

Rhode Island Jewish HERALD

**Jewish
Community**
PAGES 4-8

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

VOLUME LXIX, NUMBER 51

CHESHVAN 25, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1999

35¢ PER COPY

News at a Glance

- The Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs recently discussed the issue of preparations at Ben-Gurion Airport for the arrival and departure of passengers, against the backdrop of the wave of tourists expected in the year 2000, and in light of the current distress at passport control stations. The prime minister ordered all cabinet ministers to give high priority to the matter, and to offer immediate solutions to existing problems — as is necessary for the sake of the country, its image and economy, and its responsibility for its citizens. The ministerial committee adopted a series of practical recommendations, which had been presented by professionals dealing with the issue.
- Egyptian Defense Minister Muhammad Hussein Tantawi recently instructed the senior Egyptian army command to prepare for the possibility of war with Israel, if the interests of Egypt would deem it necessary. Egypt's armament and war-readiness has worried Israel for several years. The Egyptian army is considered one of the strongest in the area, and is equipped with modern western weaponry. The Egyptian navy is considered the best in the Mideast. Defense sources feel that the latest words out of Egypt are an escalation of anti-Israeli sentiments, and are concerned by the amount of preparation taken by the Egyptian army.
- Minister of Religious Affairs Rabbi Yitzhak Cohen has issued a statement commending a decision handed down by the Beersheva District Court regarding the sale of pork products to Israeli Arabs. The court, in its decision upheld the ban of sale, explaining the laws prohibiting the sale of pork do indeed apply to Arab citizens of the state and are not in contradiction of laws protecting the fundamental rights of citizens. In a media statement released by the minister, Rabbi Cohen indicated he hoped the ruling would serve as a "Sign for non-kosher food chains planning to expand nationwide and thereby compromise the Jewish character of the state." Twenty-two merchants dealing with non-kosher products in Ashdod have tried overturning the law in the courts without success. After two years of legal proceedings, the district court upheld the legality of the laws barring the sale of non-kosher meats.

Making the Holiday Bright for Children

"Because a little joy
goes a long way"

by Kimberly Ann Orlandi
Herald Editor

On Dec. 3, Jews around the world will celebrate Hanukkah—a time to commemorate the "rededication" of the Jerusalem temple by the Maccabees in 165 B.C.E. The "Festival of Lights" is a time for family and friends to come together not just to celebrate the meaning of the holiday, but to celebrate the family as well.

Unfortunately there are many within the community who either do not have a family to share the holiday with or are without the finances to purchase something as simple as a present for their youngster during the eight-night celebration. To give the needy children of the Jewish community a Hanukkah to remember, the organizers of Hanukkah Joy, a non-profit organization dedicated to putting smiles on the faces of children this season, have joined with local merchants in providing gift packages for children of Rhode Island.

The organization was begun in 1996 by a couple who felt that there was a need in the Jewish community for Hanukkah gifts. In the beginning, it was a real grass roots campaign. Lydia Dershwitz, the organization founder, realized that although programs like Toys For Tots did provide toys to Jewish youngsters around Hanukkah, there wasn't an entire organization dedicated to the Jewish children at the holiday.

"We didn't want to commercialize Hanukkah or compete with Christmas," said Dershwitz. "What we did want to do is to let everyone celebrate their own holiday in their own way with their own traditions and customs."

From her kitchen and dining room tables, living room and anywhere she could find an open space, Dershwitz packaged and distributed all of the gift bags. She not only opened her wallet for these needy children—being the sole source of finances for Hanukkah Joy in the beginning—but she opened her heart as well. In 1998, after two years of individual effort, Hanukkah Joy, Inc. was formed. Today, it is managed by a board of directors with all donations received being used to purchase gifts for children.

"We found a lawyer who said he would volunteer his legal time, and an accountant to volunteer his financial services," said Dershwitz. "Everyone involved with the organization volunteers not just their time but their professional services as well."

Over the last two years, Dershwitz and fellow board member Margaret David, have knocked on the doors of toy manufacturers around Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts in the hopes of getting a generous donation. This Hanukkah, David and her husband are having a rather unique Hanukkah get-together at their home. They are requesting that all of their guests bring a toy to be donated to Hanukkah Joy.

The organization has donated gifts to the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island, with recipients being local children as well as children in the sister region of Afula/Gilboa in Israel, and to Family Table, Greater Boston's Jewishish food pantry. This year, Dershwitz is concentrating her efforts in Rhode Island and is delighted to add Jewish Family Services of Rhode Island to her list of recipients.

This year, too, thanks to a generous donation by the members of the Touro Fraternal Association, Hanukkah Joy

will be dispersing gift bags to members of the Jewish senior community.

"I was approached by a member of Touro Fraternal [Steven Labush] who heard about Hanukkah Joy and asked if I would come down and give a presentation to the membership," said Dershwitz. "They were wonderful, both financially and in guiding me to better publicize the organization."

"The decision to get involved with Hanukkah Joy was, as they say, a "no brainer," laughed Art

(Continued on Page 10)



ADL Examines the Extremist's View

Anti-government militia groups, far-right religious fundamentalists and violence-prone political extremists are among the hundreds, and possibly thousands of extremists "hoping, expecting or preparing for the worst" as the next millennium nears, the Anti-Defamation League said in a new report.

Y2K Paranoia: Extremists Confront the Millennium examines the varied reactions and expectations of elements on the fringes of society and warns of the potential for violence. The report focuses on anti-government militia and "Patriot" groups with theories of a government conspiracy, certain religious fundamentalists and cults predicting an apocalypse with Jews playing a conspiratorial or Satanic role, and far-right extremists seeking to blame the so-called Y2K bug on Jews and the federal government. Many of the groups are disseminating hate-filled propaganda on the Internet.

"Millennial cults, extremist groups and racial ideologists this year are bringing their assorted baggage to the Y2K happening," said Abraham H. Foxman, ADL national director. "The heightened expectations for the year 2000, mixed together with the widely reported possibility of computer meltdown, have generated a barrage of predictions and hysterical propaganda from those on the farthest fringes of society. While not all of these groups call for explicit action, many of their followers are hoping, expecting

or preparing for the worst. We can only hope that these people will not act rashly or violently on their fears and expectations."

Predicting the Apocalypse

- **The Prophecy Club** — Members are selling books that warn of a government plan to establish an evil dictatorship and imprison "true believers" in concentration camps.
- **Aum Shinrikyo** — The Japanese cult responsible for the 1995 Tokyo subway attack is predicting Armageddon. Authorities fear the violence-prone group could strike again.
- **Gershon Salomon** — As leader of the Movement for the Establishment of the Temple, Salomon reportedly has asserted that he and his followers must "liberate" the Temple Mount in Jerusalem, destroy the Dome of the Rock Mosque and build the Third Temple foretold by the prophets.
- **Concerned Christians** — Authorities believe that the group may resort to violence in the streets of Jerusalem to hasten the Second Coming of Christ. Concerned Christians achieved notoriety last January when its followers were arrested and deported from Israel.
- **Yisroel "Bill" Hawkins** — Hawkins, the leader of the House of Yahweh, and his followers are awaiting the return of Jesus in a compound in Abilene, Texas. The group reportedly is stockpiling arms.
- **Robert Millar** — The leader of a Christian Identity

(Continued on Page 9)



ASDS Middle School Marches for Amos House

The Middle School students of the Alperin Schechter Day School gathered their collective energies recently to benefit Amos House. In order to participate in the Amos House Walkathon the 53 students of the middle school solicited sponsors for every mile walked. All students were successful in soliciting and/or completing the 3-mile walk led by organizer, Middle School Coordinator and Judaic Studies teacher Steven Jablow. More than \$900 was collected and donated to Amos House thanks to the industry of these caring, community-minded individuals.

Photo by Liz Goldberg

HAPPENINGS

Entertainment for Children

The Providence Children's Museum, 100 South St., Providence, announces the following activities. Call 273-KIDS.

November

- Play & Learn.** 3 to 4:30 p.m. Kids 2 to 4 join Grandma Hope to hear fairy tales, play games and explore the playful and safe woodland environment of Littlewoods.
- Preschool Fri: Arts Smart.** 9:40 a.m. to 1:50 p.m. Children ages 3 to 5 explore the magic of mixing colors, creating a BIG painting using what they've learned about combining colors and hear the colorful story *Mouse Paint* by Ellen Stoll Walsh. Pre-registration for a 12-week series is recommended for this popular program. Call 273-KIDS, ext. 234, for enrollment information. There may be space available for same-day registration. There is a \$1 fee above the price of admission for same-day registration.
- Dragon Shadow Puppets.** 1, 1:45 and 2:30 p.m. Children ages 5 and up celebrate the museum dragon's new tail and see a performance of a shadow puppet dragon story. Make a firebreathing shadow puppet dragon to cast awful shadows over all the land.
- Free First Sunday.** 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The museum is open free of charge on the first Sunday of every month. Families are invited to splash, climb, crawl an touch the museum's extraordinary exhibits for free!
- Museum closed.**
- Paper Pyramids.** 3 to 4:30 p.m. Kids ages 5 and up transform a simple piece of paper into a sturdy pyramid. Try making different sizes or even different shapes to compare to your pyramid!
- Paddle Power.** 3 to 4:30 p.m. Kids ages 5 and up design paddle boats for speed and strength. Test which shapes move through the water fastest.
- Play & Learn.** 3 to 4:30 p.m. The museum's youngest learners, ages 2 to 4, join Grandma Hope to play games, listen to stories and frolic in the playful and safe woodland environment of Littlewoods. The museum is open 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Veterans Day.

Mom, I Want to be an Actor!

Then plan on attending the Young Actors Theatre Company student auditions. It is by appointment only, for the 15-week Winter Youth Classes. Boys and girls 9 to 16 may apply.

It begins Nov. 13. Prepare a three-minute monologue. For an appointment, call 734-9554.

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Calendar: November 4 thru November 10

- The Jewish Theatre Ensemble presents "Two by Two" at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence. Six performances, Nov. 4 through 14. JCCRI member tickets, \$12; seniors/students, \$10; Non-JCCRI members, \$13; seniors/students, \$11. Nov. 4 and 11 at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 6 and 13 at 8 p.m., and Nov. 7 at 2 p.m., and Nov. 14 at 4 p.m. **President Olafur Ragnar Grimsson** of Iceland visits Brown University to give a lecture on "The Northern Region: A New Dimension in International Relations." 6:30 p.m. Salomon Center for Teaching. Call 863-2476.
The former Rumford Baking Powder Building in East Providence is the site of the third annual Open Studio and Sale, 5:30 to 9 p.m., 9 Newman Ave.
Second annual Scrabble Fund-Raiser to support Literacy Volunteers of America — Providence. Providence Journal Auditorium. 6:30 to 9 p.m. For information and registration, call 351-0511.
- Gallery 401** at the JCCRI presents "The View From Here," paintings by Ellen Goldin. Through Nov. 16. Call 861-8800, ext. 108, for information.
- Folksinger Cheryl Wheeler** performs at the Greenwich Odeum Theater, 59 Main St., East Greenwich. Call 294-2215.
The Booth Contemporary Art Gallery, 155 Main St., Wakefield, presents the collages and paintings of William Klenk. Nov. 5 through Dec. 4. Call 783-6378.
Jazz, poetry, a fusion of words and music at AS220, 115 Empire St., Providence. Original works performed by Providence poets. \$5. 7 p.m. Call 831-9327.
- Hungry Artists Sale** at the Fuller Museum of Art, 455 Oak St., Brockton, Mass. 1 to 4 p.m. Refreshments are available. More than 60 artists and varieties. Call (508) 588-6000.
The social programming committee of Congregation Agudas Achim invites you to a night of swing lessons, dancing and refreshments. 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10 per couple in advance; \$15 at the door. 901 N. Main St., Attleboro. Call (508) 222-2243.
Fifth annual Fall Choral Festival. 7 p.m. High school musicians present a concert at the University of Rhode Island Recital Hall, Upper College Road, Kingston. Call 874-2431.
November-Fest 1999. An annual arts and crafts fair at East Greenwich High School, Avenger Drive. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Providence College hosts its annual Freshmen Parents' Weekend with performances by the PC Dance Company at 1:30 and 3 p.m. The art department will have ongoing displays, and the music department will offer performances by ensembles, a cappella groups and solo performers. The concerts are free and open to the public. Call 865-2183.
- Renowned Israeli author Amos Oz** will speak on behalf of the Hebrew College Library at Temple Emanuel, 385 Ward St., Newton, Mass. Oz will discuss "Israel Through Its Literature." 3 p.m. Tickets \$25. Call (617) 278-4949.
New England Culinary Institute Open House at the Providence Marriott, One Orms St., Providence, 7 to 9 p.m. Demonstrations, slide show and Q & A. Call (877) 223-6324.
Join Perspectives, the Rhode Island Jewish Young Adult Project, for Rosh Chodesh, 106 Angell St., Providence. R.S.V.P. to 521-5061, Cynthia.
Holiday Bazaar at Temple Beth El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence. Call 331-6070.
Temple Am David Holiday Bazaar, 40 Gardiner St., Warwick. More than 25 local artists. Call 463-7944.
Annual Kristallnacht Program sponsored by the Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum, featuring Dr. Jack Brauns and Zev Birger. Nov. 7 at the Providence Marriott from 1 to 4 p.m., Nov. 8 at the Jewish Community Center from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Call Tara at 453-7860 to R.S.V.P.
- The Sandra Feinstein Gamon Theatre** presents "The Dresser." Nov. 8 through Dec. 5. Tickets \$16, \$14 for students and seniors. Call 831-2919 for tickets. 31 Elbow St., Providence.
Learn Hebrew for free at the Chai Center, Warwick. Crash course begins at 7:30 p.m. Level 2 course begins Nov. 10 at 7:30 p.m. R.S.V.P. to 732-6559.
- The Jerusalem Trio** performs at Brown University's Alumnae Hall as part of the Rhode Island Chamber Concerts. Call 863-2416.

Harbor Seals Have Returned to Narragansett Bay

Come along with *Save The Bay* on this popular autumn adventure!

Join Save The Bay in November and December aboard the "Brandaris" as we disembark from historic Wickford Harbor, to learn about and observe the seals that return each fall to Narragansett Bay. As we glide through the crisp, clean air of late autumn, our adventure will take us through the scenic Wickford Harbor and around the rocky shores of Fox Island where seals haul out.

At quiet anchor, being respectful not to disturb the seals, we can watch them in full view of the exquisite winter environment. The most common seals to visit our shores are the harbor seals. However, we may be treated to the occasional harp, hooded or gray seal, as well as other marine life that call Narragansett Bay home.

The dates and times are as follows: Nov. 6 and 7, noon to 2 p.m. and Nov. 20, 21, Dec. 4, and 5, 10 a.m. to noon.

The place is Wickford Harbor in Wickford.
 Due to the extreme popularity of these programs, it is recommended that you reserve your spot early. Call 272-3540 for more information or to reserve your spot today! Additional dates coming in March and April 2000. Program Cost: Save The Bay Members: Adults \$20, Children \$17; Non-Members: Adults \$25, Children \$22.

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John Cornwell's Hitler's Pope

Another View of
Pope Pius XII

by Abraham H. Foxman

John Cornwell's *Hitler's Pope* may not be the definitive book on Pope Pius XII, but it surely provides new dimension to the questions surrounding Papal activity during the Holocaust. Past books and articles have focused on Pius XII's anti-communism and how it may have muted his reaction to Hitler, or the long history of anti-Judaism in the Church and how this played out during the reign of Pius XII. Cornwell will attempt to contribute on both issues, but brings added depth with his examination of the institution of the Papacy itself.

His approach views the activities of Pius XII — before ascending to the Papacy and during his tenure — as primarily a product of his larger vision for Vatican control over national churches. Cornwell traces this theme from the 19th century forward, showing how the Vatican sought to strengthen central control over Catholic clergy outside the Vatican and how, even before he was to become Pope, this became the dominating theme of Eugenio Pacelli's career.

By showing that Pacelli began working on this idea as far back as 1917, some 22 years before becoming Pope, Cornwell provides a consistent and plausible theory on the Pope's conduct in the early Nazi period and during the war. He in no way portrays Pacelli as a lover of Nazism, though he describes him as clearly ready to tolerate Nazi abuses if he saw an imminent threat from the communists. But in his tunnel-vision approach to getting Vatican canon and Canon Law accepted, Pius XII was, according to Cornwell, more than ready to accommodate Hitler's control

over German life, including allowing the demise of the strong democratic Catholic political party in Germany. It is Cornwell's lengthy description of Pacelli's activity and thinking leading up to the Concordat between the Vatican and Germany that lays the ground work for Pius XII's dubious record toward the Jews during the war.

Clearly, what was desperately needed during the war was a clear condemnation from the Vatican leadership of the Nazi's final solution as reports of atrocities began trickling out of Germany and Eastern Europe. Instead, Cornwell depicts a Pope who was not ready to fully accept the information and who, whenever it came time for forceful public action, chose to rationalize inactivity on the grounds that to be strong would cause even greater harm. Coming together to produce this Papal response were several factors, the most significant being Pacelli's lifelong obsession with identifying people of G-d with Papal allegiance, as manifested in his centralizing efforts. Cornwell argues this was critical for reducing Pacelli's sense of responsibility for the Jews. It was the prism through which Pius XII viewed wartime events. Together with other assumptions and goals that Pius XII held dear — including his aim to unite Christians under Papal leadership, his desire to be a peacemaker at the end of the war and his hatred and fear of communism — they affected his reactions toward Nazi activities in Eastern and Southern Europe.

What could the Pope have accomplished had he been bold and forthright? At the very least he could have provided an alert for Jews in many places as to the true dangers that lay before them. Cornwell demonstrates

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by Jonathan Rosenblum
An Echad

American Jewry is busy counting itself again. Soon we will be waiting breathlessly to see how the year 2000 National Jewish Population Study compares to that of 1990. These censuses reflect American Jews' ongoing obsession with perpetuation. Millions of federation dollars are earmarked for Jewish continuity.

Two years ago, 11 millionaires committed \$18 million to create Jewish day schools across denominational lines, more recently Charles Bronfman and Michael Steinhart contributed generously so that a trip to Israel becomes a part of every Jewish teen's "birthright."

One finds no comparable level of concern with self-perpetuation among any other ethnic group. Irish and Italian Americans do not pull out their hair over the declining ethnic identity of their children. They maintain no large apparatus of communal organizations to foster ethnic identity or to commission large-scale studies to document their disappearance and chart rates of intermarriage.

Why are Jews different? The answer lies in a profound intuition that continues to animate many Jewish hearts:

Attention U.S. Taxpayers and Lovers of Israel

President Clinton has vetoed the H.R. 2606 Foreign Operations and Appropriations Bill for the year 2000. Americans for a Safe Israel/AFSI supported the bill because it provided foreign aid without the \$1.9 billion promised by Bill Clinton to Israel, Arafat, and Jordan to implement the Wye aid package. Congress passed the bill in both Houses, but the President's veto will now send the issue of Wye funding into a tailspin.

Herbert Zweibel, chairman of AFSI, makes it very clear, "The so-called peace process, begun in 1993, built on repeated broken promises by Arafat and his henchmen, has brought

a feeling that the entire world depends on a continued existence of our tiny people.

The source of that is an experience forever implanted in the collective unconscious of our people: the Revelation at Sinai 3,400 years ago. There G-d spoke for the only time in human history to an entire people. There we were given the mission of bringing knowledge of Him to the entire world through observance of His law.

Many of those who bring their hands over Jewish continuity no longer consciously believe in the defining moment at Sinai. To them the claim of Jewish chosenness smacks of racism.

And so it goes. The Jewish head denies what the Jewish heart knows to be true.

By now it is abundantly clear that money spent on Jewish continuity has barely made a dent. There were 4.8 million American Jews in 1928. Today those who identify as Jews by religion is 4.4 million. Given normal population growth the number should be three times that.

And the future is even grimmer. Already in 1975, Eilihu Bergman, assistant director of the Harvard Center for Population Studies, projected an American Jewry shrunken by 85

percent to 98 percent by 2076. While that projection failed to take into account the astonishing Orthodox growth rate — it is now predicted it will reverse American Jewish decline 40 years from now — it is depressingly on target for the remainder of American Jewry.

Jewish continuity efforts are doomed to fail as long as Jewish parents convey to their children a message diametrically opposed to the intuitions of their hearts: No matter what you do, Judaism accepts you. Judaism makes no demands; there is no beyond the pale. Judaism is trivial.

Desperate to preserve the illusion that their progeny are not lost to the Jewish people, American Jews demand that clergy officiate at intermarriages, even when their children sign statements in advance that any offspring will be raised in another religion. To convince themselves that their grandchildren are Jewish, they invent patrilineal descent.

They beg their non-Jewish sons- and daughters-in-law to convert on the easiest possible terms. When even those terms are rejected, they insist that the temple show an accepting attitude to intermarried couples.

(Continued on Page 15)

nothing but terror and economic warfare to Israel. The Wye funding is only a prelude to the \$20 billion tab for the transfer of the Jews of the Golan. If Israel chooses to take perilous risks for peace, American taxpayers should not foot the bill."

Unfortunately, AIPAC and Israel Bonds see things quite differently. AIPAC has planned a full scale attack on the Congress to encourage them to vote for the money for the "secure peace." They neglect to mention that the money will be used to "transfer" Jews and turn Jewish communities into mini-ghetto armed fortresses. Israel bonds eager to make up the short-fall

in the money appropriated by Congress by running a cash campaign, urging its well-meaning bonds purchasers to fund the destruction of Israel.

Americans for a Safe Israel strongly urges you to call AIPAC, (212) 750-4110 and your local Israel Bonds office. Strongly voice your objections to their actions. Also, contact your Congressman and Senators urging them to vote NO on funding for the Wye aid package. The U.S. Capitol switchboard is (202) 224-3121.

For additional information: Call AFSI (212) 828-2424 or visit the website afsi@interport.net.

RHODE ISLAND JEWISH HERALD

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

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Postmaster: This publication is published weekly, except for two issues combined annually in November and December. Second-class postage paid at Providence, Rhode Island, and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes in the Rhode Island Jewish Herald, P.O. Box 6326, Providence, R.I. 02940-0326. Subscription rates: Three years (12 issues), \$15.00; one year (5 issues), \$5.00. Single copies \$1.00. Payment in advance. Payment by check or money order preferred. Payment by credit card accepted. Payment by check or money order preferred. Payment by credit card accepted. Payment by check or money order preferred. Payment by credit card accepted.

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Candlelighting
November 5, 1999
4:18 p.m.



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

What's the Plan?

A comedian once imagined a conversation between Noah and G-d (everyone else comments on scripture — why not comedians?) in which the L-rd informed his servant that there were two male hippopotamuses on the Ark, and he needed to replace one with a female.

"Go back and get a female? Why can't you just change one of them?" asks Noah.

"You know I don't work that way," comes the stern answer.

"How does He work? In this week's portion, *Vayera*, Sarah, now quite old, reacts to the news that she is going to have a son by laughing, "After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?"

And G-d remarks on this: "Is anything too hard for the L-rd?" Of course no one is going to contradict Him on this question.

But, again, the question emerges of just what the Plan is.

The Plan, it turns out, is that he gave us a world to live in, and now it's our job to prepare a home for Him here as well. Not a structure, but a home in our hearts, a place where G-d's word is welcome and obeyed.

A world that is inspired to-

wards goodness and kindness as a result of being open and receptive to G-d's word.

True, not everything on earth is ideal. There are diseases, natural disasters, accidents and crime. They are reminders that perfection is something found only in the Holy realm and to reflect that perfection in our world takes a lot more work.

Torah Today

But there are also the necessary tools for most of us to be well and happy most of the time. We just need the will to make it happen.

The key is in another conversation Abraham has with G-d about the imminent destruction of Sodom. Anxious but determined, Abraham says, "Would You destroy it if there are 50 righteous people? No. Well, what about 45? 40? 30? A courageous act of negotiation for a man who calls himself 'dust and ashes.'"

But it demonstrates the point: while it's true that G-d can do anything, He prefers that we handle the management here on earth. He wants us as a partner, being G-d like. The opportunity is yours; use it well.

Submitted by Rabbi Yossi Laufer, Chai Center of Chabad of West Bay, Warwick.

JEWISH COMMUNITY

With the holiday season approaching, it's a good time to check your house to make sure all of your windows and doors are locked. The number of house breaks rises during this period. If you go away, make sure you have someone pick up your mail and newspaper (or cancel it) and set some lights on timers. This advice is not only for your homes but for your businesses also. I can remember working in the East Side area during the holidays looking for suspects. Businesses along Hope Street were being broken into and we couldn't catch the intruder. One night I received a call of an alarm going off at the East Side Prescription Center. When I arrived I observed a male suspect at the front door. I jumped out of the car expecting a foot chase, but what I got was a big laugh instead. It seems that the door of the pharmacy had a heavy plexi-glass bottom piece which the intruder had attempted to kick in. The plexi-glass snapped back and caught his leg. I had to call the fire department to get him out. Talk about bad luck.

In this week's column I would like to introduce you to Capt. Michael Chalek. He is the Cranston Police Department, Mike currently serves as the detective commander. He is the only Jewish officer on the force, and has been for the past 21 years.

Born in Lynn, Mass., Mike moved to Providence with his parents Avon and Marilyn. Eventually his family moved to Cranston, where he has lived ever since. He lived in the Stadium section of the city and attended Cranston public schools, graduating from Cranston High School East in 1975. His family were members of Temple Beth Israel on Niagara Street in Providence where Mike had his bar mitzvah.

While Mike was attending Bryant College, the Cranston Police Department notified him that his application was accepted. He went into the municipal police academy and was appointed a patrol officer on March 15, 1978. When Mike joined the force, Det. Arnold Odesky, the only Jewish officer in the Cranston Police Department, offered him some advice and was very helpful. Mike continued school in the evening, on a part-time basis. Eventually he graduated from Bryant College with a bachelor's degree and,

most recently, from Salve Regina University with a master of science degree.

As a patrol officer in Cranston, Mike had various duties such as street patrol, handling prisoners in the station, and answering phones at the front desk. In July of 1986 Mike was promoted to the rank of sergeant, first working nights and then days in the patrol division. In November of 1990 he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and, after a stint in patrol, was transferred to head the narcotics division. In August of 1994, Mike was promoted to captain. For the next two years



he was in charge of Training and Crime Prevention. In May of 1996 he was assigned to head the detective division. He also began to instruct recruits at the Municipal Academy on ethics and continues to do so.

In his first days as a detective, Mike immediately saw a need for someone to follow up on domestic violence complaints. He believes that domestic violence is a very important issue that has to be top priority in law enforcement; in fact, since 1994 Mike has been representing the Police Chief's Association on the Law Enforcement Training Task Force for the State Violence Against Women Act Planning Committee. This task force plans how grant money is spent to curb domestic violence. It also guides departments by offering classes to police personnel who deal with domestic violence and sexual assault. He was also instrumental in the development of the Restraining Order No Contact Order registry. This committee, in cooperation with the Coalition against Domestic Violence, obtained cell phones from Bell Atlantic programmed to call 911. The

phones were issued to domestic violence victims.

During his career, Mike has been involved in numerous narcotic and murder investigations but his most satisfying case occurred when he had only eight months on the job. He was patrolling in the Pontiac Avenue area and looked from the overpass onto Route 10. He saw a car stopping in the breakdown lane and went to investigate. When he arrived he checked the plate to see if the vehicle was stolen. Mike could not find the occupants and went about his patrol. Later he found out that a home invasion had occurred in that

area and an elderly couple was beaten. The plate he ran was put over the air as a possible suspect vehicle because it was in the area at the time of the invasion. Providence Police stopped the vehicle and the occupants were arrested and identified by the elderly couple, who were very grateful to Mike.

Another highlight of his career took place in the early '90s

On the Providence Beat with Lt. Lapatin



when the police department was having contract problems with the city. Some officers went to a city council meeting to show their disdain for the way the city was negotiating. They became somewhat boisterous. The council president referred to them as "acting like a bunch of Nazis." Mike was offended, as a police officer and especially as a Jewish police officer. He went to the next council meeting and expressed his opinion. He felt that the analogy was minimizing the atrocities the Nazis committed. That night Mike won a battle not only for the Cranston Police Department but for all Jewish people when the council president apologized.

As an avid skier and softball player, he ran the Cranston Police softball team for more than 13 years. During that time the team was very successful, winning many state championships and also appearing in five national championship tournaments. Turning 40, Mike decided to retire from softball, but he couldn't refuse just one more tournament in Florida. Mike and about 20 other police officers from Cranston boarded a plane at Green Airport. Mike was seated and ready to take off

when suddenly he saw his wife Susan boarding the plane. By the applause of his teammates he realized that this was his retirement gift from them. Susan had never gone to a tournament away from home before, so this was a very special moment for Mike. However, it didn't turn out as everyone had planned. In the first game of the tournament Mike was running from third to home and fell in his leg. He had completely torn his achilles tendon and spent the rest of the trip on crutches. This injury also put an end to his skiing career. Now, at age 42, Mike enjoys the less strenuous sport of golfing.

Mike and his wife Susan have been married for the past 20 years. They have two daughters. Heather, 18, is in her first year at the University of Rhode Island, and Melissa, 16, attends Cranston High School West. Mike is very proud of his family and they are very supportive of him.

He said that his career has been very rewarding and he sees no end in sight. In 1994 I had the good fortune to work with Mike and his men in a combined effort between our departments to curb underage selling of alcohol to minors.

National Council of Jewish Women

Contributing to the welfare of the community

by Luke O'Neill
Community Reporter

The Rhode Island section of the National Council of Jewish Women welcomed new members to their organization for "Coffee Cake and Conversations" on Oct. 27 at the home of Deana Litwin on the east side of Providence.

New members met with current leaders of the Rhode Island section which is comprised of women from all over the Ocean State. The section has added 137 new members in the past two years, with 53 new members and still counting this year. The

NCJW is more than 100 years old which makes it the oldest Jewish women's organization in America.

Rhode Island members are fundamentally dedicated to helping and nurturing today's youth through education. Some generous RI projects include: establishing scholarships to graduating high school seniors, Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters

(HIPPY)—a literacy program, sending handicapped children to Camp Ruggles in North Scituate, and educating Jewish and non-Jewish public school children about a rich Israeli history and Judaism traditions. The women also combat domestic violence, advocate women's rights, and furnished the library at the RI Chamber Charter School of New England.



FROM LEFT, are Judith Lichtman; Rosalyn Bolusky, vice president, membership; Nan Levine; Carol Brooklyn, president; and Eunice Greenfield, vice president. Herald photo by Luke O'Neill

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

A Jewish Man's Journey of Faith

by Luke O'Neill
Community Reporter

Stephen J. Dubner, a writer and editor for the *New York Times Magazine*, shared his remarkable journey to Judaism with a crowded room at the Ledgemont Country Club on Oct. 26. The acclaimed author's speech exemplified his recent extraordinary book, *Turbulent Souls*, where Dubner, a recent guest on "The Today Show," recounts his amazing family history and how he traversed the chasm between two different faiths. Dubner's visit was part of the Women's Alliance Campaign of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island.

Before Dubner awed the crowd with his story and book, Elaine Fain, co-chair of the event, spoke before the Women's Alliance, fulfilling the *mitzvah* of caring for Jewish people, has seen more and more women contributing (1,270 donors) and has an ultimate goal of \$1,000,000. The fund was established in 1993.

Fain introduced Myrna Rosen, who shared her story of her trip to St. Petersburg, Rus-

sia in August. During her vacation, Rosen witnessed evidence of the Federation's and the Women Alliance's generous efforts to help unfortunate Jews overseas. She encountered a woman named Sophia with no living relatives, in poor health, and in even worse living conditions. Rosen asked Sophia if

there was a message she could bring back to Rhode Island. Sophia said, "Tell them 'Thank you... thank you for my life.'" Rosen continued, "We have so much, and they have so little," as she left much of the crowd teary-eyed and reiterated that many foreign Jews appreciate the American donations. The donated money helps people like Sophia acquire food and medical help.

Dubner applauded the funds of the Women's Alliance and praised their efforts to help foreign Jews. With a 10-year-old journalism career, Dubner jokingly commented on his "powers of observa-

tion" and noticed the lack of men at the event as the room was blanketed with wall-to-wall estrogen.

Dubner, 36, the youngest of eight children, was born into a Catholic family; however, his parents converted from Judaism to Roman Catholicism a half century ago. In his book,

Turbulent Souls, Dubner, who grew up in Dwaynesburg, NY, tells how he reclaimed the Jewish faith his parents abandoned in the heart of World War II. The story is ultimately about a "Catholic son's return to his Jewish family," and was originally written for the *NY Times Magazine*.

Dubner, who received his master's in fine arts and writing from Columbia University, recalled that his parents were the descendants of Russian immigrants who settled in Brooklyn. His Brooklyn-born Jewish parents separately and secretly converted religions in Brooklyn and Dubner stressed that his parents' conversions were purely faith conversions and not political or anti-Semitic.

Turbulent Souls illustrates that Dubner's mother, Florence Greenglass, was the daughter of Harry and Esther Greenglass. Harry, who very much wanted to be an American, was not pleased with Florence's sudden fascination with ballet. Florence, the aspiring ballerina, came under the tutelage of a stern director named Madame Souvorina. Souvorina influenced Florence in ballet and conse-

quently in her religious beliefs. Florence, according to Dubner, never exhibited strong love for the Jewish faith while growing up, but was influenced by Souvorina, the "artistic Catholic." Souvorina appreciated an artistic side to Catholicism with pictures of the Virgin Mary hanging in her bedroom and valued the drama of the liturgy. Florence was eventually drawn to this artful drama and met with Father Conroy at the Church of the Blessed Sacrament on the upper west side of Manhattan. On Dec. 24, 1942, Dubner's mother was baptized into the Catholic world and her name changed to Veronica. Dubner, a graduate of Appalachian Street University in North Carolina, again stressed that his mother's conversion was not simple, but was a sincere, prolonged "journey of faith."

His father, Sol Dubner, always had conflicting religious views with his father, Shepsel Dubner, who came from a very strong Jewish family. Sol missed his deceased mother greatly and enlisted in World War II after the attack on Pearl Harbor. Sol, ironically stationed on Christmas Island, realized he was the only Jew out of 300 army men. Feeling lost, alone, and homesick, Sol sought refuge in spiri-

(Continued on Page 15)



Stephen Dubner

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Book Fund Established in Sollosy Honor

Sheldon Sollosy was named a Trustee Emeritus of the Providence Public Library for his many years of devotion and commitment. Since 1982, he served the library in several capacities while a member of the corporation and of the board of trustees. Currently, Sollosy is chair of the government relations committee. He has also served as the library's president, vice president, chairman of the development committee, and as a member of the nominating committee.

At the library's recent annual meeting, the Sheldon and Gladys Sollosy Book Fund was established to commemorate Sollosy's being named as a trustee emeritus of the Providence Public Library and to recognize him for his vision and advocacy.



SHELDON SOLLOSY (second from right) proudly displays his Trustee Emeritus plaque. Also shown are (left to right) Peter Gebhard, chair of the board of trustees; Gladys Sollosy, Sheldon's wife; and Dale Thompson, director of the Providence Public Library.
Photo courtesy of Providence Public Library

High School Seniors Receive Awards and Grants

One hundred thirty-one seniors from throughout the state, selected for their commitment to the values of brotherhood and selfless service to their communities, have received the coveted Jr. Legion of Honor Award from the Chapel of the Four Chaplains in Philadelphia, plus a \$1,000 check from the Feinstein Foundation to be donated to a charity of their choice.

The Chapel of the Four Chaplains was established to memorialize the Four Chaplains aboard the ship the USAT Dorchester which was torpedoed by a German U-Boat in World War II. As it was sinking, the Four Chaplains — two Protestant, one Catholic and one Jewish — gave up their life jackets to other sailors who had none. They were last seen going down with their ship, linked arm in arm. President Truman dedicated the chapel in their honor in 1951 as a testament to the spirit of brotherhood and selfless service to others, which is our nation's greatest strength.

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Temple Am David Hosts Holiday Bazaar

Temple Am David in Warwick is hosting their third annual Holiday Bazaar on Nov. 7. Artisans and vendors from all around southern New England will be displaying their wares. This year we are featuring fountains by Copper Works and Jewelry by Blitz.

New items this year include Judaica limoges boxes, hand-crafted glassware and illuminated centerpieces. There is something for every holiday need. There will be crafts, including those made by the sisterhood, books, toys, a penny social, refreshments, table linens, menorahs, candles and more. There will also be a raffle with a grand prize of a Copper Works Fountain. Proceeds from the raffle will go toward the purchase of large-print prayer books. For more information, call the temple at 463-7944.

Can You Read Hebrew?

During the month of November, tens of thousands of Jewish adults will gather in thousands of locations across North America to learn to read Hebrew — the language of our people! Read Hebrew America is the ideal way to learn how to follow synagogue services, to be more involved in your children's Jewish education, or simply to enhance your own ties to Judaism. These five free 1 1/2 hour lessons are available for beginners and intermediates.

You'll be reading Hebrew by Chanukah — guaranteed!
Call (800) 44-HEBRE'W! It is from the people who brought you Shabbat Across America!

Hebrew Reading Crash Course will begin Nov. 8 at 7:30 p.m. Level 2 Hebrew Reading Course will begin Nov. 10 at 7:30 p.m. Classes will be held at the Chai Center of Chabad of West Bay, 15 Centerville Road, Warwick. R.S.V.P. 732-6559.

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STAN HURVITZ

Loss of Mail Cuts into Fund-Raiser for Young Judaea

The New England Zionist Youth Commission for Young Judaea has issued a special request to the Jewish community to help in its annual fund-raiser. In September, raffle tickets were mailed to all Hadassah members in New England in order to raise money for the youth movement's scholarship fund. Unfortunately, many of the envelopes did not reach their destinations.

"We are heartbroken," said Youth Commission Chair Carol Goodman Kaufman. "This fundraiser is vital to providing the moneys necessary to help send Jewish kids to summer camps and Israel programs. We cannot afford to reprint and remail.

"Having sat on the scholarship committee, I can tell you that there is a large contingent of people in our Jewish community who really need, and appreciate, our help. It would be a *mitzvah* to get the word out to the community."

Young Judaea, now celebrating its 90th year, is the youth movement sponsored by Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America. It offers youth clubs, summer camps, and summer and year-round programs in Israel. For more information about getting involved call Regional Director Rebecca France, or Assistant Director Mor Barzel at (617) 734-4838.

SAGE Concert to Feature Klezmer Kabaret

Judy Bressler's Klezmer Kabaret will perform at a fall concert presented by Senior Adult Group Educators on Nov. 16. The concert, which begins at 12:30 p.m. at Temple Beth-El, located at 70 Orchard Ave. in Providence, is open to all seniors. Admission is \$3 per person and refreshments will be provided.

The concert, entitled "Pop Goes the 20th Century!" will include a medley of the best-loved English and Jewish songs of the last 100 years. It is a high-spirited, evocative, celebratory and participatory show, and dancing in the aisles is encouraged, according to Bressler.

Bressler is a third generation Yiddish performer following her mother and grandfather. She is a founding and current member of the Klezmer Conservatory Band, now in its 18th year, and is its featured vocalist.

SAGE is a collaborative among the professionals who work with the elderly from the Bureau of Jewish Education, Comprehensive Adult Day Care



Judy Bressler

Center of the Jewish Seniors Agency of Rhode Island, the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island, Jewish Family Service, the Leisure Club at Temple Emanu-El, Shalom Apartments and the JFS Kosher Mealsite in Cranston.

For tickets and reservations, call Jewish Family Service at 331-1244. Reservations are required.

Community Member Receives City Appointment

Congratulations to Deborah Lapatin, sister of Providence Police officer and Herald contributor Lt. David Lapatin, who was recently named Acting Tax Collector for the City of Providence. She has worked in the tax collector's office for 28 years.

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Nature Versus Nurture

Jewish values and the medical ethics of infertility

by Luke O'Neill
Community Reporter

As part of the third annual Jewish Medical Ethics Forum entitled, "Infertility and the New Genetic Techniques: A Jewish Approach," Miriam Hospital invited Rabbi Elliot Dorff to speak on Oct. 27 in Sopkin Auditorium. Rabbi Dorff, who has a Ph.D. in philosophy from Columbia University, is the rector and professor of philosophy at the University of Judaism in Los Angeles, Calif. The respondents were Dr. Andrew Blazar, infertility specialist at Women and Infants Hospital, Providence, and Rabbi Michael Cahana, Temple Beth-El, Providence. The moderator was Dr. Dan Lederer, chair, ethics committee at Miriam Hospital.

All the speakers emphasized that infertility is not new to the Jewish community and it impacts many, remembering the stories of Sara, Rachel, and Hannah. Since Judaism places a high value on family and children, infertility and ethical procedures become serious concerns.

The main theme of the forum focused on the new genetic techniques to prevent infertility and whether these methods are permissible in Jewish faith and traditions. The definition of infertility, according to Rabbi Dorff, is any couple not using birth control who are unable to produce a child after one year. In the child-bearing age group (15 to 45 years old), 20 percent of American couples are infertile and 30 percent of Jewish couples are infertile. Rabbi Dorff explained the reason more Jews are infertile is because more Jews go on to college and graduate school and do not marry until their early 30s. According to the rabbi, the optimal age to procreate is 22, and it becomes more difficult to procreate in your mid-30s which is when Jews marry. The Jewish community "suffers from infertility at a 50 percent higher rate than the general population," said the rabbi. Jews also have a low reproductive rate of 1.6 kids per family.

Rabbi Dorff, who served on Hillary Rodham Clinton's Health Care Task Force, pointed out that Jewish history is crawling with stories of infertility. However, he reminded the au-

dience of G-d's first *mitzvah* to Adam and Eve, "Be fruitful and multiply." This *mitzvah* was a common thread woven throughout the forum as the respondents mentioned it as well. Rabbi Dorff also stated that within the Jewish community, children are seen as a blessing and there is a strong obligation on the parents not to have their continuity threatened.

A visiting professor at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, Rabbi Dorff referred to several genetic techniques to overcome infertility and argued that spiritually, G-d is the ultimate healer, but *how* He heals is also important.

Rabbi Dorff introduced ways the Jewish community can avoid infertility including: marrying earlier, bringing youth groups together, having Jews go to college with other Jews — "It's not too early to look for a mate," putting money into affordable day care for couples, and pursuing match-making programs for the large number of single Jews (computer dating services).

Rabbi Dorff expelled some infertility myths by stating that infertility is a result of 40 percent male problems and 40 percent female problems. The rabbi emphasized that infertility is not always the fault of the women, but cited male problems such as low sperm count, blockage of flow, and shape of sperm.

If a couple is believed to be infertile, Rabbi Dorff suggested timing intercourse when the woman will be most fertile, but even then, a love life may become too "mechanical." The rabbi contended that infertility is a serious problem for Jewish couples because if children are seen as a blessing, does that mean the couples are cursed? Rabbi Dorff stressed that many of the medical steps are optional and not required for Jewish couples. These steps include: drugs, surgery, artificial insemination, inter-cellular sperm injection, surrogates, and genetic screening.

The forum discussed whether or not these methods are ethical in the eyes of the Jewish community. Rabbi Dorff argued that many of the aforementioned medical procedures are indeed permissible in Jewish law. Surgeries, mainly to remove any blockage in the man or woman, and drugs, are safe

and allowed to increase fertility chances. Artificial insemination, historically known for its "turkey-baster" method, is now commonly referred to as in-vitro-fertilization, where the sperm and eggs are combined in a petri dish. With IVF there is a 45 percent to 50 percent success rate for women under 35, but the success rates plummet after that age. IVF, permitted in Jewish law, costs \$10,000 each

and lem with donors is that the child will not know where he/she came from. The rabbi encouraged couples to obtain plenty of information about the donors.

The respondents, Dr. Blazar and Rabbi Cahana, both emphasized the conflict between traditional Jewish values vs. medicine. Both men reiterated that having children and "being fruitful" is extremely important in the Jewish community. Rabbi

and to unite the Jewish and medical worlds. Rabbi Cahana also pointed out that in the future, there will be many people who were the product of these genetic techniques and the idea will be commonplace.

Dr. Blazar said a problem with IVF is multiple pregnancy. Blazar mentioned that the ethically acceptable process of selective reduction is a troubled decision for Jewish couples as they determine the fate of their potential offspring. The practice to terminate the potential offspring is ethically acceptable under Jewish law. The moral issue of selective reduction also involves the fate of frozen embryos, where it is ethically permissible to terminate them if they are out of the body.

Much of the conversation centered on Jewish couples, but a question arose of single potential parents and what ethical and medical procedures would be appropriate. The rabbis and doctors admitted that single parents are a recent problem that the medical and ethical worlds are wrestling with and there has not been a definitive resolution.

The dilemmas of nature vs. nurture and medicine vs. religion resonated all throughout the forum and are conflicts with which people continue to struggle.



Rabbi Michael Cahana, Dr. Andrew Blazar, Rabbi Elliot Dorff
Herald photo by Luke O'Neill

time and there is only a 10 percent chance of producing a child each single attempt. ICSI is a process where if there is a low sperm count in the male, then doctors will inject one egg with one sperm.

A problem may occur for Jewish couples when the question arises of proper and responsible donors. There are certain problems with Jewish law when couples consider using donated sperm eggs because of the remote possibility of incest in future generations. In other words, the offspring of the donated sperm/egg may marry and procreate with an offspring of the original donor. Rabbi Dorff argued that this extremely rare incest is not a violation of Jewish law, because the couple is not cognizant of the incestuous relationship and did not premeditate it.

Another common problem for couples seeking surrogates is that the surrogates may not be Jewish, so later the bond between child and parent may not be as strong. Another problem is that the surrogates may come from a different socio-economic class.

Rabbi Dorff also said a prob-

Cahana is a personal recipient of the medical wonders to help couples as he and his wife sought to apply these tech-

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Mommy & Me is a fun, exciting, Jewish atmosphere for children ages 2 to 4 years. Supervised infants are welcome.

It will be held at the Chai Center, 15 Centerville Road, Warwick. First session of the year is Nov. 10 to Dec. 8, Wednesday mornings, 10 to 11:30 a.m. The cost is \$20. Pre-registration is required. Limited openings per session.

For more information and registration, contact Shoshana Laufer at 732-1881.

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Sign Up for the Hannukah Party at JFS Kosher Mealsite

Spin a dreidel... sing a song... enjoy traditional treats. Seniors are invited to a Hanukkah celebration on Dec. 2 at 11 a.m. at the JFS Kosher Mealsite in Cranston. Those wishing to attend are asked to R.S.V.P. by Nov. 18. Call 781-1771 and ask for Ronda or Gloria.

The mealsite offers monthly activities including: Tai Chi on the first and fourth Tuesdays, dance therapy on the second and fourth Mondays, exercise classes most Wednesdays, writing class the first Wednesday, visits from the Bureau of Jewish Education Bookmobile on the second and fourth Wednesdays, a nutrition meeting on the second Tuesday, bingo several days and regular visits from the JFS registered nurses. Each month, usually on the third Thursday, there is a party for everyone with birthdays that month, with musical entertainment and birthday cake. Members participate in men's/women's discussion groups every Friday.

Programs begin at 11 a.m. unless otherwise stated and a nutritious, hot kosher lunch is served at noon. Every Friday, there is a special Shabbat meal, complete with candles, challah and kiddush.

The JFS Kosher Mealsite in Cranston is located at Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave. Transportation is available every day for residents of Cranston and areas of Warwick. For reservations and specific schedule information, call Mealsite Coordinator Ronda French at 781-1771.

Adoption Options Celebrates National Adoption Month

In honor of National Adoption Month, November, families considering adoption are invited to attend a panel presentation, entitled "The Many Faces of Adoption: Rhode Island Families Tell Their Stories," hosted by the Adoption Resource Center of Adoption Options, the adoption program of Jewish Family Service. The program will take place on Nov. 10 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Conference Center at the United Way building, 229 Waterman St., Providence.

The evening will feature five Rhode Island families who will discuss their experiences with different types of adoption and adoption agencies. The panel presentation will be followed by a question and answer period.

The Adoption Resource Center will be open during the program. Potential adoptive

parents, birth parents, people who have been adopted and professionals working with members of the adoptive community are invited to use the center, which houses books, periodicals, videos and internet connections covering all aspects of adoption.

Anyone interested in exploring the possibilities of adoption further is invited to attend monthly informational meetings offered by Adoption Options. The meetings take place on the first Wednesday of every month from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the offices of Jewish Family Service. The next meeting will be held on Dec. 1.

Call Adoption Options at 331-5437 in Rhode Island or toll-free at (800) 337-6513 for details. The agency's website can be found at <www.adoptionoptions.org>.

Noted Sorbonne Scholar to Speak at Touro

The Touro Synagogue has the honor of being host to the distinguished research scholar, Bruno Feitler of the Ecole des Hautes Etudes and Science at the Sorbonne.

He will speak at Touro on Nov. 16 at 7:30 p.m. on "The Jewish Community of Dutch Brazil, 1630-1654."

These Spanish and Portuguese Jews were the people who settled in New Amsterdam (New York City) and Newport in the 1650s.

Feitler, a native of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, is currently the Touro National Heritage Trust Scholar at the John Carter Brown Library and is an authority on Jewry in the 1600s. The program is open to the public and will be followed by a reception.



A Lesson In Rhode Island History

History lessons come alive at the Alperin Schechter Day School as fifth-grade students learn the roles of native Rhode Islanders. Sophie Kieffer, Marty Katzoff, Jordan Shays and Jason Hochman form the family of Mr. and Mrs. John Winthrop in this scene of home life.

Photo by Liz Goldberg

Congregation Agudas Achim Hosts Read Hebrew America

Throughout the month of November 1999, members of the Jewish community from Attleboro and surrounding towns will gather at Congregation Agudas Achim to participate in the only continent-wide campaign aimed at teaching North American Jews to read the Hebrew language. Conceived and orchestrated by the National Jewish Outreach Program, Read Hebrew America/

Canada is expected to reach tens of thousands of affiliated and unaffiliated Jews in the United States and Canada.

Opening their doors to Jews and their families from throughout the Southeastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island area, Congregation Agudas Achim will be one of 1,400 Jewish institutions across the continent to host Read Hebrew America/Canada. Led by Rabbi Gail Diamond and Bart Bresnick, the six-week Hebrew Reading Crash Course and Level II Hebrew Reading Crash Course will focus on teaching the Hebrew alphabet and basic reading skills to Jews with little or no background in Hebrew. Classes will meet on Wednesdays at 5 p.m., beginning Nov. 3, and on Saturdays at 9 a.m., beginning on Nov. 6.

For more information about Read Hebrew America/Canada, call Congregation Agudas Achim, 901 N. Main St., Attleboro at (508) 222-2243 or NJOP at (800) 44-HEBREW.

Social Seniors of Warwick Will Hold Meeting

On Nov. 10 the Social Seniors of Warwick will hold their meeting at Temple Am David at 1 p.m. Doug White of Channel 10 will be the speaker.

On Nov. 17 a trip is planned to Independence Harbor Restaurant for lunch and the entertainment will be provided by the talented Mel Simon.

Our holiday party will be held Dec. 12 with entertainment by Fascinating Rhythm. For reservations, call Estelle Miller or Tillie Orleck.

Tell Them You Saw Their AD in the Rhode Island Jewish Herald.

Go Back to the Woods!

Foxwoods That Is!

On Nov. 17 Touro Fraternal Association will be sponsoring a trip to Foxwoods. Bring your wife, your friends and be at Touro Hall at 4:45 p.m. Just \$10 or 10 Bagel Bucks. Price includes transportation, \$10 food voucher, and \$5 Keno coupon. The bus will leave Foxwoods at 11 p.m. R.S.V.P. by Nov. 5.

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An Invitation From Young Judaea

New England Young Judaea would like to extend a warm invitation to students in grades eight to 12 to attend our annual fall convention. The convention will take place Friday through Sunday morning, Nov. 12 to 14, in Charlton, Mass. Participants will have an opportunity to meet Jewish teens from all over New England and together explore the changing role of Zionism at the brink of the millennium.

The convention is open to all Jewish students in grades eight to 12 for \$105. For more information, call the regional office of Young Judaea at (617) 734-4838.

Founded in 1909, Young Judaea was the first Zionist movement in the United States. It is the only Jewish youth movement that is peer-led, offering a full range of year-round local, regional, and national activities as well as summer programs. It seeks to impart a strong Jewish identity to American Jewish youth of all affiliations while helping them to create a personal relationship with Israel. Young Judaea is exclusively sponsored by Hadassah.

CAMP TEVYA DIRECTOR

CAMP TEVYA, one of New England's most respected Jewish cultural camps in Brookline, New Hampshire, has an immediate opening for a Camp Director.

Candidate must be a mature individual with good camp and supervisory experience and strong references.

To apply call: Pearl W. Lourie, Executive Director of the Eli & Bessie Cohen Foundation Camps, (800) 375-8444 and fax résumé to: (508) 881-1006.

FEATURE

ADL Examines the Extremist's View

(Continued from Page 1)

settlement in Muldrow, Okla., Millar's white supremacist teachings include predictions of a series of disasters after 2000 that will remove the wicked from the earth. The settlement, dubbed Elohim City, reportedly is heavily armed.

Extreme Right Hatemongers

• **National Socialist White Revolutionary Party** — Believes that an impending Russian nuclear, chemical and biological assault on the United States will lead to the forming of a globalist government.

• **James Wickstrom** — An Identity minister in Michigan with links to Posse Comitatus, a loosely organized group of Identity survivalists, Wickstrom predicts Y2K will bring widespread chaos perpetrated by the "Jew and anticrist world system." He claims there is a Jew-

ish conspiracy to downplay Y2K and insists the NATO strikes against Serbia were intended to divert attention from an impending world disaster.

• **Christian Defense League** — The virulently anti-Semitic Christian Defense League in Arabi, La., believes Y2K is actually a Jewish plot to take over the world.

• **Church of Israel** — Dan Gayman, leader of the Missouri-based Church of Israel, a white supremacist group, predicts civil chaos, especially among "non-whites" whom he singles out from among welfare recipients as the most likely to resort to "unbridled killing" if the Y2K bug results in a temporary suspension of government entitlement programs. He advises followers to keep a "shotgun handy."

• **National Association for the Advancement of White People (NAAWP)** — Predicts a

doomsday Y2K scenario that includes a stock market crash, a run on the banks and general mayhem.

Militia and "Patriot" Groups

• **John Trochman and the Militia of Montana** — On his web site, Trochman repeatedly refers to "secret" military reports that suggest an imminent U.S. government takeover.

• **NORFED** — This Indiana organization claims the computer systems at the Federal Reserve and other world financial institutions will malfunction, causing the international monetary system to collapse.

• **Col. James "Bo" Griz** — A former Green Beret and presidential candidate for the extremist Populist Party, Griz has trained hundreds of anti-government zealots to fight a so-called "New World Order."

Making the Holiday Bright for Children

(Continued from Page 1)

Poulten of Touro Fraternal. "It's a wonderful organization—the Jewish version of Toys For Tots."

Touro Fraternal is a major contributor to local Jewish organizations and is quite involved in both the Jewish and non-Jewish community. The community involvement committee seeks out organizations and individuals who may be in need of financial assistance and invites them to present their cause to the board, as they did with Hanukkah Joy. Touro recently gave another generous donation to the Jewish War Veterans Memorial Wall of Honor. The wall is scheduled to begin construction in the spring and should be formally dedicated at the Lincoln Park Cemetery Memorial Day weekend, 2000.

Poulten wouldn't comment on the exact amount of the donation, but did say that the check was "approximately one-third of Hanukkah Joy's budget."

In Rhode Island, Dershwitz found that there was a serious need among members of the senior community for simple Hanukkah trinkets. According to Davidi, many are left in nursing homes or assisted living facilities with no one to talk to or visit with. "It really is quite sad," said Davidi. With the help

of JFS and the BJE, 200 seniors will receive packages of stationary, gelt, Hanukkah candles, cookies and dreidels. "It's just a little something to bring joyful memories of the holiday," said Dershwitz.

What began as one woman's desire to bring a little joy to the faces of needy children developed into a thriving enterprise. In 1996, when Dershwitz first began, she was providing about 100 children with Hanukkah packages, 140 the second year. This year, she and Davidi expect to deliver close to 100 packages to JFS and the BJE for disbursement—that's in addition to the 200 packages set aside for the senior community.

Although the packages of coloring books, paints, books, stuffed animals, puzzles and crayons are geared toward children ages 4 to 6, Dershwitz and Davidi will not turn away a needy child.

"One Hanukkah present does not lead to a lifetime of happiness, but it is our strong conviction that a moment of joy will light up children's faces as brightly as a Hanukkah menorah and will make a lasting impression of caring upon them," said Dershwitz.

If you or your company would like to make a donation to Hanukkah Joy, send it to P.O. Box 151, 36 Station St., Sharon, Mass. 02067, or call (781) 784-1993.

Free Veterans Day E-Card Service

Lets You Say "Thank You" On-Line

Veteran's Day is Nov. 11, but you probably will not find a greeting card in your favorite shop. With 26 million veterans in the nation, The American Legion realizes many people would like to say a special "Thank You" to a veteran. That is why the nation's largest war-time veterans' organization is offering a free e-mail card.

"Many people forget that young military men and women serving today are veterans. Just about anywhere they are serving they have access to e-mail and receiving a special Veterans Day card would be a nice surprise," National Commander Alan G. Lance, Sr., said.

This is the second year The American Legion has offered the cards. "Response last year was excellent, so we expanded the service to offer branch of service cards with music. Naturally, there is plenty of room for the personal message," Lance said.

The Veterans Day Card service is accessed directly from The American Legion's home-

page at <www.legion.org>. Once at the site, it is a simple matter to follow the instructions and send your special greetings.

"Throughout the last half of this century, American men and women in uniform served in nearly every region of the world. Because of our veterans we have the freedoms our founding fathers longed to preserve," Lance said.

President Woodrow Wilson signed a Congressional Resolution on Nov. 11, 1919 establishing Armistice Day. The resolution said: "This day should be commemorated with thanksgiving and prayer and exercises designed to perpetuate peace through good will and mutual understanding between nations." The resolution further called for a day to be observed in schools and churches or other suitable places, with appropriate ceremonies.

Since 1919, Nov. 11 has become Veterans Day. Yet the same spirit that gave birth to Armistice Day continues today as America remembers the men and women who have served our country in the military.

Join the Fun in Center Court

The center's court, that is! The JCCRI, synonymous with high quality sports, early education and play, is again forming its extremely popular Sunday Basketball Leagues. Boys and girls ages 6 to 11 are divided into three age-appropriate leagues, each scheduled to meet in the center's full-court gym for an hour and 15 minutes of instruction, skills teaching and lively play under the supervision of a professional physical education specialist and adult coaches. The players in each league will be evaluated and divided into teams. Each week the leagues will play a full game.

Join the fun in center court. The JCC's court! Play Sundays from Nov. 14 through March 26. Members and non-members alike are welcome to learn and play—who knows, your child might just turn into the next Kobe Bryant.

The JCCRI is located at 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence. For more information call 861-8800.

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In Cranston

Barney's, Oaklawn Ave.
Borders Book Shop, Garden City Cir.
Rainbow Bakery and Cafe,
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(on Angell)
College Hill Book Store, Thayer St.
Eastside Marketplace, Pitman St.
East Side Prescription Center, Hope St.
J. Elliott's, Hope St.
Rhoda's Judaica, Hope St.



Thanksgiving Menu

Turkeys ~ Chickens
(Kosher Available Special Order)
Briskets

Fresh Homemade Cranberry Sauce
Holiday Sweet Potatoes with
Brown Sugar Sauce
Traditional Stuffing or Cranberry Stuffing
Baked Stuffed Potatoes ~ Potato Pancakes
Harvest Fresh Veggie Casserole
Fresh Creamed Spinach

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FEATURE



Even The Cat Enjoyed Sukkot

The Adler family succah: (left to right) Jon Adler, Emily Boksenbaum, Rachel Adler, and Martha Boksenbaum. Emily is holding the neighborhood cat, Cally (short for calico) who just happened to stop in. We try to use a lot of local greenery to decorate including corn stalks and vegetables from Four Town Farm along with tree clippings from our woods. My children are Rachel and Jonathan and Emily and Martha are the children of Howard Boksenbaum and his wife Judith Stokes also of Barrington. We have an annual family tradition of building the succah and inviting friends to our home to help decorate it.

— Marc Adler

Attention Herald readers and advertisers!

Reserve greetings space now for our 1999

Chanukah Issue

Thursday, November 25, 1999

Wish your relatives and friends in the Jewish community a Happy Chanukah!

Fill out the form below, enclose check or money order, and mail to:
Rhode Island Jewish Herald, P.O. Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 02940

Greetings accepted until Monday, November 22, 1999

Rhode Island Jewish Herald Chanukah Greetings

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Address: _____
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Indicate desired ad size (a column is 2" wide; price per column inch is \$6.00).

Enclose check or money order, payable to R.I. Jewish Herald, for proper amount.

- 1 col. x 2" (\$12.00) 2 col. x 1" (\$12.00) 2 col. x 3" (\$36.00)
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(Print or type message here, or attach copy to form)

JNF to Premiere Weekly Radio Program

Jewish National Fund recently announced the debut of its first broadcast effort, "JNF-Israel Hour," a live weekly radio program that will premiere Nov. 4, at 2 p.m. on stations in Rhode Island.

Ronald S. Lauder, JNF president; Michael Dombeck, chief of the United States Forest Service; Dalia Itzik, Israeli minister of the environment, and Shlomo Gravetz and Yehiel Leket, the chairmen of JNF parent Keren Kayemeth Lelsrael, are scheduled to appear as guests in the coming weeks. The program, hosted by Russell Robinson, JNF executive vice president, and Craig Goldstein, JNF marketing associate, will reach a potential audience of 7 million people.

The format of the program will feature: news with Lisa Hostein of Jewish Telegraphic Agency; current events in the Jewish community with Malcolm Hoenein, executive director of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations; discussions; live interviews; listener and call-in segments. The JNF-Israel Hour will provide up-to-

date news, commentary, and discussions regarding a wide range of issues pertaining to Israel and its environment, as well as providing listeners with the ability to address their concerns directly to newsmakers and public officials.

The program will air simultaneously every Thursday afternoon at 2 p.m. on WALE AM (990 kHz) out of Providence, RI. Tentative topics and guests for the month of November include:

- Nov. 4 (premiere) — "JNF-US Forest Service Cooperation." Guest USFS Chief Michael Dombeck.

- Nov. 11 — "Israel's environment: needs, problems, solutions." Guest Dalia Itzik, Israel's Minister of Environment.

- Nov. 18 — "Jewish Leadership: What is required?" Guest: Ronald S. Lauder, JNF president.

- Nov. 25 — "Jewish National Fund, its history, challenges, and accomplishments." Guests: Shlomo Gravetz and Yehiel Leket, chairmen of JNF parent organization Keren Kayemeth Lelsrael.

Learn to Save a Life at the JCCRI's Lifeguard Training

Did you ever walk down the beach in the summer and look at the lifeguard and wonder how they got their training? How about at the pool? Do you want to learn the life-saving skills necessary to become a lifeguard? The Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island is about to begin a new session of lifeguard training. This informative, hands-on class runs Tuesday evenings from 6 to 9 p.m. from Nov. 9 through Feb. 1.

Upon completion of the class and the successful completion of the certificate exam, you will become a certified lifeguard. This American Red Cross course will teach lifeguard training, CPR for the professional rescuer and first aid.

For more information, call Patty Gold at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island at 861-8800 or stop by the JCCRI pool at 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence.



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FEATURE

Let Freedom Ring!

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

Many among us have looked through the collection of children's drawings from Terezin, titled "I Never Saw Another Butterfly." But Milton Katz showed slides of another sort of artist response to the lies and terrors of the death camp with the pretty facade, "the town that Hitler gave to the Jews."

Dr. Katz spoke with such conviction, dignity, and poise, that the other speakers fell into the shadow beside him. "The so-called work camps were also murder sites. The artists who drew their truths used any materials they could lay their hands on, risking death with every line they made on any scrap. Their work was small and secret, but very, very telling. Notice every detail, every expression, and you will see defiance as well as despair, courage and contempt." He kept his audience spellbound, not only with the images and information, but with his own delivery, sincere and understated but deeply felt.

Katz writes, "This desperate conversation demands answers that arrest the soul. I explore how Holocaust art functions as witness, as means of spiritual resistance, and an assertion. These gripping sketches may help us to understand both the unique and universal qualities of the event and how ethical choice is the only shield we have to protect us."

I have to report that his colleagues did not fare so well with the audience. James Todd, professor at the University of Montana, selected as his topic the strange subject he calls, "Hitler: Artist as Dictator." He argues that art historians deny that the Nazi dictator was a talented ar-



Milton Katz

chitect and performer with skills as a landscape illustrator. (Who cares?) He protests what he labels the censorship of the modern mind. "Hitler was the first artist in history to form an empire with art as the key component."

Although Todd "opposes Nazi ideology," he also rakes up its atrocities with "the crimes of Josef Stalin and Mao Tse-Tung, three tyrants of our time."

And, in the third lecture by Leslie E. Van Marter, chair of liberal education at Columbia College in Chicago, the panelist

(Continued on Page 15)

Another Algonquin Round Table

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

"How Art Creates Culture and Shapes Meaning." This was the title and theme of the 13th annual National Conference on Liberal Arts and the Education of Artists. The event is held at the Algonquin Hotel, the renowned site of the round table where the wis, reporters, and dramatists of

the era before H.U.A.C. gathered at Lurch to show off their puns from Thurber to Dorothy Parker.

My school sent me to deliver a paper on teaching writing to designers. The lobby of the west side inn suited me just fine. High-backed wing chairs in leather or damask face low cop-

per tables lit by table and floor lamps that mix depression deco style with turn-of-the-century Tiffany nouveau. Oak walls hold in the feudal dark intimacy. Mosaic tiles with marble calligraphy fit the literate mood.

Even so, the spaces squeeze you in tight. This is a tiny realm. The wallpaper features cartoons from the New Yorker. Lecture halls are cramped wee library reading rooms dedicated to the theater posters of Helen Hayes or the autographed menus of poets and playwrights. Bright crystal chandeliers glitter above the careful words of visiting professors from round the country and indeed the world.

Unpack in the really compact quarters not unlike our own Biltmore of that era and take the minimal elevator to the floor where my colleagues are gathering over urns of tea and coffee. The Algonquin is not a luxury resort in today's expansive deluxe sense. Instead, it offers a mood of contemplation. I greet the plumber and the maid on the elevator, like a journalist-reporter of another decade.

I file on this page a report on what instructors are thinking about the history of our century.

I met three Jewish scholars, one a former student now an art teacher at Hofstra, another a professor of humanities at the Kansas Art Institute, and the third a faculty filmmaker and historian at the New York School of Visual Arts, which is sponsoring the seminar. They made a good show of it and put Jewish culture in a brilliant light, a collective Psalm of David.

A Role Model Refreshes

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

"I came here from Hitler's Europe in 1936, as a youngster. I have made a film and written a book about my generation. My interest in Hollywood history stems from this fact." Manfred Kirschheimer presented a paper on the career of Elia Kazan, titled "An Artist Turns." He studied the films of the recently honored and yet still also dishonored, director of movies ranging from "Gentleman's Agreement" to "Wild River."

"In 1952, Kazan could work without studio interference. He had betrayed his fellow artists before the House Committee on Un-American Activities, and won his freedom at the expense of others. His career is devoted to justifying the informer."

Kirschheimer spoke with authority and quiet dignity, never overstating his indictment, thoroughly reviewing each visual narrative from "On the Waterfront" to "East of Eden" and "Baby Doll." "In a way, he did his best work, but the bottom line is always, that it is okay to turn in a companion. Kazan was some sort of artist, but from 'America, America' to 'Tight Rope' he masks betrayal. At least, in 'Wild River,' he plays fair by showing doubt and distress."

The talk was so elegant, solid, and articulate, that I listened even with my spine and scalp. Still, I felt that I had to confront Kirschheimer to ask what he really thought of the

artistic legacy of Elia Kazan. "I think he was a dreadful man. I have no respect for his integrity or lack thereof."

I breathed an inner sigh of relief. I added, "Even in 'Gentleman's Agreement' there is a suggestion of dishonesty being okay. A fiancée refuses to keep to her vow of silence about the true identity of her covert



Manfred Kirschheimer

friend." The professor raised his eyebrows, reconsidered, and said, "Perhaps he was born to betray."

Kirschheimer, a dapper, lively, silver-haired elder, came through as a forthright, dynamic presence, who elevated the gathering with the frank, fearless, and yet erudite and high-spirited tone and level of his discourse. When a thinker cuts through the knots of history, he or she gives to younger instructors a refreshing role model.

Cheesecake and Cognac

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

David Pushkin represented the fine arts program at Hofstra in Hempstead, N.Y. He spoke about the depth of color in painting, how to read into its meaning the way Wittgenstein freed language and philosophy like a bird from a cage. David sipped cognac at a lobby table while I munched Manhattan cheesecake served with cappuccino.

"I am related to the Dizengoff's whose name is written in Hebrew on the cafe square in Tel Aviv. I visited Israel several times. My father lived there. I also think we were related to the Russian writer, Pushkin. I searched for my artist soul here and there. I started at Rhode Island School of Design 18 years ago, when we met in your class and at your home. Then I left Providence, much as I loved the town, and went to the west coast to study film."

"I spent a few years in San Francisco, and came back east to New York. I'm only starting my career as an academic, and this is my chance to present myself. I hope I come off okay." David has an earnest face, dark brows and eyes, an earnest and strong expression, but with a vulnerable trace of the undergraduate I knew in my hometown. It was good, and comfortable, to share our midweek Algonquin pow-wow.

David and his wife, Grace, have been married over a dozen

years, and are researching adoption issues, perhaps in Haiti. "I have a brother and sister, and also a half-brother and sister. We have to start our own family. I lost my dad, and Grace has lost her mother. We are at the brink of new lives."

David sat through my talk, which was a review of my methods in teaching composition to studio students. I took his own search for color as a key to meaning, emotion, and artistic truth. Then we set forth from the confining corners of our luxury lodgings in quest of supper.



David Pushkin

By Manhattan magic, we crossed the stupendous statue of a tailor at a Singer sewing machine at the Fashion Institute and came upon just the right sort of small French cafe where

we settled in to fish and wine.

"I wrote two papers in your class. One described a balloon that goes up light and buoyant and comes down wrinkled like a person's hopes. The other one told the story of the prisoner that Norman Mailer got out from prison, only to find out the guy was a killer who couldn't be stopped. I guess those are still insights and lessons. You go on hoping and you go on living."

I could tell how much David loved his wife and his work, how intensely he concentrated

and even how swiftly and competently he hailed a cab and got us back on track.

New York, New York, it's a wonderful town, a ghost town and a lighthouse.



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Jerusalem Trio Will Play in Providence

The Jerusalem Trio — Roy Shilosh, violin; Yaron Rosenthal, piano; and Ariel Tushinsky, cello — will play at 8 p.m. on Nov. 10 at Alumnae Hall, Brown University, 194 Meeting St., Providence, in the second of R.I. Chamber Music's concerts. They will play Paul Ben-Haim, "Variations on a Hebrew Melody"; Franz Schubert, "Piano Trio in E-flat Major"; and Dimitri Shostakovich, "Trio Op. 67, No. 2."

The trio won the 1999 Osaka and the 1995 Melbourne international chamber music competitions. They have performed and recorded in Israel, Europe, Japan, Australia, South America and the United States.

The trio was formed in 1989 and have been nurtured by their association with the Jerusalem Music Center, which was founded by Issac Stern and Jerusalem's Mayor Teddy Kollek as a meeting point for visiting international masters and talented young Israeli musicians. Trio members are graduates of the Young Musicians Group un-



The Jerusalem Trio

Photo courtesy of Jonathan Wentworth Associates, Ltd

der the auspices of the Music Centre, and former recipients of America-Israel Cultural Foundation scholarships. Their repertoire includes all the major works for piano trio.

Tickets are available by call-

ing 863-2416, going to Books on the Square (Angell St.), or at the box office on concert night, when prices will be \$25, \$20, \$17, and (students only) \$5. There will be a reception in the Crystal Room after the concert.

'Passion Play' Premieres at Brown University

"Passion Play," by Sarah Ruhl '98 and current graduate student, will be presented by Brown University Theatre, Nov. 11 through 14 and 18 through 20 in Leeds Theatre at 8 p.m. The Nov. 21 production will be a 3 p.m. matinee only.

Set in both the 16th century and the 1930s of Nazi Germany, this poignant, and at the same time, horrifying tale of a Passion play being performed over a space of 400 years, provides an astonishing framework for this original production.

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

For more information or to make reservations, call 863-2838.

Providence Place Will Host 'One Enchanted Evening'

Providence Place Mall invites all local charities and non-profit groups to partake in a unique holiday fund-raising opportunity. On Nov. 21, the mall will host "One Enchanted Evening." The evening celebration is an opportunity for the mall to salute the community by raising thousands of dollars for local non-profit agencies.

The event will feature a private night of shopping with exclusive store discounts, live entertainment, fun for kids, door prizes, in-store activities and more.

All non-profit organizations are invited to raise funds by selling event tickets. Participating organizations will retain entire proceeds of each \$5 ticket sold. Charities are encouraged to sell as many tickets as possible!

"One Enchanted Evening," at Providence Place, will be held from 7 to 10 p.m. on Nov. 21. Organizations interested in selling tickets should contact Jennifer Noble at Providence Place, 270-1000, or stop by the Customer Service Desk for more information.

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Wednesday, November 10 — 8 p.m.
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Paul Ben Haim

Piano Trio in

E-Flat Major

Schubert

Trio Op. 67, No. 2

Shostakovich



Tickets \$25, \$20, \$17 Students: \$5 Phone: 863-2416

Entries Sought for 'Providence in Gingerbread'

A new Providence tradition is in the making... or some say... in the baking. Providence in Gingerbread, a display of traditional gingerbread houses alongside Providence landmark buildings — including the Rhode Island State House — is a new addition to the 10th anniversary Holiday Gift Fest, to be held on Nov. 13 and 14 at Moses Brown.

The gift fest committee is currently seeking donations of gingerbread structures. Donations may be traditional gingerbread homes, historic buildings, landmarks, and monuments. The structures will be available for auction at the Moses Brown Gift Fest. Proceeds from the sale of the gingerbread structures will support the expansion of existing partnerships between the Moses Brown School and the Providence public schools.

Sponsored by the Moses Brown School Parents' Association, Gift Fest will feature 50 unique shops and boutiques, a silent auction, gingerbread display, and café. Shoppers will find jewelry, antiques, children's toys and clothing, pottery, glass, and many other treasures. The specialty shops travel from throughout New England to participate. Shopping hours are Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event is free and open to the public, and will be held in the Waughtal-Howe Field House, Moses Brown School, Alumni Avenue, Providence.

For details on including a structure in the Providence in Gingerbread display, phone 331-3767. All entries must be delivered to Moses Brown on Nov. 12. For more information on Gift Fest, call 831-7350, ext. 129.



Tomorrow Fund Announces Fantasy Ball

Swing music will fill the air at the 12th annual Tomorrow Fund Fantasy Ball. The black-tie event will take place on Nov. 13 at Rhodes-on-the-Pawtuxet. "Swing Into The New Millennium" is the theme for the ball, which will benefit The Tomorrow Fund, a local non-profit agency which helps children with cancer at the Hasbro Children's Hospital.

Guests will have an opportunity to bid on a variety of auction items at both live and silent auctions, including weekend get-away packages, dinner gift certifications, and golf outings. New this year will be two special auctions, one featuring fine wine and one featuring the work of Rhode Island artists and artisans.

All proceeds from the Fantasy Ball will benefit The Tomorrow Fund which provides emotional and financial assistance to children with cancer. More than 90 percent of the children with cancer in Rhode Island and nearby Massachusetts are treated at The Tomorrow Fund Clinic at Hasbro Children's Hospital. The clinic is widely known for its outstanding medical treatments, and for its compassionate approach to children and families.

Tickets for The Fantasy Ball are \$100 per person. Corporate tables and corporate sponsorship are available. For more information, or to receive an invitation, call The Tomorrow Fund at 444-8811.

Swap Paper Bags for Bruins Tickets

Paper or plastic? If you answer paper and bring a week's worth of paper grocery bags to Rhode Island Recycles Day, you'll get two free tickets to a Providence Bruins game, while supplies last.

To reward Rhode Islanders who choose paper over plastic, Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation will give two tickets to the first 500 people who bring their paper grocery bags to the Rhode Island Recycles Day event on Nov. 7 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at RIRRC headquarters in Johnston, Samboni, the P-Bruins mascot, will be on hand to help pass out tickets and greet guests. Other activities scheduled for the day are tours of the Central Landfill and Materials Recycling Facility, and a compost bin sale. Plus, anyone who needs a new recycling bin may swap an old, broken recycling bin for a new one.

The Providence Bruins are the corporate sponsor for Rhode Island Recycles Day.

For more information about Rhode Island Recycles Day, call RIRRC at 942-1430, ext. 775, or visit the RIRRC website at www.rirrc.org.

Located in Johnston, R.I., Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation is the quasi-state environmental agency that manages 95 percent of the state's municipal and commercial solid waste.

Foundation Plans Holiday Gala 1999

Nov. 20 will be the big night at the Crowne Plaza, Warwick, when The Cindi Foundation presents its Holiday Gala, with Barbara Morse from WJAR, Channel 10, as honorary chairwoman, the evening will feature a cocktail hour, dinner, show, silent auction, and 50/50 raffle. The menu will include hors d'oeuvres and a five-course dinner with three entrée choices.

Arturo Coppola will be the feature entertainer.

The silent auction will be a buffet of holiday shopping, including items comparable to those offered in 1997, such as items from Wm. Harris, Ralph Lauren Polo, Van Noppen Glass, weekends for two from Foxwoods and many, many more.

Committee chairwomen are silent auction, Marjorie Sundlin, former first lady of Rhode Island; ticket sales, Marian Volino, man-

ager, Citizens Bank, Warwick Mall Branch; reception, Gloria Benjamin and Charlotte Rekrut, CRNA, Miriam Hospital; decorations, Michelle Hoff, account executive, Back Bay Broadcasting; publicity, Linda Capobianco, financial services officer, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company; program, Angela Hoff, The Cindi Foundation.

The Cindi Foundation, begun in 1996 in memory of Cindi Lynn Hoff, has been dedicated to helping brain tumor patients, their families, and caregivers.

Tickets are priced at \$50 each. For more information regarding tickets, call Miriam Volino at 738-7640 and for program advertising, call Angela Hof at 828-4112. Tickets will be on sale until early November. Corporate sponsorships and individual donations will be gratefully accepted and acknowledged.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



'La Boheme' Playing at the Z

The most popular opera of all time, "La Boheme," is appearing for one performance only at New Bedford's Zeiterion Theatre on Nov. 13 at 8 p.m.

Performed by New York's National Lyric Opera, the story focuses on a group of young people struggling to survive in 19th-century Paris; some of Puccini's most memorable melodies appear in this opera like "Musetta's Waltz" in Act II.

Tickets are \$15.50, \$26, and \$31. Students, seniors, and Zeiterion members are eligible for a \$3 ticket discount.

For further information, call the Zeiterion box office at (508) 994-2900. The Zeiterion is located at 684 Purchase St., New Bedford. The box office is open Tuesday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Zeiterion Theatre announces the availability of assistive listening devices for patrons with hearing difficulties.

Interested patrons should go to the Zeiterion box office and request the assistive listening device prior to seeing the performance. Use is free with a deposit, which is returned following the performance's conclusion.

For further information, call the Zeiterion box office.

Woof! Woof!



Hi, my name is Buddy, I'm a young male shepherd mix.



Hi, my name is Scuffy, I'm an adult terrier/dachshund male.

We're both up for adoption. Also, a cute male poodle, handsome male and female rottweilers, a red chow puppy, and many other mixed breed dogs.

There are also some adult cats found that are waiting for their owners.

Come visit and see the selection at the Volunteer Services for Animals, Providence Chapter, 7 Service Road, Providence, R.I., 041-6830.

'Scholastic's The Magic School Bus Live!' Returns to PPAC

Scholastic's The Magic School Bus Live! presents the live theatrical production of "A Bright Idea," at the Providence Performing Arts Center on Nov. 6 at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. This show is an original musical production based on "Scholastic's The Magic School Bus" award-winning television series which premiered on the Fox Kids Network in the Fall of '98. Tickets are \$10, \$12, \$17, and \$22, and are available by calling 421-ARTS; tickets are also available at all Ticketmaster locations. For groups of 10 or more, call 421-2997, ext. 3121.

For current show listings and other information about the Providence Performing Arts Center, visit their website at <www.ppacri.org>.

Scouts Will Collect Food Nov. 6

Thousands of Boy Scouts will be coming to doors throughout Rhode Island asking people to fill the bags with non-perishable food items for those in need. The Scouts will be practicing an age-old tradition of service to others when they spread out in hundreds of neighborhoods to collect bags of non-perishable food for the Rhode Island Community Food Bank. On Nov. 6, people are encouraged to place their donations of non-perishable food items in their bag and leave it at the door by 9 a.m. for the Scouts to pick up.

Promising to be the most exciting sale of its kind in recent memory, the Tel Aviv auction of magnificent Judaica on Dec. 9 offers works from private collections of the highest quality and rarity in each of the field's traditional categories of manuscripts, ceremonial objects and fine arts.

While there is a belief that the Jews lacked a tradition of representational art due to the proscription of "graven images," this is belied here by an extraordinary miniature *Seder Tikkunei Shabbat* from the renowned Shoken collection, written and lavishly illuminated in Vienna in 1738 by Aaron Wolf Heringer of Gewitch, and estimated at \$150/200,000. This tiny prayer book, probably created for home use by a court Jew, and exemplar of the 18th-century revival of Hebrew manuscript illumination by one of the earliest Moravian scribes, shows evidence in its illustrations of the influence of printed books of Christina origins, while reflecting contemporary Jewish dress and mores.

A highly important and finely executed illuminated *Esther Scroll* from 1730's Vienna, estimated at \$250/350,000 comes from the collection of the late Henri Kadoch, head of the Moroccan Jewish community from 1970 to 1992. Another superb example of Judaica created for the families of wealthy, aristocratic court Jews residing in the Austro-Hungarian Empire, it features illustrations of a remarkable panoply of animals and birds, along with skillfully drawn figures in Turkish dress. Given this garb and its historical context this scroll, which is related to two other important 18th century *megillot*, was likely produced for a wealthy member

of the Viennese Turkish community.

In the realm of ritual objects created to beautify the carrying out of the commandments, are those made for decorative and functional purposes in the home and synagogue. Among those on offer are more than 70 exceptional works from the personal collection of the late Joshua Puchaczewski, a founder of the antiquities and Judaica market in Israel — remarkable, like the Kadoch scroll, for their use of rich animal imagery. An 1818 Polish Torah shield is applied with eagles, rams' heads, griffins, pelicans, owls, a bull and a lion and a seated bear. Bears are typical Polish Jewish imagery as is the shape of this *tass* itself harking back to Polish Torah Ark design.

Another object from the same collection of particular interest is a 1725-30 Augsburg parcel gilt silver tankard by Philip Stenglen which bears a Hebrew presentation inscription to the Ansbach synagogue commemorating its 100th anniversary. Today, the Ansbach synagogue, built in 1745-46, is thought to be the oldest surviving synagogue in Germany. Its destruction at the hands of the Nazis on *Kristallnacht*, November 10, 1938 was avoided when the mayor Ansbach chose to stage a mock fire, thus saving it. (Estimate: \$18/25,000)

Bearing another distinguished provenance are more than 20 ceremonial objects, including Torah shields, finials, crowns and pointers of various origins, brought to auction by the Trustees of the United Synagogue, London. Their dispersal here reflects the changes in the modern era, during which older congregations have dwindled and new ones, in need of tradi-

tional ritual items, have sprung up. Chief among these items is a significant pair of Amsterdam Torah Finials by the third generation silversmith Pieter Robol II, dating to 1755. These 48cm high *rimonim*, of exceptional quality, mirror the stylistic tendencies popular in Holland of the period, with their architectural form, tulip bud tip and multitude of bells recalling those that adorned the robes of the biblical high priest. (Estimate: \$100/150,000)

The auction is rounded out with ritual items from other collections such as that of the late Dr. M. Dubowy and by works of Middle Eastern and American sources, along with paintings by leading artists of Jewish gene. Among the works of Middle Eastern origin are an impressive 19th century Iraqi silver mounted wooden Torah case, unusual for its hand-painted inset glass plaques (usually mirrored), estimated at \$10/15,000 and a late 19th century Kashan carpet in the form of a *shiviti*, depicting the holy sites of Jerusalem, angels and biblical figures (Estimate: \$30/40,000). There are several pieces by renown American artist Ilya Schor, including a silver and gold bracelet estimated at \$10/15,000 while paintings of note are those by artists Lazar Krestin, Mauryck Minkowsky and Mane Katz.

The entire sale goes on view in Tel Aviv on Dec. 5 but highlights will be on view in New York City at the newly renovated York Avenue galleries on Nov. 10 and 11.

The two-part auction of International and Israeli art begins at 7 p.m. Dec. 9 at Sotheby's landmark Tel Aviv premises. Catalogues are available at the viewings and at Sotheby's worldwide offices.

R.I. Youth Playwriting Competition Deadline Draws Near

As part of the fourth annual R.I. Youth Playwriting Competition, the All Children's Theatre is holding a Rewriting Workshop on Nov. 20, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Vartan Gregorian School Theatre, 455 Wickenden St., Providence. The workshop is open to any student interested in reviewing their in-progress play prior to the final submission deadline of Dec. 20. Members of the All Children's Theatre Ensemble will read scenes from plays in progress followed by discussion and suggestions from participating student playwrights, actors, and the competition and festival producer, Mary Lee Vitale.

The competition, with partial funding by the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts and support from the Sundel-Strauss Family Foundation, is open to students enrolled in Rhode Island public and private high schools in grades nine to 12 as of September 1999. Home-schooled students are eligible as well. All submissions must adhere to the competition guidelines. Up to six winners will be chosen by a panel of judges and each winning play will be produced and performed before public audiences during the Playwriting Festival, May 5, 6, 12 and 17 at 7 p.m. at the Vartan Gregorian School Theatre.

For further information about ACT and a copy of the Playwriting Competition Rules and Guidelines, call 331-7174 or e-mail <ACTInR@aol.com>.



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OBITUARIES

STEVAN MARK DATZ

WEST WARWICK — Stevan Mark Datz, 49, of 47 River Farms Drive, a partner at Copy World in North Providence, died Oct. 28 at Rhode Island Hospital. He was the husband of Roberta (Lipet) Datz.

Born in Providence, a son of Irving and Phyllis (Bergal) Datz, both of North Providence, he lived in West Warwick for 4 years, previously living in Cranston for 16 years.

He was elected to the "Who's Who" for sales leadership. He was a member of the board of the Jewish Home for the Aged, the MS Society and the Big Brothers Association.

Besides his wife and parents, he leaves a daughter, Melissa Jill Datz of West Warwick, and a brother, David Marshall Datz of Boston.

The funeral was held Oct. 31 at Temple Emanu-El, Morris Avenue, Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. Arrangements were made by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.



JOHN L. HARRISON WARWICK

John L. Harrison, 78, of 28 Barstow Road, a teacher and principal in the Coventry public school system for 31 years, retiring 12 years ago, died Oct. 28 at home. He was the husband of Marion (Uffer) Harrison.

Born in Providence, the son of the late Harry and Esther (Yugin) Harrison, he lived in Warwick for 29 years.

He was a teacher in Coventry schools for 16 years and a

principal at Coventry Middle School for 15 years. He was a World War II Army veteran, serving in Panama.

He was a member of the Touro Fraternal Association, Overseas Lodge, AF&AM, Temple Sinai and the former Congregation Sons of Abraham-Shaare Zedek, now Congregation Shaare Zedek. He served on the board of directors of the Coventry Teachers Credit Union and was its treasurer.

He graduated from Providence College in 1946 with a bachelor of arts degree. He attended Boston University Law School and received his master's degree in education from Brown University in 1959.

Besides his wife, he leaves three sons, Dr. Joel Harrison of Warwick, Harold Harrison of White Plains, N.Y., and Barry Harrison of San Francisco, and five grandchildren.

The funeral was held Oct. 31 at Shalom Memorial Chapel, 1100 New London Ave., Cranston. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. Arrangements were made by Shalom Memorial Chapel.

IRVING KAUFMAN PROVIDENCE

— Irving Kaufman, of 25 Faunce Drive, a lighting engineer and CEO of Brite Lite Lamps Corp., New York, for many years, retiring in 1982, died Oct. 24 at Our Lady of Fatima Hospital, North Providence. He was the husband of Martha "Molly" (Brotman) Kaufman.

A lifelong Providence resident, he was a son of the late Samuel and Rebecca (Lilker) Kaufman.

A member of the Illuminating Society of North America, he was the only person from the lamp industry accepted into the Rushlight Society.

He was a member of Doric Lodge of Masons, AM&EM, and the Jewish Community Center, where he served on numerous committees.

Besides his wife, he leaves a son, Dr. Lee Kaufman of Sharon, Mass.; a daughter, Roberta Greenberg of Cranston; two sisters, Bernice Port of Cranston and Marcia Reback of Providence; four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He was the brother of the late Joseph Kaufman.

The funeral was held Oct. 26 at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Burial was private. Arrangements were made by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel.

FRANCES (SCHULTZ) RESH

MENLO PARK, CALIF. — Frances (Schultz) Resh, 93, of Menlo Park, Calif., died Oct. 25 at Sharon Heights Care Center, Menlo Park. She was the wife of the late David B. Resh.

Born in Russia, a daughter of the late Samuel and Libby (Wayne) Schultz, she had lived in Providence before she moved to Cranston in 1979 and to California in 1996.

She was a life member of the Women's Association of Miriam Hospital and the Jewish Home for Aged, where she served on the board of directors for the women's association. She was a former member of Congregation Shaare Zedek.

She leaves a son, Fred Resh (Continued on Page 15)



Ask The Director

by Michael D. Smith, F.D./R.E.
Shalom Memorial Chapel

Why do Jewish people have closed caskets at their funerals? J.S., Warwick

There are two reasons for not having an open casket at a Jewish funeral. One reason is that it makes it easier to remember the appearance of the deceased as they were during their lifetime, not as they have been dressed for burial. A second reason for not viewing is that Jewish tradition regards it as incompatible with the principle of showing proper respect for the deceased.

What makes a Jewish cemetery Jewish? D.H., Cranston

According to my resources, the primary definition of a Jewish cemetery is one that has been properly consecrated by the local clergy and is owned by the Jewish community at large (such as Lincoln Park Cemetery) or a temple (such as Temple Beth-El Cemetery).

I have noticed a set of five Hebrew letters at the end of the Hebrew phrasing on many monuments. What do these letters stand for? I.G., East Greenwich

Often we see a combination of the Hebrew letters *lav, num, tsadi, bet* and *hay* inscribed on a monument or a marker. These Hebrew letters are an abbreviation for the English translation of "May his/her soul be bound up in the bond of eternal life."

How long do I wear the torn ribbon after the funeral? M.G., Providence

The *kriah* or "torn" ribbon is usually worn by mourners for seven days, starting the day of the funeral. Wearing the *kriah* ribbon is an outward sign of mourning. Although we do not mourn during Shabbat and we remove the ribbon for the 24-hour period of Shabbat, it still is counted as one of the seven days of mourning. These are, however, exceptions to the length of time a mourner wears the ribbon. For example, if a major holiday occurs in the midst of *shivah*, the seven-day mourning period is terminated.

Questions are welcomed and are encouraged. Send your questions to: "Ask The Director," c/o Shalom Memorial Chapel, 1100 New London Ave., Cranston, RI 02920, phone: 463-7771 or write The Rhode Island Jewish Herald, P.O. Box 6063, Providence, RI 02940.

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Obituaries

(Continued from Page 14)

of Boulder, Colo.; a daughter, Ruth Ann Rosenbaum of Palo Alto, Calif.; three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She was a sister of the late Goldie Gold, Betty Schultz and Isadore, Louis, Max and James Schultz.

A graveside service was held Oct. 29 in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. Arrangements were made by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

ROSE (HELD) SILVERMAN PROVIDENCE — Rose (Held) Silverman, 100, of 100 Pitman St., died Oct. 27 at Rosewood Manor. She was the wife of the late Jack Silverman.

Born in Russia, she had lived in Providence, Attleboro and Warwick for many years before returning to Providence.

She was one of the original members of the former Temple Beth-Am in Warwick.

She leaves a son, Arthur Silverman of Warwick, five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. She was the mother of the late Sally Port. She was the sister of several late brothers and sisters.

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

YETTA SLUDSKY WEST HARTFORD, CONN. — Yetta Sludsky, 87, of West Hartford, Conn., formerly of Fall River, Mass., died Oct. 31 at Hebrew Home and Hospital. She was the wife of the late Maurice Sludsky.

Born in Worcester, Mass., a daughter of the late Aaron Lowe, she had lived in Fall River most of her life before moving to Bloomfield, Conn., in 1989.

A member of Temple Beth-El, she was active in its Sisterhood. She was a member of Hadassah. She leaves two daughters, Lois Feldman of Simsbury, Conn., and Paula Sultan of West Haverstraw, N.Y.; a sister, Sylvia Rutman of Worcester; five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Frances Davis.

A graveside service was held at Temple Beth-El Cemetery, Fall River. Arrangements were made by Mount Sinai Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

CHARLOTTE YAFFE SUNRISE, FLA. — Charlotte Yaffe, formerly of Providence, R.I., died Sept. 23 at her home in Sunrise, Fla., after a long illness.

She is survived by her sister, June Stepak Goldfarb, and nieces and nephews.

The funeral was held in Florida.



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A Jewish Man's Journey

(Continued from Page 5)

tual advisors in 1944 and embarked on his journey of faith.

By the end of the year, Sol was back in Brooklyn on furlough and found out about a servicemen's dance at the Church of the Blessed Sacrament. While at the church, Sol, questioning his faith, talked to Father Conroy. Sol asked the priest if he had ever heard a conversion story like his. Dubner joked that Father Conroy might have said, "Have I got a girl for you!" Two years after Veronica had converted, Sol converted to Roman Catholicism as well and his name changed to Paul. Paul did not tell his friends or family of his conversion, but one day, Shepsel was folding Paul's clothes and rosary beads fell out of a pants pocket and on to the floor. Outraged by this discovery, Shepsel declared *shmitah* on his son and banished him from the family.

Veronica and Paul were two lonely hearts with frighteningly familiar histories. They found each other that night of the church dance and married two years later on March 2, leaving their Jewish lives behind and raising a Catholic family. Both their families were unhappy with their conversions to Catholicism and hence had no substantial connection to their pasts.

Paul and Veronica moved to Long Island and then to upstate New York where Dubner was raised. He grew up in a Catholic family, but oftentimes had inklings about his "odd" parents' true faith, especially when they would occasionally talk Yiddish — Dubner confessed he thought the Yiddish was an adult form of pig latin. "I always knew that my parents were odd, but I thought it was just because they came from Brooklyn," joked Dubner. He conveyed his troubles growing up in a bicultural household. "I knew the word 'Jewish' and I knew that my parents had once been something called 'Jewish' but that was the extent of it."

"I had no way of knowing what Jewish meant and what it meant for (my parents) to have stopped being Jewish."

Dubner's father died when he was 10 and it was not until about 12 years ago when he moved to New York City that Dubner discovered what a Jew was. "A Jew is not someone who grew up Catholic," Dubner joked.

In his 20s, Dubner uncovered his parents' remarkable story and began to pursue his Jewish history. He met an intriguing older fellow named Ivan Kronenfeld, who Dubner describes in *Turbulent Souls*, "Ivan as I would learn, was the kind of man who could slap you across the face and leave you wanting to thank him." Kronenfeld, started to explain *halakha* to Dubner and met with a few rabbis who believed

Dubner was a genuine Jew. Kronenfeld unwittingly sent Dubner on a long religious journey to find his true faith with these words, "Your parents didn't do what they did so you'd just walk away from it."

Dubner took his religious journey all over the world and met with his once-forgotten relatives, who helped him unveil his Jewish identity laying under a shroud of his parents' secrets and estrangements. He was "inextricably drawn to Judaism" as he sat down with his mother and a tape recorder to make sense of his Jewish past. He was eager to find out about his Judaism background and family tree, which started with only 10 members. After talking to his mother, his family tree grew roots and branched out to 750 names.

Dubner contended he was not necessarily looking for a conversion or looking to rebel, but that the Jewish faith just made sense to him. "I stumbled into a religious tradition that by accident of birth happened to belong to, but which also resonated within me a way that I could have never predicted," said Dubner. He believed he knew he was doing the right thing and he was not on a nostalgic trip, but a religious quest and voyage of faith.

His mother, the "backbone" of *Turbulent Souls*, had a problem with Dubner's conversion at first, but since then they have established an "imperfect peace." His siblings have kept their Catholic faith, but along with his nieces, have expressed interest in the family history.

"The nicest thing is sitting at the family table with my brothers and sisters and their Catholic husbands and wives mixed up with my Jewish aunts, uncles and cousins and there's no difference, and that's really been one of the best parts about the whole experience for me," said Dubner.

Currently, Dubner, working on a second book, is married to a photographer in New York City and they are continuously learning about their Jewish faith together. He left the women with broad smiles and ended the night with book signings.

Let Freedom Ring

(Continued from Page 11)

compares Adolph Hitler to, of all people, the American Italian filmmaker Martin Scorsese, who tells a disrespectful life of Jesus!

In the discussion following the tri-part session, Elliott Barowitz of Drexel University, once of R.I.S.D., spoke out against such a trivialization. "Scorsese is an artist. You can't equate freedom of speech with inflammatory racism."

I joined in support. "Art is about exploration and freedom, never about persuasion alone. Leni Riefenstahl's films are not free, only propaganda."

Among liberal arts spokespersons and artists who practice and preach, the Jews looked pretty good among their peers at the round table of Times Square.

John Cornwell's

(Continued from Page 3)

that the Pope could have been a force to diminish atrocities committed by the Fascists against Serbs and Jews in Croatia. And in Rome, his refusal to speak out may have prevented many Jews from being saved. Cornwell asserts that the Pope remained silent out of fear that a communist uprising in Rome would result if the Nazis left too soon.

There is no doubt that Catholics and Catholic clergy all over Europe saved many thousands of Jews, including myself. The story of Roncalli in Istanbul (later to be Pope John XIII) is but one. And it may well be that Pius XII's secret activities played a role in these activities on behalf of Jews at risk.

Cornwell, however, starkly and convincingly makes the case that saving Jews was never a central part of the thinking, the strategy or the theology of Pius XII. And what was necessary to really make a difference during the nightmare of the Holocaust was exactly the kind of individual who would have put saving Jews at the heart of his moral and strategic approach.

Was it possible, considering the history of 2,000 years, for any Pope at that time to be that kind of leader? It is here that Cornwell's book makes the greatest impact, because the totality of his information and analysis leads to the conclusion that indeed it could have been different, that another leader without the need for such dominance — and with room for a sense of responsibility for the Jews being slaughtered — could have truly earned the beatification that is now being considered.

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All Set For a Bedtime Story White House Issues Year 2000 Calendar

Simone Labine and brother, David, join Clifford during the Alperin Schechter Day School Scholastic Book Fair Family Night. This special evening was organized by school librarian Karolyn White and designed as an opportunity for families to get together and share a reading experience, as well as support the Scholastic Book Fair. Children were encouraged to a bring a stuffed animal and dress in pajamas to settle into family groups on blankets spread out on the gym floor. Dr. Penney Stein, head of school, read several Clifford stories and a short video featuring Winnie-the-Pooh was shown while families munched popcorn. Sixth-grade student Jason Lipoff represented Clifford. Clifford was available for photo opportunities while families browsed the Scholastic Book Fair offerings, and made their purchases. By all accounts it was a fun-filled evening for ASDS families and a very successful fund-raiser for the school library and Middle School who offered refreshments. White expressed her thanks to all the volunteers who contributed their time and energy to the evening.

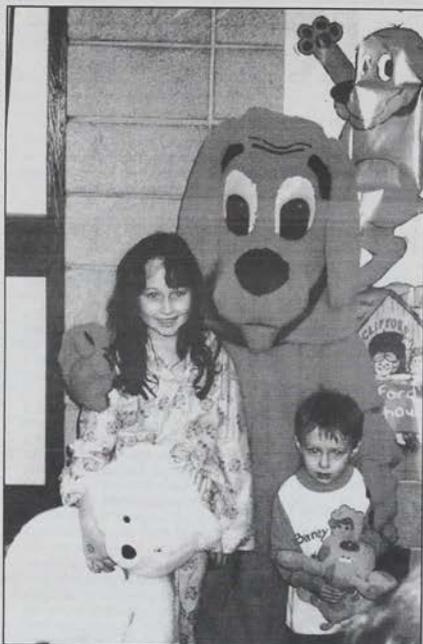
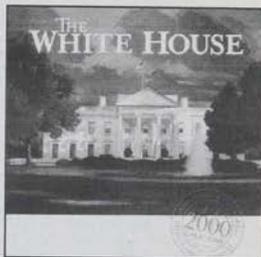


Photo by Liz Goldberg

The second president of the United States, John Adams, and his wife, Abigail, became the first residents of the White House in November 1800. Since that time, every president and his family have lived in the White House.

In honor of this 200th anniversary, the White House Historical Association in cooperation with WRE/AMI, has developed a commemorative Year 2000 calendar. The calendar features original paintings by 14 American artists from the 13 original states and the District of Columbia as well as extensive educational information about the White House. The historical tribute to the White House reflects the individual styles and interpretations of these artists from various parts of America.



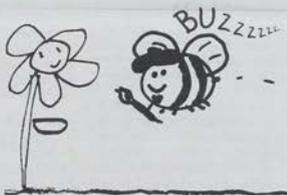
The purpose of the commemorative calendar is twofold: to heighten the public's awareness of the significance of the house at this special time in its history and to use proceeds from the sale of the calendar to acquire a gift for the White House from the Adams era.

"The White House continues to inspire artists in a moving testimonial to the special place its image holds in the hearts of all Americans and this unique calendar celebrates the contemporary artist's view of a revered house," said Neil W. Horstman, executive vice president of the White House Historical Association.

The artists who have generously donated their works of art with only a modest honorarium and no remuneration from the sale of the calendar include Richard Grosvenor, of Rhode Island.

The White House Year 2000 commemorative calendar sells for \$12.95 plus \$3 for handling and shipping. It can be ordered by calling (800) 555-2451 or visiting <www.whitehousehistory.org>.

Who Wants to Bee an Artist?!



The Rhode Island Jewish Herald announces its 14th Annual

Chanukah Art Contest

What it means to be Jewish

Just be two-dimensional and created on a piece of paper no larger than 16" x 16". No glitter and no foil! The name, age, grade, address and phone number of the artist **MUST** appear on the back of every entry.

If this information is not provided, the entry will be disqualified. **Only one entry per child.** Entries must be received at the Herald office, 99 Webster St., Pawtucket, by 4 p.m. on November 12. Participants may drop off their posters with Rosemary at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island by 4 p.m. on November 15. **No entry received later than 4 p.m. on November 15 can be considered!!!**

Judging will take place during the following week. The winning posters will appear in the Chanukah issue of the Rhode Island Jewish Herald on November 25.

The Award Party will be held and prizes handed out on November 18, at 3:30 p.m. in the senior adult lounge at the Jewish Community Center. All contest entrants and their families are invited. If you have any questions, call Kim at 724-0200

SOME PRIZES TO BE AWARDED INCLUDE: TICKETS TO THE PROVIDENCE BRUINS, PASSES TO THE PROVIDENCE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM, MOVIE PASSES FOR SHOWCASE CINEMAS, TICKETS TO MYSTIC AQUARIUM AND FIRST NIGHT MEMORABILIA

Categories:
Ages 4 to 6
Ages 7 to 9
Ages 10 to 13