Boston, Mass., where he is enrolled in the physical therapy program. He is employed at the Meridian Hotel, Boston, Mass.

The date of the wedding is March 27, 1999.



Ami Smith and Daniel Biran

NEAT Student Name Semi-finalist

The New England Academy of Torah announces that Leah Scharf has been named as a National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalist. She is an 11th-grader at NEAT, and the daughter of Arlene Mathese-Scharf and Stuart Scharf of Sharon, Mass. She has been a student at the Providence Hebrew Day school since the fifth grade.

Approximately 15,500 semi-finalists in the 44th annual National Merit Scholarship Program were announced on Sept. 16. These academically talented high school seniors now have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,600 Merit Scholarship awards, worth more than \$28 million, that will be offered next spring.

National Merit Scholarship Corporation, which conducts the academic competition, is a privately financed, not-for-profit corporation. Scholarships awarded through the merit program are supported by about 6,500 independent sponsor organizations and institutions that join NMSC in its efforts to honor scholastically able young men and women, to broaden their educational opportunities, and to encourage academic excellence at all levels.

Nearly 1.2 million students in more than 20,000 U.S. schools entered the 1999 Merit Program as juniors by taking the 1997 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying TEST, which served as an initial screen of program entrants. Semi-finalists named today are

the highest scorers in each state and represent less than 1 percent of each state's high school graduating class.

About 90 percent, or approximately 14,000, of the semi-finalists are expected to meet the high standards required to become finalists. All 7,600 Merit Scholar designees will be chosen for the finalist group — without regard to gender, race, ethnic origin, or religious preference.

Scholarship winners will be the finalist candidates judged by professionals in admission and selection to have the strongest combination of abilities, academic and extracurricular achievements, and personal attributes considered to be important for success in rigorous college studies.

Scherza Enrolls at Hamilton College

Dean Scherza, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Scherza of Ashburne Street in Pawtucket, recently began studies as a first-year student at Hamilton College in Clinton, N.Y.

A graduate of The Gunnery, Scherza was selected from 3,882 applicants to the college, and joins a class of 467.

An independent, highly selective liberal arts college, Hamilton was founded in 1812 and is today among the oldest colleges in the United States. It is named for Alexander Hamilton, the first secretary of the treasury, and features a strong curriculum in the humanities, the arts, the natural sciences and the social sciences. The college, which enrolls approximately 1,650 students, is noted for the close interaction that takes place between faculty and students.

Rabbi Lefkowitz Joins Campus Ministry Staff at Johnson & Wales University

Rabbi Benjamin Lefkowitz was recently named the new Jewish chaplain at Johnson and Wales University. Currently working with Hillel, plans are already in place for sukkah-decorating party, and regular shabbat evening services. Services will be in McNulty Hall, in the fourth floor lounge.

"Rabbi Ben" will be on campus regularly on Mondays and Wednesdays. He is also rabbi of Temple Beth Shalom of Hull, Mass., and is concurrently serving as chaplain at Star of David in West Roxbury, Mass., adjunct instructor of religious studies at Stonehill College in Easton, Mass., and adjunct instructor of social sciences at

Community College of Rhode Island.

Rabbi Lefkowitz is one of the founders of Hospice Care of Greater Taunton; he has served on numerous community boards, including the Visiting Nurse Association of Southeastern Massachusetts, the United Way of Greater Taunton, and The Jewish Community Council of South County, R.I.

He is a former president of the Taunton Clergy Association.

Rabbi Lefkowitz, and his wife, Barbara, a violinist with the Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra, reside in Warwick, R.I., with their children Amy and Daniel.



Devin Joshua Weinberg

Carl and Lisa (Rocha) Weinberg of Cranston, R.I., announce the birth of their son, Devin Joshua — 7 lbs. 6 1/2 oz, 20 1/2 inches long on Sept. 1, 1998.

The maternal grandparents are Silvino and Norma Rocha of Riverside, R.I., and the paternal grandparents are Samuel and Lillian Weinberg of Cranston, R.I.

Shelly Aviva to Wed Joel Padowitz

Dr. Michael and Andrea Lieberman of North Bellmore, Long Island, announce the engagement of their daughter, Shelly Aviva, granddaughter of Rabbi Philip and Esther Koffler Kaplan. Shelly is the great-granddaughter of the late Charles and Sarah Koffler. Her fiancé is Joel Eugene Padowitz, son of Marilyn and Raymond Padowitz of San Diego, Calif., and grandson of Mrs. and Mrs. Bernard Lazarus of Durban, South Africa.



Ethan Elgin Vilker

Lee and Ronitte Vilker of Glen Ridge, N. J., announce the birth of their first child, a son, Ethan Elgin, on Aug. 22.

Paternal grandparents are Sam and Nancy Vilker of Cranston. Maternal grandfather is Walter David of Israel.

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Creative Ideas Reception Even

A little extra creativity can turn your reception into a reception of the 21st century. Appoint yourself creative director about details and delicate touches to make your reception shine for you and your guests. The following is a list of ideas from our magazine.

Victorian

- If you are planning an outdoor Victorian reception, choose a spot: a garden with weeping willow, a stream with a gurgling brook.

- For an indoor location, choose a grand estate, or a chalet with a sweeping, curving staircase.

- Give the guests little doily cones of confetti to throw as you and your groom walk down the aisle.

- Don't stash your bouquet away at the altar. Carry it to the reception table.

- Serve cookies in the shape of wedding rings on handsome silver-plated trays.

- Instead of placing the cake ornaments on the table, place them on the floor.

- Fill a ceramic planter with ice cubes and blossoms to create an unexpected centerpiece.

- Romantic Victorian flowers include carnations, chrysanthemums and iris.

- An honored French custom is to drink champagne at the wedding, a large double-handled glass.

- Why not adopt an old Armenian tradition of releasing a pair of white doves from a cage. This symbolizes peace and love.

- Amend a Chinese tradition, and have a toast at the reception.

- At German wedding receptions, serve a small square of checkered napkin in which they are inserted.

- At a Greek reception, the bride and groom cut the wedding cake, signifying their union.

- Swedish weddings aren't complete without a toast featuring various fish courses, cold meats, and many types of aquivat (water of life).

- In Scotland, savorys, like crusty scones, are served before or after a meal with bacon, grilled tomatoes and mushrooms. For dessert, the Scottish serve haggis.

- In military weddings, it is customary to have the framed arch of swords and sabers over the altar. Is your reception geared to your occupation? In England, the bride and groom hold nightsticks for constables.

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Delights

... Victorian wedding, consider a romantic lilacs, wisteria, or a lake, fish-pond or

... historic mansion or lodge, a country driving driveway or dramatic staircase.

... baskets filled with color-coordinated ... leave.

... after the ceremony; place it on the cake

... wedding cakes. Consider serving them to ... trays.

... ent on top of the cake, have it adorn

... will champagne; decorate with berries ... ice bucket.

... de baby's breath, bachelor's buttons, ... s, among others.

... ink the wedding toast from the coupe ... oblet or bowl.

... addition? During the reception, release ... symbolizes unity and love.

... pass out fortune cookies during the

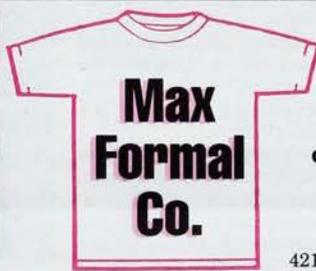
... guests are given a large red-and-blue- ... vited to take home leftovers.

... d groom share bites of the same piece ... n.

... e without an elaborate smorgasbord, ... ats, salads, hot dishes and, of course,

... hot or cold meat pies and tiny light ... The main course consists of sausage ... rooms, and finnan haddie or Scotch ... peach melba, trifle or soft custard.

... ry for the happy couple to pass under ... Why not have a personal arch that's ... , pitchforks are used for farmers and



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Host a Party for Your Wedding Party

During the months between your engagement and your wedding day, the planning involved may seem endless. Throughout this time, there is a group of people who will play a very large part in your plans — they're the ones you'll turn to in a pinch, be it for comic relief or a sympathetic ear — your wedding party.

The bridesmaids and groomsmen you choose will be a major force in your wedding. While you have chosen each of them because of the special bond you share, chances are they don't all share this same bond with each other.

Many couples will choose a mixture of siblings and other close relatives, friends from school, and friends they grew up with. Sadly, when they make it to the first dance at the reception, they usually won't look as though they're having any fun. The remedy is really quite simple — take care of all necessary introductions, and a good time will be had by all.

It's a good idea to get the wedding party together as soon as you can, not only for your own peace of mind, but as a courtesy to them.

They will be doing a lot of planning over the course of your engagement as well. There's the bridal shower, the bachelor and bachelorette parties, and the shopping for gowns and tuxedos. With the initial introductions and awkwardness out of the way, you have already done them a favor.

Make the meeting casual. A Sunday brunch or coffee and dessert, whatever is most convenient and suitable for you and your attendants.

Keep in mind that the one common bond your wedding party does have is you, and so many of the discussions may very well revolve around the happy couple.

As stories of your pre-engagement antics are swapped, try to picture how beautiful your wedding day will be with these close friends and family at your side and how nice it will be when these friendly, smiling faces join you for your first dance as husband and wife.

FEATURE

Names From Fame & Obscurity — The Man With The Golden Arm

by Kimberly Ann Orlandi
Herald Editor

When baseball was America's true pastime, there were no signing bonuses, no multi-million dollar contracts or product endorsements. Instead, players played for the sheer love of the game. They traveled not in the first-class sections of a fancy airline, but on hot and stuffy buses, often riding for days before they reached their destination. Handsome spectators would fill Fenway Park, Ebbets Field, Camdan Yards dressed in crisp three-piece suits with matching fedoras atop their heads. It was truly a gentlemen's game. In years past, however, the game seems to have lost some of its initial innocence in the midst of the turmoil caused by the bickering contract negotiations, players strikes and the lack of consideration displayed by some ball players for what has transpired before them.

But today, the game has enjoyed a rebirth. Thanks to Chicago outfielder Sammy Sosa and Cardinals first baseman Mike McGwire, the game has been brought back to its glory days of old. Back to the days of Babe Ruth, Joe DiMaggio and legendary southpaw Dodger, Sandy Koufax.

Born Sanford Brown Koufax, Koufax's eventual Hall of Fame status was evident at an early age as he played on the dusty neighborhood sandlots of Brooklyn, New York. As a teenager, Koufax could fire a fast ball over home plate at an astounding 90 miles an hour but with very little control, something which would force him

to sit on the bench during his first four years in the majors.

As a student at both Lafayette High School and later at the University of Cincinnati, he played forward for the basketball team, averaging 10 points a game. While playing baseball in college, he struck out 51 batters in 32 innings, 34 of those strikeouts were in consecutive games. Without a doubt, Koufax was destined to be a baseball player, and in the early '50s he set out on his dream, trying out for the New York Giants. Although passed over, he was sought after by the Pirates and Braves. However, hometown loyalty, and a larger signing bonus, won out in the fight between Pittsburgh and Milwaukee, and Koufax was signed to the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1955.

It was spring in New York, and the Dodgers were in the midst of training camp. This was going to be the year "dope bums" would finally grab a World Series championship, without Koufax on the mound. Due to a league rule which stated that a "bonus baby" should not be sent for seasoning in the minors, but slowly ripen on the bench in the big leagues, Koufax sat patiently and studied the styles of Don Newcombe, Johnny Podres, Sal Maglie and Clem Labine who that year, took their first, and last, world championship.

Finally, after four years of warming the bench, Koufax pitched in his first major league game, racking up 173 strikeouts in just 153 innings, helping to propel the new Los Angeles Dodgers to a pennant and World

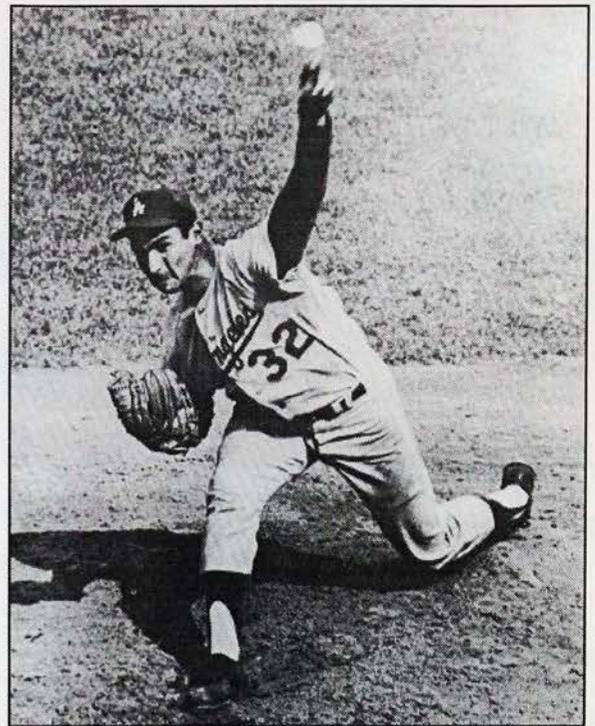
Series championship over the Chicago White Sox.

The 1960 season proved to be less memorable than that of '59. Koufax's won-lost record dropped from 8-6 in '59 to 8-13 in '60. General manager Buzzie Bavasi said the dip was caused by "an unnatural rush in his pitching gait and a silent temper."

Working with his back-up pitcher Norm Sherry, who advised him to "just try to get the ball over," Koufax learned to control his pitch while maintaining an amazing speed. For the next six years, Koufax would be known as the "Man with the Golden Arm," and woe to any batter who got in the way of a Koufax pitch.

The years that followed were known simply to fans and sports writers alike as the Koufax era. Upon his retirement in 1966, due to arthritis of the elbow, Koufax left his hallmark on the record books. Named Cy Young Award winner in '63, '65 and '66 and M.V.P. in '63, Koufax was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1971. When the Dodgers retired number 32 in 1966, Koufax had 317 strikeouts to his credit (269 strikeouts in 1961, 306 in 1963, and 382 in 1965). He held the lowest ERA record for five straight years and the record of four no-hitters, that is until Houston's Nolan Ryan surpassed him in 1981.

Koufax may best be known not for his ability to strike out a batter, but for his boycotting of a



Sandy Koufax

Photo taken from the Fabulous Baseball Facts, Feats, and Figures

game in 1965 which fell on the first day of Yom Kippur. As it happened, it was also the first game of the '65 World Series against the Minnesota Twins. Being the Holiest Day of the Jewish year, Koufax refused to pitch in the game, opting instead to attend synagogue with his parents. This seemed to make Koufax more famous than his Cy Young Award of that year. In for Koufax was Don Drysdale

who, after three innings, was pulled from the game because of his inability to strike out a batter. As he walked back to the dug-out, past the manager, Drysdale said, "I bet you wish I was Jewish, too!" Upon returning to the series following Yom Kippur, Koufax pitched a shut out in the fifth and seventh games, cementing the series for the Dodgers.

Divine intervention? Possibly.

Clinton Calls For Fight Against Terrorism

by Julia Goldman

NEW YORK (JTA) — In a speech at the United Nations recently, President Clinton put the fight against terrorism at the top of the U.S. agenda and suggested that the world follow suit.

"We must show people they have everything to gain by embracing cooperation and renouncing violence," he told the world leaders gathered at the 53rd session of the U.N. General Assembly. "This is not simply an American or a Western re-

sponsibility; it is the world's responsibility."

Clinton's remarks came on the same day that Iranian President Mohammad Khatami also spoke.

The State Department recently listed Iran as the world's leading sponsor of terrorism, and it is known to support anti-Israel guerrillas in Lebanon. But Khatami denied this role in his U.N. speech, stressing instead the need for "dialogue among civilizations."

While Khatami did not repeat his criticism of the Oslo peace accords, he did say that "Palestine" is the homeland of Muslims, Christians and Jews and "not the laboratory for the violent whims of Zionists."

Clinton's concern with terrorist activity was reiterated in speeches by British Prime Minister Tony Blair and by Chandrika Kumaratunga, the president of Sri Lanka, two countries beleaguered for years by ethnic and sectarian fighting.

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan also spoke about the issue in his opening address, delivered recently before President Clinton spoke. In his remarks, Annan included a veiled rebuke to the United States, which on Aug. 20 bombed targets in Sudan and Afghanistan that the administration said were linked to a terrorist ring run by Osama Bin Laden.

"Terrorism is a global menace," Annan said. "Individual



President Clinton

actions by member states, whether aimed at state or non-state actors, cannot in themselves provide a solution."

Clinton neither outlined a new American anti-terrorism policy nor addressed the U.S. missile attacks, which have received criticism from a number of countries.

The administration has said the attacks were launched in retaliation for terrorist bombings at two U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania.

Clinton recommended broad guidelines for fighting terrorism that he insisted did not reflect antagonism between the United States and the Muslim world.

The administration has asked Congress for \$1.8 million to bolster security at American embassies and to assist countries where political and economic conditions encourage terrorist recruitment.

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Russians Move From Isolation to Activism in U.S. Jewish Life

by Julia Goldman

NEW YORK (JTA) — On a warm summer afternoon, guests gathered poolside at the country home of Semyon and Ludmila Kislin — sunglasses on and checkbooks out.

That day the group of about 100 members of the Russian Division of UJA-Federation of Philanthropies of New York raised \$15,000 for the federation's annual campaign.

"For us, it's a good sum for a pool party," said Ludmila Kislin, the division's co-chair and a federation board member.

And the party is just part of a bigger splash.

The Russian division has a mailing list of 7,000 and a growing roster of active members, including a young leadership wing. Its first campaign 10 years ago collected \$30,000 to help bring Jews out of the former Soviet Union.

Last year's gala at a New York hotel raised \$1.4 million for the New York federation.

The exceptional fund-raising power of New York's émigré community may have much to do with its size: An estimated 20 to 25 percent of the city's 1 million Jews are native Russian speakers. The success also stems from the organizational efforts of a Russian-speaking leadership in the federation, who serve as a bridge between the Jewish establishment and the immigrant community.

Attracting such leaders is a challenge Jewish agencies across the United States are now facing as they turn their energies from refugee resettlement to membership cultivation.

More than 400,000 Jews from the former Soviet Union poured

into the United States since the 1970s — most of them after the 1991 collapse of the Soviet empire — making Russian the language of a significant portion of America's Jewish population.

Almost without exception, these newcomers were helped along the way by a tag team of Jewish agencies.

Now, as émigrés have established themselves in American society — landing jobs, finding homes and raising families — many are seeking, in turn, a more proactive relationship with the organized Jewish community.

"It's a two-way street. We will help the federation and the federation will help us," said Ilya Tsender, a telecommunications engineer who came from St. Petersburg in 1980 to California's Silicon Valley, where one of every four Jews hails from the former Soviet Union.

A board member of the Bay Area Council for Jewish Rescue and Resettlement, Tsender has been tapped for the Émigré Leadership Institute, an initiative of the Jewish Community Federation of San Francisco, which is scheduled to launch in January.

"The idea is to develop a core group of 15 to 20 émigré leaders who have proven leadership ability and are interested in developing participation of émigrés in the broader Jewish community," said Prina Levermore, the council's executive director.

During the course of four months, ELI will orient participants in navigating the organized Jewish community and will provide instruction in basic leadership skills, such as meeting management, public speaking and fiscal planning.

A similar institute run by the American Jewish Committee opened last year, offering 25 potential New York-area leaders workshops on leadership and religious pluralism, as well as a trip to Capitol Hill. Jewish groups in Atlanta and Chicago have expressed interest in adapting the curriculum for their communities.

"What is good here is the understanding that Jewish immigrants from the former Soviet Union are not just the object of assistance and acculturation, but should also be actively involved in the life of the Jewish community at large," said Alexander Lakshin, a consultant at the New York-based Coalition for Soviet Jewry, who participated in the AJ Committee program.

In fact, requests from émigrés themselves generated leadership training programs on both coasts.

In San Francisco, where some 30,000 Russian-speaking immigrants compose about one-fifth of the Jewish population, the federation's executive director, Wayne Feinstein, met with the local representatives of several national organizations founded by immigrants, such as the American Association of Jews from the former Soviet Union and other groups representing the Bukharans, Georgians, scientists and engineers, and World War II veterans.

One factor contributing to this desire is the area's employment base — 20 percent of the émigrés work in high-tech industries — which creates a solidly middle-class constituency with the leisure and resources to devote to Jewish organizations.

Feinstein also credits a consistent 20-year effort by the federation to introduce immigrant families to Jewish communal life. Jewish agencies in other cities have struggled to perfect the outreach formula — how much is too much, too soon, too American or not Jewish enough. Language, too, is an obstacle.

But even when the elements fall into place, often aided by Russian-speaking staff, Jewish agencies and émigré leaders recognize "charity" and "volunteer" are foreign concepts to most former Soviets.

Recruiting members, volunteers and donors for Jewish organizations requires finding areas of mutual interest and benefit, "so they will feel like they need it," Tsender said. "It takes time."

Feliks Frenkel, a financial analyst living in New York, explained. "Like anything, there is a need for patience. You will not get up one morning and say, 'I'll give 30 percent of what I make to charity.'"

Frenkel came to the United States in 1977 from Kiev, where, he recalled, his family readily helped out friends and neighbors, but never extended tzedakah beyond the personal realm.

To foster a communal sense of responsibility, the AJ Committee's chapter in Chicago supports the Russian Community Forum, a consortium of grass-roots émigré organizations, business owners and representatives from the flourishing Russian-language media to address issues of welfare and citizenship, the threat of messianic missionaries and better in-

tegration into the American Jewish community.

"It's the first time in Chicago that Russian Jews came together and sat at the same table for any reason," said Mark Peysakhovich, a native of Moscow who now works as the assistant director of the AJ Committee's Chicago office.

The group has met regularly during the past year for discussions, speakers and a congressional candidates debate.

Like many of their American counterparts, most Russian-speaking émigrés have yet to decipher Jewish organizational infrastructure.

Even the enthusiastic émigrés in New York required some unorthodox orientation to institutional giving.

Many were spurred to generosity by the federation's weekly page in the daily *Novoye Russkoye Slovo*, which used to end with stories of émigrés in need — along with postings of contributors to the campaign and their donations.

"Now people are requesting not to put their names" because they are so sought after as donors, said Lydia Varejlin, the federation's Russian Division coordinator. The page now runs reports on the division's special projects in Israel rather than individual contributions.

Frenkel was one of those anonymous benefactors for many years until the division began to plan and raise funds for a Russian Jewish community center, where the Russian-speaking community could come together for cultural and educational programs and religious services and celebrations.

Israel Braces For Hamas Attacks After Killing of Two Terrorist Leaders

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Israel is bracing for terror attacks after its troops killed two leading members of Hamas.

Threats to retaliate for the Sept. 10 killings of brothers Imad and Adel Awadallah have been taken seriously by Israeli officials, who beefed up security at public sites across the country.

Israel also imposed an indefinite closure on the West Bank and Gaza Strip — its first in more than a year.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told his Cabinet recently that "there would be a harsh Israeli response" if Hamas carries out any attacks.

"Israel will not tolerate any attack against its citizens and will take swift action against the organizations of murderers," he said.

The killings came as U.S. Middle East envoy Dennis Ross continued to prod Israeli and Palestinian leaders to reach an agreement that would advance their long-deadlocked negotiations.

Palestinian officials said Israel's killing of the Awadallah brothers was aimed at scuttling the peace process.

Netanyahu spokesman David Bar-Illan countered that Israel pursues suspected terrorists at all times, regardless of the possible repercussions.

The killings sparked several days of confrontations in the West Bank between Israeli troops and Palestinian demonstrators calling for revenge.

The worst clashes were reported in El Bireh, the Awadallahs' home town, where thousands of protesters marching recently from nearby Ramallah threw stones and bottles at Israeli soldiers, who responded with rubber bullets.

Clashes also took place over the Sept. 11 weekend in Hebron, Nablus and Bethlehem. Dozens of Palestinians were reported injured.

A day after the Awadallahs were killed in a shootout with Israeli troops near Hebron, Hamas founder Sheik Ahmed Yassin called for retaliation.

Mahmoud Zahar, a top Hamas official in the Gaza Strip, also said recently, "Israel will pay a high price for this crime," adding that Hamas would retaliate with suicide bombings similar to those carried out after its chief bomb-maker, Yehiya Ayash, was assassinated in January 1996.

Known as "The Engineer" because of his expertise with explosives, Ayash was killed in Gaza by a booby-trapped cellular phone in an operation that Hamas attributed to Israel. Is-

raeli authorities denied any involvement.

In February and March 1996, Israel was left reeling by a series of suicide attacks in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Ashkelon that claimed 59 innocent lives and wounded some 220 others.

Recently, more than 300 Hamas supporters participated in a rally where leaflets were distributed promising similar retaliation.

"Israel will not tolerate any attack against its citizens and will take swift action against the organizations of murderers.

*Benjamin Netanyahu
Israel Prime Minister*

A day earlier, Israeli soldiers stormed a one-room house near Hebron, killing the Awadallahs, who were senior members of Izz al-Din al-Kassam, Hamas' military wing.

Troops found a weapons cache, including an Uzi

submachine gun, grenades, two pistols and three wigs. A large banner reading "Izz al-Din al-Kassam" covered one wall.

Army officials said the brothers apparently had planned to kidnap Israelis or carry out a drive-by shooting.

The deaths of the two, and the subsequent threats of reprisals, have prompted some debate in Israel about the value of the operation, given the cost it may have in terms of Israeli blood.

Israeli officials countered that the operation prevented a terror attack. By killing two top Hamas militants, they added, Israel has also seriously crippled the militants' ability to plan and carry out additional attacks.

Israel believes that Adel Awadallah, commander of the Hamas military wing in the West Bank, masterminded several suicide bombings. He topped Israel's most-wanted list.

Imad Awadallah escaped last month from a Palestinian jail. He had been held on suspicion of involvement in the killing last March of another top Hamas member, Mohiyedine Sharif.

Hamas blamed Israel for Sharif's death, a charge promptly denied by Israeli officials. The Palestinian Authority said both brothers were responsible for that slaying.

Meanwhile, there were no indications that Ross, who is making his first visit to the region since May, is succeeding at breaking the impasse in Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

Netanyahu said the talks with Ross are "not centering on the Israeli side of the equation, but on the need of the Palestinians to honor their commitments" regarding security issues.

One of the main sticking points is Israel's demand to renegotiate an understanding on security cooperation worked out in December by Israeli, Palestinian and U.S. officials.

The understanding calls in part for a Palestinian crackdown on Hamas. Netanyahu has rejected the initial understanding as insufficient.

Meanwhile, more than 50,000 Israelis gathered in the Tel Aviv square where Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated nearly four years ago to demand that Netanyahu resign in order to save the peace process.

The Sept. 12 rally — held on the eve of the fifth anniversary of the historic handshake between Rabin and Palestine leader Yasser Arafat on the White House lawn — was held under the slogan, "Netanyahu Go Home."

FEATURE

New Conservative Prayer Book Includes Judaism's Foremothers

by Debra Nussbaum Cohen
NEW YORK (JTA) — Eight years after the Conservative movement sanctioned the inclusion of Judaism's foremothers alongside the recitation of their husbands' names in worship, the change has now been incorporated into a prayer book.

But while the matriarchs — Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah — are included along with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the term "emoteinu," or our mothers, which includes them all, is not incorporated alongside "avoteinu," or our fathers.

The language in the new edition of Siddur Sim Shalom is "gender sensitive," but not "gender neutral," said Rabbi Leonard Cahan, chief editor of the prayer book, jointly published recently by the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and the movement's Rabbinical Assembly.

The first revision of the siddur in 13 years also changes the language used for G-d. Instead of "L-rd," "Father," and "King," the prayer book uses language its editors considered more neutral, like "Sovereign" and "Guardian."

Some say that the changes made in the new edition are so minor that they are virtually irrelevant. In fact, some Conservative congregations already include both the names of the biblical mothers and the word "emoteinu" in practice.

"That it took them so long to deal with this incredibly minor change of adding the matriarchs,

which their own rules committee allowed, is preposterous," said liturgist Marcia Falk, who grew up in the Conservative movement but now identifies herself as non-denominational.

"Now to quibble over adding 'emoteinu' is an incredible denial of what people's experiences and needs are out there. The changes were so minuscule, why even bother? It belies a lack of serious confrontation with the tradition, with the religion. It's not a real wrestling and real grappling" with the meaning of prayer, said Falk, whose 1996 book, *The Book of Blessings: New Jersey Prayers for Daily Life, the Sabbath and the New Moon Festival*, was a rewriting of the traditional liturgy.

Cahan said the editorial committee's decision was based on its understanding that "avoteinu" means "our ancestors," both male and female. "Those who advocate 'emoteinu' just don't understand Hebrew grammar," said Cahan, who is the spiritual leader of Congregation Har Shalom, in Potomac, Md.

Still others think that the changes were too radical.

Rabbi Jules Harlow, who edited the original Siddur Sim Shalom, which was published in 1985, wrote in the Winter 1997 edition of the journal *Conservative Judaism* that changing the wording of worship breaks the connection between the language of the Bible and the language of the prayer book, "a close connection which is a basic feature of Jewish liturgy."

Harlow was involved in the new edition for the first two years of the committee's work, but he resigned when he retired about five years ago, and since then has distanced himself from the new edition.

Cahan acknowledged that after Harlow "left the committee we made decisions more radical than some of the things he would have liked."

During the seven years that the editorial committee worked to re-translate the prayer book, its members referred to previously published Conservative prayer books as well as ones issued by the Reform, Reconstructionist and Orthodox movements.

"We wanted to try and do the kinds of things that will appeal to a very broad spectrum of the movement," he said. "Conservative Judaism has always been very much a coalition of traditionalists and much more radical liberals, but that spectrum has in recent years become somewhat broader."

What impact the new siddur will have on individual congregations is not clear.

It generally takes many years for any new liturgy to gain widespread use and buying several hundreds of new prayer books is an expensive proposition for any congregation.

Indeed, despite its now-archaic language, at least 300 of the roughly 820 affiliated Conservative synagogues are using the Silverman prayer book, which was published in 1946.

Jericho Casino Lures Hundreds of Israeli Players

by Avi Machlis
JERICHO (JTA) — The biblical Joshua who led the Israelites' siege of Jericho could never have dreamed that stud poker would breathe life back into this dusty Palestinian-ruled town.

But recently, hundreds of Israelis made the short 30-minute drive down the winding road from Jerusalem to place their bets at Oasis, a new gambling complex in Jericho and the first big foreign investment in the Palestinian self-rule areas.

They found 35 gaming tables and 220 slot machines amid the classic casino-kitsch decor beneath a star-studded ceiling. The \$50 million casino is the first stage of a \$150 million investment in a tourist complex that will eventually include 800 hotel rooms, a golf course and conference facilities.

Paul Herzfeld, chief executive of Casinos Austria, which operates Oasis, said Jericho was chosen because of "the magical setting of the desert against the city."

His description of the setting made no mention of an impoverished Palestinian refugee camp directly across the road, perhaps because the camp is hard to see at night — it has no electricity.

The contrast between the casino's opulence and the stark poverty of the refugee camp is just one of several controversies surrounding Oasis, but it did not impede the action on opening night, when nearly all the gamblers were Israeli.

Most appeared to be experienced gamblers.

Until Oasis opened, they had to travel abroad, board a gambling ship off the southern resort town of Eilat or join illegal casino parties to bet.

At almost every table, at least one player wore a black skullcap.

Peering over the crowd gathered around a roulette table, a man who calls himself Mike, a clean-cut, 38-year-old accountant from Tel Aviv wearing a rainbow-colored tie and a black kippah, prepared to wager up to \$5,000 on blackjack.

"It's nice place, but a bit small," says Mike, a veteran of casinos all over the world. "Living in Israel is one big gamble. If you gamble with your life, you might as well gamble with your money." It doesn't matter to Mike that he must go to a Palestinian area to bet.

This money is going to go straight into the pockets of Arafat's friends, not the Palestinian Authority," he adds, repeating a persistent rumor that senior Palestinian officials are casino shareholders and that the Palestinian Authority will see little tax revenues from the venture — revenues that were one of the justifications Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat provided for supporting the casino.

Mike is not surprised at the number of observant Jews at the tables. Surmising that there are probably many more who have removed their kippot when they entered, he predicts that many

American yeshiva students will become regulars.

Some Israeli rabbis have already criticized the casino — a move that puts them on rare common ground with Islamic spiritual leaders who condemned Oasis, since Islam forbids both gambling and alcohol. Hamas, the fundamentalist Islamic movement, was quick to lash out at the "devil" casino as an enterprise serving "the Zionists and those who became rich over the suffering of our people."

Though some resident of Jericho will find jobs at the resort, many are uncomfortable with the project and fear it could bring crime and prostitution to their quiet town.

Herzfeld of Casinos Austria insisted that the casino took into consideration the "spiritual, religious and cultural specificities of the region."

But Arafat was taking no chances. Eager to avoid confrontation with an increasingly powerful Hamas, he prohibited Palestinians from the premises. Nevertheless, several Palestinians used foreign passports to come in on opening night.

Inside, the casino provided rare glimpses of what the "new Middle East" envisioned by former Prime Minister Shimon Peres could look like even though that vision of regional peace and prosperity has virtually vanished in the peacemaking crises of the past two years.

Around the tables, drinks in hand, Israelis rubbed shoulders with wealthy Palestinians who defied Arafat's orders to stay away. To enter the casino, Israelis nonchalantly submitted themselves to security checks by polite, smiling, Hebrew-speaking Palestinian security guards.

Security guards were less pleasant when they ordered this reporter to leave the premises for "disturbing" the gamblers. They also attacked an Israeli photographer from *Kol Ha'ir*, a weekly newspaper in Jerusalem, who photographed a senior Palestinian Authority member with close ties to Arafat who is rumored to be an Oasis investor.

Casinos Austria officials refused to discuss the ownership structure of Oasis. In addition, they would not say how much taxes would be paid to the cash-strapped Palestinian Authority from casino revenues. They did say that the agreement under which the casino was built was "favorable" to the company, one of the biggest casino groups in the world.

The tight ring of security also reminded gamblers that Oasis was far from European, despite intense efforts by Gitam BBDO, an Israeli public relations and advertising agency, to create such an image.

A two-page centerfold spread in the weekend magazine section of *Yediot Achronot*, Israel's most popular daily, shows blonde, stylishly dressed European-looking women placing their bets next to dapper, smiling men in suits.

(Continued on Page 19)

Jewish Groups Oppose Invitation to American Muslim Organization

by Daniel Kurtzman
WASHINGTON (JTA) — Several Jewish groups have protested a State Department decision to invite Muslim groups that support terrorist organizations to two events promoting religious freedom.

The Anti-Defamation League, the Zionist Organization of America and some religious freedom advocates objected when they saw that the Council on American-Islamic Relations, the American Muslim Council and the Muslim Public Affairs Council were invited to participate in

a ceremony inaugurating the State Department's new office of international religious freedom, as well as a meeting of its advisory committee on religious freedom abroad.

The ADL, which sent a letter of protest to the State Department, said it particularly objected to the invitation to CAIR, a group that it said has condoned terrorism and served as a propaganda arm for the militant Islamic group Hamas.

The ZOA objected not only to CAIR, but to the inclusion of the other two groups, which it

said have also championed terrorist groups and circulated anti-Semitic views.

The State Department said the two events were open to the public and that a notice was sent out to some 200 individuals and organizations that had attended previous meetings of the advisory committee.

"In a public event, you cannot exclude part of the public unless they violated the law," a State Department official said.

Jess Hordes, Washington director of the Anti-Defamation League, was not satisfied with that explanation, saying there should be "some obligation" for the State Department "to scrutinize these groups that it invites."

Morton Klein, president of the ZOA, more strongly criticized the State Department's decision.

"One does not fight terrorism by inviting groups that publicly endorse groups on the State Department terror list," said Klein, referring to the groups' support for Hamas. "It is appalling that the State Department would give credibility to such groups by issuing them formal invitations to conferences."

The State Department has not yet formally responded to either letter.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Pictures Speak Louder Than Words

by Kimberly Ann Orlandi
Herald Editor

The art of a people is a true mirror of their minds.

Jawaharlal Nehru

I recently had the opportunity to speak by telephone to New York artist Mark Berghash, whose work is currently on display at the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia. His work may be described by some as unconventional, but Berghash's depiction of one's self through life-size black-and-white head shots is a deliberate technique meant to show a subject in his or her true form without any romantic

"I don't take them. I give control of the camera to the subject and I leave the room. That way they have the opportunity to reveal more of themselves philosophically and emotionally than they would if I were in the room."

Do you believe that since your style is less conventional than most, it is therefore more disturbing to the viewer?

"I don't think it's more or less disturbing, just straightforward. The process brings out aspects of the true self that were not otherwise visible. The reason is to show that people only come in one size, life-size. We have a tendency to judge first and ask questions later."

Do you believe pictures speak louder than words?

"Pictures do say a lot but I also include the written word with each photo. With each, an interview excerpt is included, either on audio in their own voice or in text form. During the interview, I ask them to recall a

personal experience or feeling about their children, parents, sisters, brothers, grandparents.

The question you ask them, 'When you think about your past, especially about growing up, what experience or event in connection with being Jewish do you think about most often?' do you ask yourself the same question?

"Oh yes. My experiences about being Jewish in America often come through in my work. It's a fact that I can't escape and don't want to ignore."

Born in Buffalo, New York, in 1935, Berghash recalls his childhood experiences with such vivid detail, it's as if it happened only yesterday rather than 30 years ago. His parents were born in Buffalo but his grandparents were born in Russia, according to Berghash it was probably Besarabia (Russia/Ukrainian/Romanian border). The Berghash family was the only Jewish family in the neighborhood and Berghash was quickly introduced to the non-Jewish world while attending a parochial school in the first and second grade.

"I remember walking up the stairs of the school alongside my friend and seeing a large cross with the figure of Christ, blood dripping from his head. It scared me so intensely that I often found myself walking another route to class, but at the same time it was awe inspiring," said Berghash.

He goes on to recall an incident where he and some other boys from school had a friendly snowball fight that turned angry as the other boys ganged up on Berghash pelting him with snowballs filled with ice. But, to his rescue came a dog, a collie to be exact from what Berghash described as "the Wasp section of town." In the midst of the snowballs flying and Berghash being pinned to the ground, this dog came out of nowhere and began barking.

"Here was the little Jewish kid, being attacked by the little Catholic boys and saved by a

WASP dog," laughs Berghash. "It was a significant turn of events."

In 1955, Berghash traveled to Vienna, Austria, to study and back to New York a year later to study art. According to Berghash, there was nothing Jewish about his life during those years, so in 1960 he trav-

What's the best thing about being Jewish in this country?

"That's a tough question. America is the only country, historically, where Jews haven't been formally persecuted. It's relatively safe to be Jewish as opposed to other parts of the world."

If you had a choice to be any religion you wished, would you choose Judaism?

"If G-d said to me, you're going to be born in this country, what religion would you like to be, I'd certainly say to be apart of the majority. Why put myself and family through so much of the problems the minority faces. But if I were to be born in Israel, I would choose Judaism."



Mychal Springer,
Rabbi/Chaplain

Photo by Mark W. Berghash

qualities. The exhibit is the result of three years of preparation and 128 subjects which have been reduced to an exhibit of 30 portraits. The photos are full faced on top and profiles below, they are twice life size and hang in a row one after another.

How do you begin taking the photographs?



Michael Eigen,
Psychologist/Psychoanalyst

Photo by Mark W. Berghash

eled to Jerusalem to visit an American friend. It was here he met and fell in love with his Israeli wife. The two have been married since 1962. Together they raised two sons, both Orthodox Jews who live in Jerusalem.

Is that why you began this project, to get in touch with your Jewish self?

"In a way. When I began the project three and a half years ago I found that there was a great deal of divisiveness within the American Jewish community. The militia movements were in the news and I felt that this project would help unify and strengthen the Jewish community.

Did it?

"It certainly isn't the way it used to be. The young subjects I interviewed didn't have the same experiences I did growing up. I think that the anti-Semitic demons in this country have become more dormant. I believe it has a lot to do with the economic euphoria we're experiencing."

What has this project done for you, personally?

"My subjects have put me in touch with ethnic pride; being Jewish is no longer an 'incurable disease.'"

"Galut, Jewish Identity In America: A Photographic/Interview Project" will be on temporary exhibit through December at the National Museum of American Jewish History, Philadelphia.

For more information, call (215) 923-5978.

Menahem Pressler Performs at Brown

Menahem Pressler, piano legend, will play at Alumnae Hall, Brown University, 194 Meeting St., Providence, at 8 p.m. on Oct. 7. Pressler's program will include: Franz Schubert, sonata in B^b Opus Posthumous; and Frederick Chopin, 24 Preludes, Opus 28.

There will be a reception in the Crystal Room after the concert, the first this season in the Rhode Island Chamber Music Concerts series.

Pressler's Carnegie Hall debut as a soloist occurred in 1996, when he was 72, but his international career began when he won first prize in the Debussy Piano Competition in San Francisco in 1946. In 1955, he co-founded the Beaux Arts Trio, one of the world's most enduring and widely acclaimed chamber music ensembles. The trio played in this series five times between 1961 and 1985.

Pressler has played with

many of the world's leading orchestras and appears frequently in recital. As a chamber musician, Pressler has played with the Juilliard, Emerson, Tokyo and Guarneri String Quartets. He is Distinguished Professor of Music at Indiana University, where he has taught since 1955, and he often teaches eight hours a day and then practices alone for four more hours.

For tickets, call 863-2416, or come to the box office on con-

cert night, when prices will be \$25, \$20, \$16, and (students only) \$5. Subscription prices for the series are \$70, \$60, \$45, and \$14 (students only).

Other concerts in this series will be given by the Arden String Quartet, Nov. 18; the Martinu String Quartet, March 24; and David Finckel, cello, and Wu Han, piano, April 28.

For further information, call Lois Atwood at 434-6054 or Jeanne Fonda at 946-5662.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Peters to Receive Yuval Awards

Internationally renowned operatic soprano Roberta Peters is one of four recipients named by the Cantors Assembly — the world's largest professional cantorial organization — to receive the 1998 Yuval Award for service to the Jewish community or the world of music.

The awards are named after the biblical figure Jubal — Yuval in Hebrew — who is credited with being the father of musical instruments. The Yuval Awards have been conferred by the Cantors Assembly for the past 35 years.

The awards will be presented at a "Celebration and Tribute" convocation at the Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS) in Manhattan on Oct. 19, starting at 7:30 p.m. The occasion, which will be open to the general public, will be the closing event in the Cantors Assembly's yearlong 50th anniversary celebration. It will also feature the investitures of Cantor Henry R. Rosenblum, current president of the Cantors Assembly, as dean of the H.L. Miller Cantorial School of JTS and Cantor Stephen J. Stein as executive vice president of the Cantors Assembly.

In addition to Peters, the Yuval Award recipients include Dr. Ismar Schorsch, Chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary; Barry Tucker, president of the Richard Tucker Music Foundation, which was named after



Roberta Peters

his late father who was one of the world's leading operatic tenors as well as a cantor, and Joseph S. Kanfer, an Akron, Ohio, business leader and philanthropist, who has served in leadership positions in dozens of Jewish organizations, including

many concerned with Jewish education.

Peters is being honored as a performer in opera, concerts and the musical theatre. Although best known for her operatic roles, she has also been active in operettas and such stage hits as "The King and I" and "The Sound of Music." A frequent performer in Israel, she has also served as national chairman of Israel Bonds. A native of New York City, Peters exhibited such an outstanding voice as a young girl that she came to the attention of famed tenor Jan Peerce, who encouraged her to make singing her career.

The Cantor Assembly, the sponsor of the Yuval Awards, was organized in the United States in 1947, following the Nazi destruction of the Eastern European communities that had been the world's primary source of cantors and cantorial training. The assembly's goal was to fill this void and perpetuate the cantorate. One of its earliest and most important achievements was the creation of the Cantors Institute — now the H.L. Miller Cantorial School — to train *hazzanim*.

'Driving Miss Daisy' at Orpheum Theatre

"Driving Miss Daisy," the award-winning play by American playwright Alfred Uhry, opens at the Orpheum Theatre-Foxborough on Oct. 14 and runs through Nov. 1. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize and Outer Critics Circle Award for Best Off-Broadway Play, "Driving Miss Daisy" is a sensitive yet humorous exploration of two people from opposite worlds learning to accept each other and their deeply rewarding friendship.

Set in the Deep South from 1948 to 1973, it is a heart-warming story about the relationship between Daisy Werthan, a cranky, wealthy widow, and her unfailingly courteous and loyal chauffeur. It begins when

Daisy's son, Boolie, hires a blackman named Hoke to be her driver after she has had yet another car accident. Daisy, resentful at her loss of independence, views Hoke with suspicion and disdain. Hoke sees her as patronizing and prejudiced. "Driving Miss Daisy" chronicles their 25 year relationship from mutual suspicion to dependence, and, finally, to friendship. In the end, they prove to have more in common than not.

For more information or to purchase tickets, contact the Orpheum Theatre-Foxborough box office, One School St., Foxborough, Mass., at (508) 543-ARTS or toll-free at (888) ORPHEUM.

'Show Boat' Premieres at PPAC

The new Tony Award-winning production of "Show Boat" will make its Providence premiere at the Providence Performing Arts Center, Nov. 20 to Dec. 12.

Call the Providence Performing Arts Center box office at 421-ARTS. Tickets range from \$31 to \$45; for groups of 20 or more, call 421-2997, ext. 3121. Tickets are also available through Ticketmaster.

"Show Boat" is considered to be an American musical masterpiece and a milestone work in the history of musical theater. Adapted by composer Jerome Kern and librettist Oscar Hammerstein II from Edna Ferber's sweeping novel, *Show Boat* boasts a treasure trove of great classic songs such as "Ol' Man River," "Can't Help Lovin' Dat Man," "You Are Love," "Why Do I Love You," "Only Make Believe" and "Bill."

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The Community Players

Karen Gail Kessler (left) of Barrington and Lee Rush of Warren, both members of Rhode Island's Jewish community, star in The Community Players' production of "The Heiress" at Jenks Junior High School in Pawtucket. For reservations, call 726-6860.

Photo by Bill Donnelly, Donnelly Photography

Metropolitan Museum Benefit Honors Jack and Lewis Rudin

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, has announced plans to honor New York's most distinguished business and civic leaders — Jack and Lewis Rudin — at its gala benefit dinner on Oct. 19.

All proceeds from the evening will benefit the Museum's School Tours Programs in recognition and appreciation of the Rudin family's longtime, generous support for educational activities at the Metropolitan. Last year alone, the museum provided free museum visits to nearly 200,000 schoolchildren.

Arthur Ochs Sulzberger, chairman of the museum's board of trustees, and trustee Michael Bloomberg are co-chairs of the gala, and trustee Carl Spielvogel is serving as *Journal* chairman. The event will feature the museum's first *Benefit Journal*.

Jack Rudin is co-chairman of Rudin Management, the major, 75-year-old real estate firm that owns and manages 36 office and residential buildings throughout New York City. He and his brother began working for the family more than 50 years ago.

He also chairs the Rudin Foundation, which supports programs in the arts and culture, higher education, community development, and Jewish causes. And he chairs the May and Samuel Rudin Family Foundation (named for their grandparents), which supports museums, cultural programs, and human services, as well as the Louis and Rachel Rudin Foundation, which focuses its support on medical schools, nursing care, and educational institutions.

Jack Rudin and his wife, Susan Rudin, have been long time

supporters of the Metropolitan. They were elected Fellows for Life in 1995.

Lewis Rudin, who with his brother, Jack, serves as co-chairman of Rudin Management and vice chairman of the three Rudin family foundations, has been one of New York City's most articulate, tireless, and effective advocates for more than a quarter of a century.

He is the founder and longtime chairman of the Association for a Better New York. He created the group in 1971 to bring together business and political leaders to address municipal issues and safeguard the economic health of the city.

Recently, Rudin served as chairman of the New York City Centennial Commission, which organized the official celebration of the 100th anniversary of the consolidation of the five boroughs into Greater New York.

A member of the Metropolitan Museum's Real Estate Council since 1982, Lewis Rudin is its co-chairman emeritus.

Tickets to the gala benefit, which will include a private viewing of the new exhibition, "From Van Eyck to Bruegel: Early Netherlandish Painting in The Metropolitan Museum of Art," are being sold at \$1,000 for individual patron tickets, and \$10,000 for a table of 10. Benefit tables at \$25,000 includes a silver-page advertisement in the *Journal*.

Advertisements in the *Benefit Journal* range from \$750 for a quarter-page to \$9,000 for an inside back cover.

For more information on tickets and reservations to the gala benefit, call (212) 570-3755. For more information on the *Benefit Journal*, call (212) 570-3947.

Wang Theatre Schedule of Events

The following shows will be appearing at the Wang Theater, 270 Tremont St., Boston, Mass.:

"Riverdance — The Show." The innovative and exciting blend of Irish and international dance, music and song returns. Oct. 14 to 25. Tickets are \$28.50 to \$68.50.

"Annie." America's favorite orphan returns to Boston for a limited engagement. Nov. 3 to 8. Tickets cost \$25 to \$65.

Tickets for the Wang Theatre shows may be purchased by calling the box office at (617) 482-9393 from Mon. to Sat. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. or TicketMaster: (617/508) 931-2787.



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Coffee or Tea/French Vanilla Ice Cream

OPTION 3 • \$23.95* PER PERSON

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Coffee or Tea/Chocolate Truffle Mousse Cake

OPTION 4 • \$25.95* PER PERSON

Choice of Prime Rib, New York Sirloin, Baked Scallops & Prime Rib, Fresh Salmon Hollandaise, Baked Stuffed Shrimp & Prime Rib
Coffee or Tea/Chocolate Truffle Mousse Cake

OPTION 5 • \$27.95* PER PERSON

Choice of Lobster Casserole & Sirloin, Filet Mignon with Bearnaise Sauce, Grilled Fresh Swordfish, Steak Au Poivre
Coffee or Tea/Chocolate Truffle Mousse Cake

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Action Speaks: A Topical Forum America at the Millennium at AS220

For the fourth year, AS220 will present its popular topical discussion, Action Speaks, this fall. Every Tuesday evening in October from 5:30 to 7 p.m., the public is welcome to come to AS220's cafe on Empire Street in downtown Providence to watch and participate. Listeners can tune in for taped broadcast from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on WHJJ, 920 A.M.

Action Speaks will be addressing issues related to America at the Millennium this year. The symbolic power of the year 2000 sets the stage for a lively dialogue on moral values, privacy, social responsibility, and even what it means to be an American.

A diverse group of panelists, including philosophers, scholars, religious leaders, and artists will help articulate, sort out, and debate questions such as: Who are we? What are our concerns? Do we have to sacrifice privacy for security? Can we embrace community while pursuing individual dreams? Do these questions have a middle ground?

Action Speaks 1998 has been made possible by the collabora-

tion and support of the R.I. Committee for the Humanities, Providence *Phoenix*, WHJJ, RISD, Brown, URI, and JWU.

While AS220 is a noted arts organization, the Action Speaks public forums bring recognition to AS220 as an important community center where people can come to participate in discussions, exchanging questions, ideas, and concerns.

AS220 is a multi-purpose, non-profit center for the arts, located in downtown Providence. The mission of AS220 is to provide space for the unjuried and uncensored exhibits of Rhode Island artists' work. To this end, AS220 operates a performing space and maintains affordable work and resident studios for artists.

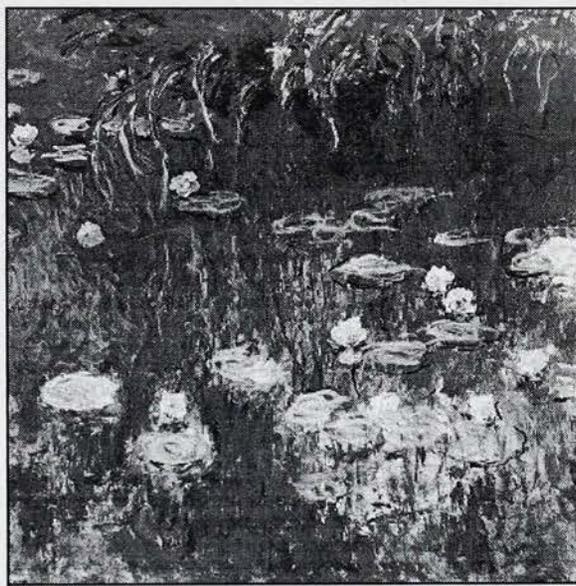
The schedule is as follows:

Oct. 6 What is an American? Are we a "beautiful mosaic" or a carnival spin-art painting out of control? What are the threads that connect us? Are common patterns of consuming enough? Is even the idea of belonging to a nation antiquated as we enter the 21st century?

Oct. 13 America the Puritanical? Why do issues of morality play such a large role in our public dialogue? Are we a part of a great Greek chorus behind the likes of Oprah, Leeza, and Jerry Springer? Do issues such as abortion, school prayer, and "Zippergate" obscure the "real" issues we should be discussing or are they the "real" issues?

Oct. 20 Privacy and Punishment in America. Are we sacrificing our privacy for security? By allowing surveillance cameras in public places and searches of our phone records, do we give our government the power to play Big Brother? Why are fear and security such obsessions in one of the wealthiest countries in the world? Lawrence E. Rothstein, professor of political science, University of Rhode Island, is one of four keynote speakers.

Oct. 27 Rugged Individualism or Collective Responsibility. Does America have a split personality? John Wayne vs. Karl Marx — the fault lines of America?



Monet in the 20th Century

An exhibit of Monet's works will be at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., (617) 267-9300, now through Dec. 28.

Photo courtesy Boston Museum of Fine Arts

Mandy Patinkin Back on Broadway

Mandy Patinkin's *Mammoshen* (Mother Tongue) will be performed at the Belasco Theatre located at 111 West 44th St., New York, N.Y. Patinkin performs an array of musical numbers, all of which are sung in Yiddish, and is joined by violinist Saeka Matsuyama for a limited engagement beginning Oct. 13 through Nov. 7.

"Mammoshen" moves to Broadway by popular demand from the sold-out engagement at the Angel Orensanz Foundation Center for the Arts this past summer and is presented by Dodger Endemol Theatricals, Inc.

Call Amy Jacobs at (212) 575-3030 to reserve your tickets.

Heroic Armor of the Italian Renaissance

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, will present the first comprehensive survey of the classically inspired Renaissance parade armor by Filippo Negroli, the most celebrated Italian armorer of the 16th century, and his contemporaries working in Milan, Mantua, and Brescia, Oct. 8 through Jan. 17, 1999. Featuring more than 60 works, including the personal harnesses of Emperor Charles V, Henry II of France, and the dukes of Urbino, the exhibit examines the emergence of a new fashion of armor based on the forms and ornament found in ancient art. Embossed in high relief, richly gilt, and damascened in gold and silver, these lavish parade armors all'antica were worn by Renaissance kings and captains who wished to project an aura of power and virtue by arraying themselves like the heroes of Roman history and mythology. In the hands of a master like Negroli, who possessed an unrivaled skill in the modeling of armor in high relief, traditional military costume was transformed into sculpture in steel.

The exhibition is made possible in part by the Madeline and Kevin Brine Charitable Trust.

Short & NEAT Playwriting Contest

New England Actors' Theatre, the resident theater at ACES/Educational Center for the Arts in New Haven, Conn., is sponsoring a short-short playwriting contest—Short & NEAT: Works by New England Playwrights.

Plays submitted should be 10 to 20 minutes in length, on any theme. Playwrights must be residents of New England.

Deadline date for submission has been extended to Nov. 15. Winning entries will be produced by NEAT as an Evening of Short One-Act Plays to be presented June 18 to 20, 1999, in conjunction with the International Festival of Arts and Ideas in New Haven, Conn.

All entries must be submitted typed and in standard play format. Submit entry with a SASE if script is to be returned. For more information, call (203) 458-7671 or on the web at <www.neatct.org>. Send entries to: NEAT Play Reading Committee, Short & Neat Contest, c/o Patty Shea, chair, 243A Front St., New Haven, CT 06513.

Perishable Theatre Hosts Benefit for Homeless

Perishable Theatre is proud to sponsor this year's Rhode Island Coalition for the Homeless Annual Theatre Party. This event will feature a performance of Hugo & Ines' "Short Stories" at 7 p.m. A reception will be held following the show.

Ticket cost, which includes the reception, is \$25 for adults and \$15 for children 12 and under. For tickets, call RICH at 421-6458. Proceeds will benefit the work of the coalition. RICH's aim is to help families who are homeless attend this event. Tickets may be purchased for yourself and/or for a homeless family to be distributed by shelter providers. Perishable Theatre is at 95 Empire St., Providence, 331-2695.

Trinity Rep Schedule of Plays

"The Threepenny Opera," by Bertolt Brecht and Elisabeth Hauptman, music by Kurt Weill, now through Oct. 11.
 "Nine Armenians," by Leslie Ayvazian, Sept. 25 to Nov. 8
 "St. Joan," by George Bernard Shaw, Dec. 4 to Jan. 17, 1999.
 "As You Like It," by William Shakespeare, Jan. 29 to March 7.
 "A Preface to the Alien Garden," by Robert Alexander, Feb. 26 to April 3.
 "Master Class," by Terrence McNally, April 9 to May 16.
 "Can't Pay? Won't Pay!," by Dario Fo, May 7 to June 20.

PPAC Announces Broadway Series

Providence Performing Arts Center, Weybosset Street, Providence, announces the 1998/1999 Bank Boston Broadway Series.
 Oct. 13 to 18 — "Camelot"; Oct. 27 to Nov. 1 — "Master Class";
 Nov. 20 to Dec. 13 — "Show Boat"; Jan. 26 to 31 — "Victor Victoria"; Feb. 23 to 28 — "Fame the Musical"; March 23 to 28 — "Sunset Boulevard"; April 27 to May 2 — "The King and I."
 For tickets, call 421-ARTS.

Ocean State Chamber Orchestra Performs

Ocean State Chamber Orchestra will present a concert on Oct. 3, at 8 p.m. at St. Martin's Church, 50 Orchard Ave. (off Wayland Square), Providence. The season opener will span three centuries of music and will include some well-loved pieces. Jane Murray will be the oboe d'amore soloist, playing a rarely performed concerto by Bach featuring this unusual double-reed instrument with the romantic name.

The selections will be "Eine Kleine Nachtmusik," by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart; "Concerto for Oboe d'amore," by Johann Sebastian Bach, Jane Murray, oboe d'amore; "English Folk Songs," by Ralph Vaughan Williams; and "Holberg Suite," by Edvard Grieg.

For information, call 421-8408.

If you have an event you would like featured on our Arts & Entertainment page, please send it to the Rhode Island Jewish Herald, P.O. Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 02940

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OBITUARIES

JASON COHEN

PROVIDENCE — Jason Cohen, 61, of Cole Avenue, vice president of Exhibit Specialty Products, Wrentham, Mass., and president of the former Providence Electric Co., died Sept. 26, at home. He was the husband of Sylvia (Balis) Cohen.

A lifelong resident of Providence, he was a son of the late Murray and Martha (Levinson) Cohen.

He attended the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business. He was the former 2nd Ward Democratic chairman for the City of Providence and was active in many Democratic campaigns. He was a member of Temple Emanu-El, former vice president of its Men's Club, a former member of its board of directors and the former coach of its USY basketball team.

He was past president of the Kiwanis, Roger Williams Chapter, and a past lieutenant governor of the New England District of Kiwanis. He served in numerous capacities in connection with Kiwanis New England Pediatric Trauma Care Center, currently serving as its vice president.

He was a past president and member of the Illuminating Engineer Society of Rhode Island and a recipient of its Al Weisman Memorial Award.

Besides his wife, he leaves a son, Robert Cohen of Framingham, Mass.; a daughter, Betsy Sandler of Newton, Mass., and three grandchildren.

The funeral service was held Sept. 27 at the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

SARAH R. GAFFIN

PROVIDENCE — Sarah R. Gaffin, of the Summit Medical Center, a retired attorney, died Sept. 27 at the Philip Hultar Inpatient Hospice Center. She was the wife of the late Michael M. Gaffin.

Born in Lawrence, Mass., she was a daughter of the late Samuel and Lena (Rimelman) Barenboim. She lived in Boston, Worcester and Framingham, Mass., before moving to Providence in 1970.

She practiced law in Boston and Worcester for many years before retiring. She was a graduate of the Northeastern University School of Law. She also taught business administration at North High School in Framingham.

She was a lifelong member of the Jewish Home for the Aged in Worcester, and the Golden Agers Group of the Jewish Community Center in Providence. She was a member of Temple Emanu-El, Providence.

She leaves a son, Alan H. Gaffin of Providence; a daughter, Marilyn Bertan of Jericho, N.Y., and five grandchildren. She was a sister of the late Louis, Abraham, Morris and Isadore Barenboim.

The funeral was held Sept. 28 at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Provi-

dence. Burial was in B'nai B'rith Cemetery, Worcester, Mass.

GEORGE M. KONISKY

LANCASTER, Calif. — George M. Konisky, 83, formerly of Providence, died on Sept. 13, at the Lancaster Health Care Center. He was the husband of the late Lillian (Kopelman) Konisky.

Born in Providence, the son of the late Charles and Sarah (Raznick) Konisky, he lived in Providence until he moved to Southern California in 1966. He was a retired glazier.

He was a member of the Rhode Island Jewish Bowling Congress and the Providence Fraternal Organization.

He leaves a son, Dr. Jordan Konisky of Houston, Texas; two daughters, Fredda Yarlas of Warwick and Eileen Cohen of Palmdale, Calif.; two sisters, Cecile Roth of Warwick and Frances Zukor of Ft. Meyers, Fla.; and five grandsons. He was the brother of the late Joseph Connis and Ethel Weinstein.

The funeral service was held on Sept. 16 at Groman Mortuary and burial was at Eden Memorial Park in Mission Hills, Calif.

RUTH MORRIS

FALL RIVER — Ruth Morris, 82, of Milton Street, a past president of the Jewish Home for the Aged, died Sept. 22 at Charlton Memorial Hospital. She was the wife of the late Harold Morris.

Born in the Bronx, N.Y., a daughter of the late Samuel and

Leona (Kessler) Hauptman, she lived in Fall River since 1933.

She drove an ambulance for the Red Cross during World War II. She was a member of the Congregation Adas Israel and Temple Beth El and their Sisterhoods and a life member of Hadassah. She was a member of the Women's American ORT and the Eastern Star.

She leaves two sons, Carlton Morris of Canton, Mass., and Irwin Morris of Fall River; a sister, Florence Albert of Pembroke Pines, Fla.; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Gertrude Schoychid.

A graveside service was held Sept. 28 in Hebrew Cemetery. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

CANTOR CHARLES ROSS

PROVIDENCE — Cantor Charles Ross, 90, of 78 Radcliffe Ave., the cantor at Temple Am David in Warwick for many years, retiring in 1973, died Sept. 25 at the Philip Hultar Hospice Center. He was the husband of the late Anna W. (Sado) Ross.

Born in Lithuania, he lived in Dorchester, Mass., for many years before moving to Providence in 1969.

Cantor Ross was previously associated with Temple Beth David in Providence, and Temple Beth-Hillel in Mattapan, Mass., where he was a Hebrew school teacher. He attended Hebrew College in Massachusetts.

He was a member of the Cantors Assembly of America, the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, the Golden Age Club, the Redwood Masonic Lodge, Temple Am David in

Warwick, the former Temple Beth David in Providence, and Temple Beth-Hillel in Mattapan.

He leaves a daughter, Evelyn Ross of Providence; three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. He was the brother of the late Hyman Ross.

A memorial service was held Sept. 27 at Temple Am David, Gardiner St., Warwick. Funeral service and burial took place in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. The service was coordinated by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

IRWIN VILARDOFSKY

EXETER — Irwin Vilardofsky, 57, of 19 Evergreen Drive, a sales and operation manager for several transportation companies in Southern New England, retiring five years ago because of illness, died Sept. 22 at home. He was the husband of Ruth (Farrow) Vilardofsky.

Born in Providence, a son of the late Norman and Bessie (Waldman) Vilardofsky, he lived in Exeter for 31 years, previously living in Cranston and Providence.

He was an ICC practitioner and a member of the American Society of Transportation and Logistics and the Eastern, Conn., Traffic Club.

Besides his wife, he leaves a son, Barry Vilardofsky; two daughters, Naomi McKenna in Connecticut and Beverly Vilardofsky in Oklahoma; a brother, Allan Vayle in Massachusetts; and two grandchildren.

A graveside funeral service was held Sept. 28 in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

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In Prayer We Find Strength

In prayer we find strength for life. Temptation and passion, as well as irritation and torment, plague us constantly. Each day has its ordeals, and at times we wonder if we shall survive them. There comes a time in the life of each of us when everything crumbles at our feet; all the support upon which we were accustomed to lean — wealth, possessions, friends, relatives — slip away into nothingness. When death takes a loved one, a yawning void opens in our lives that nothing seems to fill; the petty thoughts we have, the small talk we indulge in, the day to day routine of our habits — sleeping and eating, working and playing — suddenly appear cheap and unworthy. When failure is our lot and that upon which we had set our hearts, for which we had labored long and hoped for fervently, is lost to us — a love unrequited, a child turned wayward, a friend untrue, a promise broken — despair settles upon us. When without warning calamity comes — a business disaster, a painful illness, a consuming disease, a broken limb, a broken heart — the dark mantle of melancholy casts its pall over us and we are enveloped by a cloud of meaninglessness and bitterness and foreboding which threatens to take the taste of the joy of living from our mouths. Our days are filled with gloom and we begin to sink beyond the helpful words of friends and the bright light of the sun into the dark misery of our own heart, alone and forsaken, broken and defeated.

At times of death and failure and despair, when we can turn to no one else — for no one else understands, no one else seems to care, no one else will really listen — we turn to G-d. Prayer breaks forth. And comfort comes.

Samuel H. Dresner
Prayer, Humility, and Compassion

CLASSIFIED

Book of Life

(Continued from Page 4)

we classify as *mishpatim*, the everyday laws, concern themselves with righting a wrong, with paying for damages. From this, we might surmise that atonement is an on-going process and not necessarily a once-a-year event. If we start with Yom Kippur to become more attentive to our daily actions, perhaps then we can keep that slate clean and be sealed in the Book of Life.

Velvel "Wally" Spiegler lives in Rehoboth, Mass. He is a Certified Polarity Therapist and a student and teacher of Jewish Mysticism whose primary interest is in Jewish approaches to the healing of mind, body and spirit. He can be reached for comments or questions by calling (508) 252-4302.

Casino

(Continued from page 14)

Inside the casino, the scene was far less glamorous, despite the shine of the new premises. There were few women to be seen, most of the male gamblers looked intense as losses mounted, and they dressed far less finely than the models in the ads.

The only hint of Europe was the staff brought in to train the Palestinian dealers and oversee the operation.

They are being housed at Ma'aleh Adumim, a Jewish settlement just outside Jerusalem. Casino officials said there was simply no room in Jericho.

None of these issues mattered much to Israeli gamblers. In fact, as Israeli lawmakers heard about the heavy action and a potentially high tax windfall, some even talked about legalizing gambling in Israel.

Beth Sholom

(Continued from Page 3)

nity to know that something so timely and joyous has occurred," he said.

Several days after both brit milah had been completed, Michael and Ruth seemed contemplative as they wondered whether Eli's special brit date might bring him luck.

Suddenly, Ruth smiled. "It had better," she said.

Correction

On page 3 of the September 17 issue, Maxie Forman's name was misspelled as Forman in a photo caption. The Herald regrets the error.

On September 24, the Herald ran a front-page story on teacher Paula Titon.

In the article, the Brookline educational program she participated in was mistakenly referred to as Basic History and Yourself. The name of the program is Facing History and Yourself.

Also, Vladka and Ben Meed were mistakenly referred to as death camp survivors. They are survivors of the Warsaw Ghetto.

The Herald regrets the error.

Israel, Palestinians Prepare to Face Off at United Nations

by Julia Goldman

UNITED NATIONS (JTA) — The Palestinians are bringing their campaign for statehood to the United Nations.

A draft Palestinian resolution, which will be presented to the U.N. General Assembly during its current session, would recognize the Palestinians' "right to establish an independent state."

The Palestinian representative at the United Nations, Nasser al-Kidwa, said he is confident the resolution will succeed.

But Israel's U.N. ambassador, Dore Gold, maintains that such a resolution "will introduce anarchy into international agreements."

Warning that any declaration of statehood in the absence of a final-status accord would violate already signed agreements, Gold said, "The Oslo agreements do not expire on May 4, 1999."

The question of Palestinian statehood, according to the Oslo accords, is one of the final-status issues that was expected to be resolved in direct Israeli-Palestinian talks no later than that date, which is the end of the interim period spelled out in the Oslo accords.

But with the peace process deadlocked for more than 18 months, it appears that final-status talks, which also include such highly contentious issues as the status of Jerusalem, Israeli settlements and Palestinian refugees, will not be concluded in the next eight months.

Earlier this month in South Africa, Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat appealed to the 113 non-aligned U.N. member-nations for support during "this fateful phase of the militant march of our people" in making a "historic decision."

When Arafat addresses the U.N. General Assembly, Israel expects him to repeat that speech, in which he declared that the decision to be made "is the establishment of the state of Palestine in the territories occupied since 1967."

Arafat's appearance will come just days after Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's address to the world body.

During last year's U.N. session, the Palestinians stepped up their efforts to bolster their status in the world body.

Their efforts culminated in July, when the Palestinians were granted "additional rights and privileges of participation" in the General Assembly by an overwhelming vote.

The new status grants the Palestinians the right to participate in the General Assembly's general debate and the right to co-sponsor draft resolutions and decisions on Palestinian and Middle East issues. But the Palestinians are excluded from the right to vote or to put forward candidates for U.N. committees.

Long ostracized at the world body — it has never been Israel's "home field," in Gold's words — Israel enjoyed a brief respite

from attacks after the Oslo accords were signed in 1993.

But since the peace talks stalled, Israel has once again been put on the defensive here.

In addition to the Palestinian agenda, the issues of greatest concern to Israel are:

- international terrorism;
- arms control, in the wake of nuclear tests by India and Pakistan; and
- the scheduled visit to the U.N. by Mohammed Khatami, the president of Iran.

The Palestinians are also expected to focus attention on what they see as Israel's illegal settlement activities in Jerusalem, which last session drew criticism in the form of two resolutions passed in an emergency special session of the General Assembly and a presidential letter from the U.N. Security Council.

A harsher, Arab-sponsored Security Council resolution was rejected, largely due to pressure from the United States.

Many of the Palestinians' other main objectives will be familiar to the General Assembly.

For example, Muslim countries in the past have challenged Israel's credentials, which all members must present to the U.N. Credentials Committee.

This year, in what even Gold admits is a "sophisticated move," the Palestinians will support acceptance, but on the condition that the credentials "do not cover the occupied territories since 1967, including Jerusalem."

A similar resolution was defeated last year.

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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.

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A New IRA Alternative: The Roth IRA

by Denise I. Kowalewski
The new Roth Individual Retirement Account (IRA), created under The Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997, offers investors still another alternative for building savings for retirement. The Roth IRA may offer several attractive features such as:

- Generous eligibility rules. Individual wage earners may contribute up to \$2,000 per year to a Roth IRA. Those eligible to contribute the full \$2,000 annually are: single taxpayers with annual modified adjusted gross income (AGI) up to \$95,000 and couples filing jointly with up to \$150,000 of modified AGI. (The term "modified AGI" is the taxable amount on your IRS 1040 form after certain adjustments. Your tax adviser can help you determine this and answer questions about your personal tax situation). The contribution amount is gradually reduced to zero at modified AGI levels between \$95,000 and \$110,000 for single taxpayers and between \$150,000 and \$160,000 for couples. Unlike the traditional IRA, a Roth IRA allows contributions after an in-



dividual attains age 70 1/2 as long as the individual or individual's spouse has earned income.

- Non-deductible contributions. The distinguishing features of the Roth IRA, when compared to a traditional IRA, are that contributions are made only on a non-deductible basis and the tax benefit is realized when funds are withdrawn.

- Tax-deferred accumulation of earnings and tax-free withdrawals. Earnings accumulate on a tax-deferred basis and may be withdrawn tax free if the withdrawal occurs more than five years after the account was opened and the individual is at least age 59 1/2, is disabled, has died, or the funds are used to purchase a first home. (There is a \$10,000 lifetime limit on withdrawals for first-time home buyers).

- Flexible, penalty-free withdrawals. Like the enhanced traditional IRA, the Roth IRA can be used not only for retirement, but also to help fund other critical needs, such as college education. For withdrawals prior to age 59 1/2, the 10% premature withdrawal penalty will be

waived if the funds are used to pay expenses for qualified higher education, first-time home purchase, disability, certain medical situations or due to death.

Please note that individuals may have both a traditional IRA and a Roth IRA, but they may not contribute more than a combined total of \$2,000 per year to these accounts. Individuals who are not eligible to make deductible contributions to a traditional IRA or to make contributions to a Roth IRA may still make non-deductible contributions to a traditional IRA.

This article does not constitute tax advice. Individuals should consult their tax advisers before making any tax-related investment decisions. Information and data in this article were obtained from sources considered reliable. Their accuracy or completeness is not guaranteed and the giving of the same is not to be deemed a solicitation of Dean Witter's part with respect to the purchase or sale of securities or commodities.

Articles 1 of a series of financial articles courtesy of Dean Witter Reynolds, 1900 Hospital Trust Plaza, Providence, RI 02903

Sell Your Unwanted Items and Benefit the Community

Need to get rid of that junk piled up in your garage? Or how about the stuff collecting dust in your attic? Well, you can do this and at the same time help benefit your community. Sound too easy? Of course!

The Community Service Program at Warwick Veterans Memorial High School makes it easy for you. They are hosting a yard sale on Oct. 3, and the proceeds will go directly to the West Bay Community Action Program. There will be food, face painting, a 50/50 raffle, car wash. This event will be held at Warwick Veterans Memorial High School, 2401 West Shore Road, in the student parking lot from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Spaces are available for renting. Two parking spaces for \$10, or three for \$15. To reserve a space, contact Paula Goldberg at 737-3300, ext. 5324, Mon.-Fri. 7 am. to 4:30 p.m. or evening at 941-2042.

Don't have time to be there? Still want to help your community? No problem! You can donate your vintage household items to the yard sale and the proceeds will go to West Bay Community Action. If you are interested, you can drop the items off at Warwick Vets during school hours, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m., before Oct. 2.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month at Women's Center

The Women's Center of Rhode Island will have a luncheon on Oct. 23 in Providence to commemorate Domestic Violence Awareness Month. This event will take place at the Rhode Island Convention Center at noon.

The tickets are \$40 per person.

Attorney and Brooklyn Law School professor Betty Levinson, will speak on "Public Faces, Private Lives: Domestic Violence and the Working Woman." Levinson was the attorney for Hedda Nussbaum who won a major legal victory for herself and other brutalized women in New York state court in the late 1980s. The decision in that case was precedent-setting on the state and national level. In more than 20 years of practice, Levinson has represented dozens of battered women — most of them affluent, educated and self-supporting.

Also, the Hon. Justice Pamela Macktaz, R.I. Family Court, will be honored at this event for her

tireless efforts in working to improve awareness and to provide a better understanding of the issue of domestic violence and how it affects the family.

Founded in 1974 and approaching its 25th year, the Women's Center of Rhode Island became the first shelter for battered women and their children in the state. The Women's Center of Rhode Island is a private, not-for-profit organization providing safety and support for women and their children who are experiencing interpersonal abuse or are homeless due to personal crisis.

The center's mission is to provide a comprehensive range of services that include residential, transitional and community-based programs that provide opportunities for personal transformation to all served. The staff works collaboratively to seek solutions to violence and shares in the work of educating the community at large about the dynamics of violence.

Women's Basketball Comes to Providence

K.C. Jones, former Celtic player and currently head coach of the American Basketball League's New England Blizzard announced that professional basketball will return to the Providence Civic Center on Oct. 18 with an exhibition game between the Blizzard and defending ABL champions Columbus Quest.

The Blizzard's Providence appearance will mark the first professional women's basketball game ever played at the Civic Center.

Led by former University of Connecticut standouts Kara Wolters, Jennifer Rizotti and Carla Berube, the New England Blizzard is preparing for its third season in the new American Basketball League.

Tickets are on sale now at the Civic Center box office and all Ticketmaster locations. To charge by phone, call 331-2211 in Rhode Island and in Massachusetts, (508/617) 931-2000.

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

On Oct. 5 at Women & Infants Hospital, 101 Dudley St., Providence, there will be a lecture on breast cancer survival, "The Human Side of Cancer: A Survivor's Perspective," presented by Lois Tschetter Hjelmstad, a breast cancer survivor, author and teacher

It will be held in the auditorium at 5 p.m. Call 274-1122, ext. 7284, for reservations. The lecture is free.

 Look for more articles relating to breast cancer in next week's issue of Healthwise.

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Down Syndrome Buddy Walk Promotes Awareness

Individuals with Down syndrome and their friends and families will be marching in full force on Oct. 4, during the fourth annual National Buddy Walk to promote the acceptance of all people with Down syndrome.

The Rhode Island Buddy Walk is being coordinated with the National Down Syndrome

Society and many other walks nationwide.

State and local government officials across the country have shown overwhelming support by pledging their participation in the walk, and by signing proclamations to show their support for people with Down syndrome. The walk is one way in which thousands of people and organizations have been recognizing October as National Down Syndrome Awareness Month. Local children and adults with Down syndrome, their designated "Buddies," and many other supporters will participate in the Buddy Walk, which will begin at 11 a.m. (registration at 10 a.m.) at Goddard Memorial State Park on Ives Road in Warwick.

By encouraging the acceptance of people with Down syndrome, the Down Syndrome Society of Rhode Island aims to include these individuals in community activities, education, and employment.

Call the Down Syndrome Society of Rhode Island at 463-5751 for more information.

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