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# Rhode Island Jewish HERALD

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

What Were The  
Most Important  
Jewish Events of  
The Last Century?  
See Page 6

VOLUME LXX, NUMBER 7

TEVET 21, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1999

35¢ PER COPY

## News at a Glance

• Israel Radio on Dec. 26, quoting unnamed senior sources close to the Israel/Syria negotiations, stated that Israel will call for a new border between the two countries to be the 1923 demarcation. The report indicated that the position has been accepted as the Israeli negotiating team prepares for the second session of talks in Washington, scheduled for this week. Prime Minister Ehud Barak's media advisor, who explained a new border situation would only be defined following negotiations and an understanding of the depth of a peace achieved between the two countries, adamantly denied the report. The advisor added that talk of a border could not be decided upon prior to a comprehensive understanding of security arrangements included in any agreement.

• Following the issuance of an order by OC Central Command, Major-General Moshe Ya'alon, said the IDF is preparing to dismantle the gravesite promenade of Dr. Baruch Goldstein. The decision follows the passing of a new law barring the construction of a monument to terrorists. Goldstein was killed after opening fire in the Cave of the Patriarchs in Hebron in February 1994, killing 29 Moslem worshippers. He was interred in a lone grave near the entrance of Kiryat Arba, as per orders of the military commander. Since his burial, a promenade has been constructed, with comforts such as lighting and benches permitting visitors to pray at the graveside. As per the demolition orders, all the additions to the grave—the Jerusalem stone, benches, lighting, prayer and Psalm books will be removed from the area. At this time, the inscription of the tombstone will not be changed. Minister Ron Cohen of the left-wing, Meretz Party, the father of the bill, called for the inscription on the grave stating that Goldstein died a "holy martyr" also be wiped out.

## The Events Which Made the Last 100 Years for the Jewish Community

From The People Who  
Know Best



Counsel General Israel  
Itzhak Levanon

"This century began with violence and that's what we've seen throughout. At the conclusion, however, we see a change. The collapse of the Soviet empire, the rise and fall of countries like Bafra which have now disappeared. But, I think the most important event of the last 100 years with regards to the Jewish community is the rebirth of the Jewish homeland—Israel, a fulfillment of biblical prophecies. It was the only positive thing to come about after the tragedy of the Holocaust—the epitome of violence in the 20th century. I believe that the 21st century will begin on a positive note. If there is one thing that we've learned it's that violence leads to nothing. We are ready to communicate and cooperate to insure peace. History will not repeat itself."

Counsel General Israel  
Itzhak Levanon

"In America, the unprecedented freedom, opportunity and tolerance Jewish Americans have enjoyed in this country and, throughout the world, the rebirth of the State of Israel."

U.S. Senator Joe Lieberman



U.S. Senator Joe Lieberman  
(D-Conn.)

"I think that this particular century has presented a number of very important focuses with regard to the Jewish community. If you look at previous centuries, I believe, there was much more mization of Jewish thoughts and leaders. Many of those who have impacted Jewish society over the last century were actually born during the century. People like Carl Marx, Sigmund Freud whose lives have had a significant impact on

Jewish people—especially Marx on women. When you look strictly at an event over the last century that has had a global effect on the community, I'd have to say the establishment of Israel. I think locally, in Rhode Island, the state's social life has benefited greatly from the community — from education [Brown University has been the recipient of thousands of dollars in grant and scholarship money from the Jewish community] to politics [Governors Frank Licht and Bruce Sundlun], the law [from attorneys general to superior court justices], and business — the Jewish community has enriched life in Rhode Island."

Justice Victoria Lederberg



Justice Victoria Lederberg,  
Superior Court

"The establishment of Israel—the Jewish homeland where all Jews are welcome. If the Jews had had a homeland, I don't believe the Holocaust would have been as devastating as it was because we would have had a place to go."

Marc Mandell, Esq.



Marc Mandell, Esq.,  
Mandell, Schwartz &  
Boisclair

For Abe Foxman, the top 10 significant events affecting Jews in the last millennium were "the Crusades; the plague; the Inquisition; expulsion from Spain; Martin Luther's anti-Semitic tracts; spiritual Judaism (the Code of Law/Shulchan Aruch compiled by Rabbi Yosef Caro; Hasidism/Ba'al Shem Tov; Reform Movement); Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion, the czar-

(Continued on Page 19)

## Israelis Welcome Christian Pilgrims at Millennium

In an attempt to calibrate the delicate intangibles of Christian-Jewish relations on the eve of the new millennium, a recent Gallup poll has found that Israeli Jews, while generally unfamiliar with Christians, are nonetheless positive about them visiting the Holy Land.

The nationwide survey of 479 adults, commissioned by Rabbi Yechiel Eckstein of the Chicago-based International Fellowship of Christians and Jews, also found that only one in 10 Israeli Jews have ever encountered a Christian missionary attempt — a number that runs counter to common perceptions of widespread missionary activity in Israel today.

While noting large disparities in attitudes between secular and ultra-Orthodox Jews, and younger and older genera-

tions, other key findings include:

- Three out of four Israeli Jews cannot identify the date of Christmas.
- At the same time, 44 percent attach no meaning to Dec. 31, the eve of the new millennium.
- Israelis welcome the planned visit of the pope to their country in the year 2000 by a ratio of 5 to 1.
- Three out of four Israelis are enthusiastic about U.S. Christians visiting the Holy Land. Only one in six are negative.
- Two out of three Israelis don't have a single Christian friend and 62 percent are not even personally acquainted with one Christian.
- More than nine out of 10 Israelis do not personally know a single Jew who has converted to Christianity.

• Israelis believe that U.S. Christians feel closer to Israelis than to the Palestinians.

• Israelis feel personally closer to assimilated American Jews than to active U.S. Christian supporters of Israel.

• The vast majority of Israelis believe that most U.S. Christians are:

- A) Friendly and supportive of Israel
- B) Not avowed missionaries or anti-Semites
- C) Not ignorant about Jews and Israel
- Israelis overwhelmingly (89 percent) welcome American Christian financial contributions to their society.

This final figure was especially welcomed at a press conference in Jerusalem on Dec. 21 attended by several organizations which raise funds among

Christians in the United States and worldwide to support Jews making aliyah to Israel and other Jewish causes, including Rabbi Eckstein's group, the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem and Bridges for Peace.

Eckstein, an Orthodox rabbi who works to foster Christian-Jewish understanding, said "the Gallup experts have clearly vindicated [our belief]... [that] most Israelis know very little about Christians. But what they do know, they appreciate and feel an affinity toward."

"I took special pride that Israelis genuinely welcome with open arms overseas Christian contributions," said Eckstein, whose organization has given the single largest annual contribution to the United Jewish

(Continued on Page 19)

# HAPPENINGS

## Entertainment for Children

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

### December

**30 Circus School.** 1, 1:45 and 2:30 p.m. Have you ever wanted to join the circus? Kids age 5 and up try juggling, balancing on a "rola bola" and clowning around with students from the Providence Circus School. You'll flip for acrobats and their super skills!

### 31 First Night Celebration

**Suzuki Guitar Ensemble.** 1 p.m. Kick off your New Year's celebration with an early afternoon performance of classical, folk and contemporary guitar music by Providence Music School students.

**Global Drum Gatherings.** 2, 3 and 4 p.m. Children and their families usher in the new millennium during afternoon global drum gatherings. Hear a performance by R.A. Fish and Diana Young of the Young Fish School of World Drumming, learn about the history of drums and try creating a cosmic beat. Both programs are part of the First Night Providence celebration. On Dec. 31, admission to the museum is free with an official First Night button.

### January

**1 Celebrate 2000.** 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Kids ages 3 and up add to our list of 2,000 fun things to do in the museum. Help make a giant paper chain of 2,000 links full of good wishes for the new year.

**2 First Free 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 and play in the museum's extraordinary exhibits for free!

### 3 Museum Closed

**4 Time Travelers.** 3 to 4:30 p.m. Kids age 7 and up travel back to 1640 and meet Sara Mott, an English settler. Find out how her life in colonial Rhode Island differs from her life back in England.

**5 Science Stew.** 3 to 4:30 p.m. Whip up a batch of stretchy putty! Kids age 5 and up mix household materials into a silly chemical stew that will bounce, bend and roll.

**6 Play and Learn.** 3 to 4:30 p.m. Join Gramma Hope in the cozy and safe environment of Littlewoods where tots, ages 2 to 4, play fun games designed for their blossoming skills.

## Calendar: December 30 thru January 5

**30 "Quilters"** continues at the Sandra Feinstein-Gamm Theatre, 31 Elbow St., Providence, through Jan. 16. Call 831-2919.

**31 Afternoon Children's Festival** 2 p.m., featuring the Peking Acrobats, Umogo, stiltwalkers and fire-eaters and Maximum Velocity, extreme sports 2000. Live concert, dance group and family entertainment. City-wide, Providence. Call 521-1166.

**First Night Providence 2000.** 1 p.m. to midnight. Festivities begin in the afternoon and play continuously at various downtown sites. Fireworks display at stroke of midnight. Call 521-1166.



**First Night Westerly.** 2 p.m. to midnight. Performing arts and a grand fireworks display throughout downtown. Broad and High streets. Call 596-5020.

**Johnston Community Center Association.** New Year's Eve 1999, 7:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Ring in the Millennium with Horizon's New Year's Party. Black tie optional. Lombardi's, 1025 Banquet Restaurant, 1025 Plainfield St., Johnston. Call 272-3460.

**New Year's Eve Millennium Celebration.** The festive island celebration to usher in the new century. Fireworks, dinner specials, entertainment. Block Island. Call (800) 383-2474.

**Rhode Island Millennium Ball.** The official gathering place to usher in the 21st century. Rhode Island Convention Center, Ballroom, Providence. Call 351-4295.

**K&S New Year's Eve Ballroom Dance** at Knights of Columbus Hall, 1047 Park Ave., Cranston. Hot and cold buffet, wine, coffee, pastry, pizza, noisemakers and a champagne toast at midnight. Smoke free. \$40 per person. Couples and singles welcome. Call 821-4108.

### January 2000

**1 Happy New Year** from the Roger Williams Park Zoo. Free admission today for all visitors. Hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. every day.

**The 23rd annual Jamestown Penguin Plunge.** Benefits R.I. Special Olympics. Watch 300 tuxedo-clad swimmers take the frozen plunge! Mackerel Cove, Jamestown. Call 823-7411.

**The 27th annual Polar Bear Plunge.** 2 p.m. A group of hearty souls enjoy the refreshing waters off R.I. Sound at Wickford Town Beach. Call 295-2061.

**Millennial Moment of Silence** and bell ringing at noon, New Year's Day statewide welcome to the Millennium. Noon time bell ringing preceded by a minute of silence. Statewide.

**Art exhibit "Through the Needle's Eye,"** Slater Mill Historic Site, Slater Gallery, 67 Roosevelt Ave., Pawtucket. Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. Jan. 1 to 31.

**Trinity Repertory Company,** 201 Washington St., Providence, presents "The Cryptogram," 8 p.m. Jan. 1 through 23. Call 454-4564.

**Newport Polar Bear Plunge.** Noon. Easton's Beach, Newport. Call 274-1728.

**Narragansett Pier Plunge.** Narragansett, North Beach Pavilion. Call 789-1044.

**2 "A Man and His Music"** — The musical tribute to Frank Sinatra starring Jay Traynor at the Stadium Theater, Woonsocket. Call 762-4545.

**4 Walt Disney's "Beauty and the Beast"** opens at the Providence Performing Arts Center, 220 Wobosset St., Providence, for a two-week run. Jan. 4 through 16. Call 421-ARTS for tickets.

## Drama Workshop For Young Adults

The Barrington Public Library will be offering a drama workshop for students in grades six through nine led by Angela Brayman. Brayman has studied theater arts in New York City and has coached many theater programs for children. She will give students an opportunity to explore various acting techniques in a fun atmosphere. No previous acting experience is necessary.

The workshop will be offered Tuesday evenings, Jan. 4 through Feb. 8 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Registration is required by phone or in person at the library's reference desk. Participation is limited to 15 teen-agers. This free program is sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

## Auditions For Biblical Parody

The Jewish Theatre Ensemble of the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island will be holding auditions for its upcoming biblical parody of the King David story, "Sum Yum Soup," on Jan. 9, 2 to 4 p.m. and Jan. 10, 7:30 to 9 p.m. in the JCCRI's social hall. We are seeking male and female singers and dancers, 16 and older, for both principal roles and chorus. Come prepared to sing and dance. The show, written by JCCRI member, Jules Gelade (author of the critically acclaimed, "40 Years of Bad Road"), is scheduled to be presented during the second and third week-ends of May 2000.

For more information, contact the JCCRI at 861-8800 or Toby Marwil at 421-2124. The JCCRI is located at 401 Elm Grove Ave. in the heart of Providence's east side.

**If you have an event you would like featured on our Happenings Page, please send it to the Rhode Island Jewish Herald, P.O. Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 02940 or fax to 726-5820.**

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## SOCIETY

### Cheryl Horowitz Weds Donald Adessi

Cheryl Joy Horowitz and Donald Frank Adessi were married Oct. 30 at the Potowomut Golf Club, Warwick, R.I. Judge Michael Sonberg, cousin of the bride, officiated at the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Toby Horowitz of Warwick and the late Alan Horowitz. The bridegroom is the son of Domenic Adessi of Johnston, R.I., and the late Antonetta Adessi.

Deborah Horowitz, sister-in-law of the bride, was matron of honor. Bridesmaids were Joyce Kelly, Elyssa Lane, and Sara Lane.

Best man was Stuart Horowitz, brother of the bride. Ushers were Robert Niederberger and Anthony Sano.

The bride graduated from Pilgrim High School, Warwick; Hofstra University, Hempstead, N.Y.; and Rhode Island College, Providence, R.I. She is employed with United Healthcare of New England, Warwick, R.I. The bridegroom graduated from Cranston High School East and New England Tech. He is employed with Alpha Microelectronics, Warwick.

They took a honeymoon cruise to Cancun, Cozumel and Roatan.

The couple has made their home in Warwick, R.I.



Mr. and Mrs. Donald Adessi

### Bruce Kessler Engaged to Shoshana Weinberg

Jerry and Sheila Weinberg of Toronto and William and Linda Kessler of Pawtucket announce the engagement of their children, Shoshana Weinberg and Bruce Kessler.

The kallah attended Brovenders in Jerusalem and is now attending York University. The chasan attended Mevaseret Zion in Israel, and graduated from Yeshiva University. He is an accountant at Anchin, Block and Anchin in New York.

The kallah is the granddaughter of the late Isaac and Shoshana Weinberg of Montreal and Rose Berlin and the late Irving Berlin of Toronto.

The chasan is the grandson of Lester and Lilian Kessler of Warwick and Florida and the late Jacob and Bertha (Brahna) Smith of Fall River, Mass.



Bruce Kessler and Shoshana Weinberg

### Sara Gold Marries Jonathan Wilson

Sara N. Gold and Jonathan H. Wilson were married Sept. 25, at the Amsterdam Grand Hotel in the Netherlands. The ceremony was performed by Maureen Espinoza, a civil servant, with words by the Rev. Johannes van der Meer. A reception was held at the Grand Hotel.

The bride is the daughter of Esther and Morton Gold of Rutland, Vt. She is also the granddaughter of Ida Morse of Barrington and the late Irving Morse.

The bridegroom is the son of Margaret and Ian Wilson of Woking, Surrey, England.

Witnesses for the bride were her sister Beth Gold and Rose van der Meer. Witnesses for the bridegroom were Leslie Chewter and James Bacon.

The couple took a honeymoon trip in New England and Quebec. They live in Amsterdam.

### Karen Haynoski Weds Andrew Rubinstein

Karen Haynoski and Andrew Rubinstein were married July 31 at the Rockleigh Country Club, at Rockleigh, N.J.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Haynoski of Norwood, N.J. The bridegroom is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Michael Rubinstein of Providence, R.I.

Rabbi Leslie Y. Gutterman officiated at the ceremony. A reception followed at the Rockleigh Country Club.

The bride was given in marriage by her parents.

Bridesmaids were Jennifer Baine, Lilli Rubinstein, and Mahra Rubinstein, sisters of the bridegroom.

Man of honor was Jeffrey Kamberg. Ushers were Todd Grant, Shira Lerner. The bridegroom's grandmother, Beatrice Rosen, was accompanied by her grandson, Jay Rosen.

The bride has a B.A. from the University of Hartford, and a masters of education from Farleigh Dickinson University. She is a teacher in the fifth grade at a charter school, Jersey City, N.J.

The bridegroom has a B.A. from the University of Hartford. He is employed at the Donor Center at UJA of New York.

Their wedding trip was taken in Italy. They have made their home in Albine, N.J.



Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Rubinstein

#### Olivia Hope Kortick

Dr. and Mrs. Steven Kortick of Yardley, Pa., announce the birth of their daughter, Olivia Hope, on Nov. 13. Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Elliott Goldman of Richboro, Pa. Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Carl Kortick of Cranston, R.I.

Olivia Hope (Tzvia Yisraela) is named after her paternal great-grandfather, Harry Rubin, and her maternal great-grandfather, Isadore (Benny) Goodman.

#### Madison Taylor Lehan

Lisa and Dan Lehan of Westwood, Mass., announce the birth of their third child and first daughter, Madison Taylor, on November 1.

Her maternal grandparents are Sharon and Stephen Yarlas of Cranston. Her maternal great-grandmother is Ruth Weinberg, also of Cranston. Her paternal grandparents are Ann Lehan of Nantucket and D. Joseph Lehan of Boston, Mass.

#### Olivia Faye Adelman

Mr. and Mrs. Harlin Adelman of Beachwood, Ohio, announce the birth of their third daughter, Olivia Faye Adelman, on Dec. 3. Dr. Adelman is the former Laura G. Roiff of Cranston, R.I.

Shown here is Olivia being welcomed by her older sisters Annie, 3 1/2, and Madeline, 4 1/2.

Maternal grandparents are Leah and Robert Roiff of Cranston. Paternal grandparents are Diane and Joel Adelman of Beachwood, Ohio. Olivia's grand-grandfather is A. Milton Cohen of Beachwood, Ohio.

Olivia Faye is named in loving memory of her grand-grandmother Faye Cohen.



# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Bend and Stretch — Get The Blood Flowing

From fingertips to toes, exercise class at the JFS Kosher Mealsite in Cranston offers a gentle, invigorating workout where participants go at their own pace through a series of stretches, limbering and firming movements. The class is led by Sylvia Shockett on Wednesdays at the JFS Mealsite at Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave. in Cranston. Call Mealsite Coordinator Ronda Goldstein French at 781-1771 for more information.



Kitty Coken, above, is shown doing finger exercises designed to keep joints flexible.

Vivacious exercise leader Sylvia Shockett, left, demonstrates a stretching move.

Photos courtesy of JFS Kosher Mealsite, Cranston

## When The World Was New

by Kimberly Ann Orlandi  
Herald Editor

As the light fades on yet another year and a new century quietly breaks on the horizon, may we never forget the events of the last 100 years—both positive and negative—which have shaped, influenced and affected us as people and a society.

For those, including myself, who know many of these events only from history books, this message is very important. Probably the greatest treasure we have in this country is our nation's growing senior population. Theirs are the experiences history books are based upon. If you are lucky enough to still have even one of your grandparents with you, this message should be taken to heart. Better than any book ever written, our seniors hold the stories of how this nation was born, how many arrived in this country, my great-grandparents included, with nothing in their pockets, but their hearts filled with anticipation. It was a new world and they were right in the middle.

My generation will never know what it was like to live through the Depression. For us, living without cable television or the internet is a depression. We will never know what it was like to watch our husband or son go off to war, and we will never know the heartache of not having them return. My generation and the generations yet to come owe everything to our grandparents, and for some even our parents.

I recently had the pleasure to sit down and talk with a very special lady, Ethel Gross. Ethel is 92 years young and lives at

the Scallop Shell Nursing Home in Peace Dale, Rhode Island. Born in 1907, she has been witness to and often an active participant in many of history's most memorable events. The beginning of World War I; Charles Lindbergh's famed flight; the Depression; the bombing of Pearl Harbor; the presidencies of Roosevelt, Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy and Johnson.

"Such changes were unbelievable," said Ethel, as we sat quietly in her room at the nursing home, "you can't read about it. The more you read about it the less you understand it—unless you've lived through it."

Sitting, listening to this wonderful woman relive many of the events of the last 100 years as if they happened yesterday made me question my own appreciation for and knowledge of these historic events, which she recalled with exceptional detail.

Ethel is a native New Yorker, right down to her love of the Yankees and raised in Queens, this mother of two began her life as many did—the daughter of immigrants. Her mother, Mamé (Renkoff) and father Moe came to New York from their native Poland and Russia on their honeymoon and they never left.

"My brother used to say that our parents were 200 percent flag-waving Americans," recalls Ethel with a smile. "But they were just looking for a better way of life and I'm grateful to them for it."

Long before the turmoil and catastrophes in Europe, Mamé sent for some of the other members of her family. As Ethel de-

(Continued on Page 17)

## Clarification

In the Dec. 23 issue of *The Rhode Island Jewish Herald* (Page 10, Youth in Philanthropy Board) there was an omission of a board member on the original copy. Adam Deitch, of Lincoln, a student at Lincoln High School, was also elected to the Youth in Philanthropy Board, a cooperative program of the Rhode Island Foundation and the Feinstein Family Foundation.

**Community Service:** Developed a Community Action and Service Team at his school and participated in a community service-based seminar at Washington Institute for Leadership and Values.

He would spend the \$40,000 to establish a youth-based volunteer program, and to assist organizations providing food for the hungry and volunteers in schools.

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## NCJW's 'Women For Women'

National Council of Jewish Women invites all to hear three female legislators speak on "Women for Women," on Jan. 12 at 12:30 p.m. The meeting is to be held in the Statehouse, South Bell Wing in the first floor rotunda room.

Linda Kushner, vice president of Advocacy for NCJW, will introduce the following: Sen. Rhoda Perry, who will speak about civil rights, "Driving While Black." Rep. Edith Ajello will talk about reproductive choice, and Rep. Barbara Burlingame will address domestic violence concerns.

Coffee and dessert is served from 12:30 to 1 p.m. when the meeting begins. Each speaker will escort a small group on a tour of the Statehouse after the program ends. Elaine Kroll and Muriel Licht are program chairwomen.

Call Judith Litchman at 274-2311 if transportation is needed.

# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Major Jewish Faces Of The 20th Century

by Luke O'Neill  
Community Reporter



Tara Liscandro, executive director of Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum

"It may be the quote that remains with me, 'Dopo di allora, ad ora, incerta. Since then, at an uncertain hour, the agony returns, and 'till my ghastly tale is told, this heart within me burns.'— Primo Levi

It was one short phrase by which I was taught so many things by a person I never knew, but came to feel close to over the years. The words of Primo Levi echoed with those of so many survivors I have come to meet and share such intimate stories with for more than 12 years.

Primo Levi was a survivor, a scientist and a writer. He was also an Italian Jew who was a prisoner of Auschwitz. Like so many survivors, he, too, wanted his story to be told so that future generations would not forget about the lessons of the Holocaust.

I first heard of Primo in an Italian class in high school; we read some of his work. From there, I continued to learn more about him — his work followed me everywhere. Or, I followed him!

Primo Levi's work and words had great influence on my life, my perceptions of human nature and my career. I believe they have done the same for many others as well. Americans have embraced almost all of his writings and books.

Although his death in 1987 remains to be questioned, his work and his life, continue to be extremely influential and educational.



Alan G. Hassenfeld, chairman and chief executive of Hasbro

"If we talk nationally, first thing, I'd take a look at the different fields. If I went to the legal side of things, I'd obviously say Justice Frankfurter. If it goes to education, I think you

have to go to Abe Sachar, one of the founders of Brandeis University. If you go into government, you have... Abe Ribicoff was wonderful from Connecticut."

Hassenfeld, looking on a national scale, did not want to limit his choices to present day Jews, but looked for the "real movers and shakers" of the entire century. He also mentioned Morgenthau of New York and Henry Kissinger as important Jewish government officials and author Elie Wiesel as another influential Jewish American.

If you want to take a look at authors, you obviously have to go to someone like Leon Uris, just in the sense of what he did in the '60s, between *Exodus* and books like that, as well as Saul Bellow.

There are so many wonderful names in so many wonderful fields, I'm going to go crazy trying to think about it.

Obviously in the world of sports, Sandy Koufax, Hank Greenberg are incredibly memorable names.

In the cinema and movie industry, I think you have to include people like Steven Spielberg. I think you have to go back to Lew Wasserman at Universal. All the great studios in many cases were started by some very impressive Jewish talent.

I think in the publishing business one of the giants today is Gerry Levin of Time Warner."

Hassenfeld also recognized Jonas Salk, known for developing the polio vaccine. Albert Schweitzer, Alfred Dreifus and Justice Louis D. Brandeis were also names mentioned by the Hasbro chairman. Hassenfeld also recognized the Rothschild and Bronsnam families as influential leaders of the 20th century."



Alan Shawn Feinstein, philanthropist

Feinstein acknowledged Elie Wiesel and Kirk Douglas as prominent Jewish faces of the past 100 years.

"Elie Wiesel kept the memory of the Holocaust and its terrible toll alive in a most poignant way that has reached millions of people.

And Kirk Douglas, who has also reached millions, has been honored for his Jewishness and has championed his opportunity in the public eye." Douglas, 83, recently had a second bar mitzvah ceremony in Westwood, Calif., with many celebrities attending. Repeating the Jewish ritual of manhood, Douglas was reported at the ceremony as saying, "Today I am a man!"

Feinstein also felt it was important to recognize lesser-

known Jewish faces, but everyday heroes. "All Jewish parents and people spreading the values of *Izedakah* amongst their children, so that they grow up realizing it's not what you get out of life, but what you give."



Vivian Weisman, president of the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island

Albert Einstein (1879-1955), one of the most brilliant minds of the 20th century, was the German-born physicist famous for his equation,  $E = mc^2$ . Considered the most brilliant person after Sir Isaac Newton, Einstein is also known for his development of the atom bomb. Throughout the entire century, he has represented some of the remarkable achievements in the scientific world.

Golda Meir, (1898-1978), prime minister of Israel for five years, is probably the most admired Jewish woman of the past 100 years. Considered the mother of Israel, she led her country in battle and still was able to stand as a symbol of peace.

David Ben-Gurion (1886-1973), the founder of the Jewish state of Israel in 1948, was Weisman's third selection. Ben-Gurion, born in Poland, encouraged many of his followers to fight for their Jewish survival.



Rabbi James Rosenberg, Temple Haborim

"I could give you one and there are all the obvious people like Ben-Gurion and Golda Meir. But I'll give you one that I think is one of the greatest scholars that ever lived and that's Gershom Scholem, who single-handedly pioneered research into Jewish mysticism and indirectly is probably responsible for a resurgence in Jewish spirituality. He is really the pioneer scholar of Jewish mysticism."

GUY BRUMMEL

Guy Brummel, president of the University of Rhode Island Hillel, selected Theodor Herzl, founder of a new Zionism, as his Jewish person of the century. As a writer, Herzl (1860-1904) dedicated much of his life to establishing a positive Zionist movement which would ultimately lead to the founding of the state of Israel.



Lorraine C. Webber, former president of Rhode Island Hadassah

"I centered on those persons of vision who had translated their dreams into action — action that resulted in significant change, not only to the Jewish community, but also to the world population.

As my list grew in length, I narrowed my choice to those very few, from diverse endeavors, who sprang first to mind. The list that follows is short and I will not recap their accomplishments, since they are well recognized, but rather I will attempt to convey how and why they are important to me.

Betty Friedan whose strength of character influenced me with courage to be proactive in pursuing community volunteer activities. As a working mother at a time when such activity was questioned, her sureness in promoting the right of women to pursue individual endeavors did much to reassure me of the validity of my combining family and career.

Henrietta Szold who has shown that the greatest rewards are reaped when we do for others, who exemplifies the noblest virtues found in Judaism and whose organization she initiated, Hadassah, rekindled memories of my Jewish youth and reminded me that Jewish continuity is of critical importance.

Golda Meir whose vision and capable leadership gave the world pause and signaled to me the rightness for a capable and forthright woman to make a singular contribution to society and who reawakened in me a particular pride in being an American Jew.

Steven Spielberg whose distinctive talents in conveying, through film, this planet's ability to wreak havoc on fellow beings and is doing much to encourage world understanding of the weight and force of memory and has given me hope for a saner and kinder future.

Albert Einstein whose genius opened up spheres of the unknown (through atomic

power and exploration of outer space) and reinforced for me the need to encourage intellect and the pursuit of learning through all available means."



Rabbi Mordechai Nissel, Dean, Providence Hebrew Day School

"A great Jew is a Jew who is actively Jewish both in his spiritual growth as well as improving the Jewish world around him.

I have therefore chosen four giants who have improved the Jewish lives of people of this century. I have chosen one in each of three categories: Torah authority and leadership [two choices], the spreading of Jewish education and the enhancement of Jewish communal life. I do not wish to diminish the accomplishments of the thousands of others to whom I do not come close to in deed or action.

Torah Authority

and Leadership:  
Rabbi Yisroel Meir Hacohen,  
The Chofetz Chaim

"Who is the Chofetz Chaim — the man who wants to live," asks the Psalmist. Rabbi Yisroel Meir Hacohen spent close to a century (1838-1933) demonstrating that he deserved the title.

The Chofetz Chaim learned the lessons of life and passed them on to his people as scholar, educator, author and leader of the world Jewry. The Chofetz Chaim, Rabbi Hacohen is probably the most quoted Jewish leader in our times. His scholarly writings and ruling may be the domain of the Torah intellectual, but his proverbs are available for anyone.

He desired life for all his people. As a leader of world Jewry, he was deeply involved in every communal and personal problem faced by a Jew in those troubled times. For each part of the community, there is one of his great works for guidance.

The Chofetz Chaim had been a figure of almost legendary importance for almost half a century. After a brief period as a rabbi in Radin, he founded a yeshiva, a school for teaching the Talmud, and supported it for many years. He gained renown as a Talmudic scholar and many of his works on the regulations of the Jewish religion have been accepted as definitive.

(Continued on next page)

# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Major Jewish Faces Of The 20th Century

(Continued from previous page)

tive. The village where he had served for a few months as a rabbi was the center of pilgrimages of thousands of Orthodox Jews seeking the blessing of the Chofetz Chaim.

### Rabbi Moshe Feinstein —

"Reb Moshe" — for a half century in America these two Torah were synonymous with Torah greatness, encyclopedic knowledge, compassion, generosity, piety, faith and countless other precious and sacred concepts. Rabbi Feinstein's study table in Tifereth Jerusalem's study hall (where he was dean) was the hub to which queries came from all four corners of the earth. Reb Moshe was the court of last resort for virtually all of the world's leading halachic authorities. A major part of Reb Moshe's awesome legacy is the number and quality of students he groomed for Torah greatness and halachic responsibility. His institutions, now led by his sons, survive him and carry on his legacy.

Although Rabbi Feinstein was famous for his scholarship and halachic rulings, most impressive to me are the stories that I hear about the respect that he always showed to other people. I must include the story that has made the greatest impression upon me.

Someone driving Reb Moshe to his yeshivah accidentally slammed the car door shut on Rabbi Feinstein's fingers. Reb Moshe clenched his injured fingers with his other hand, bit his lips against the excruciating pain and walked into the yeshivah building without uttering a sound. Several students who had witnessed the incident later asked Reb Moshe why he had restrained himself so. He answered quietly, "The young man was kind enough to drive me to the yeshivah. Could I hurt his feeling by letting him know

something was wrong?" This is a person who was completely in charge and in control of every action of his life, as mandated by our holy Torah.

### The Spreading of Jewish Education

Rav Shraga Feivel Mendlovitz  
Rav Shraga Feivel Mendlovitz sowed the seed of the Torah Umesorah, the National Society for Hebrew Day Schools. This organization, which he husbanded to fruition, was to become the life-force of the Orthodox day-school movement in America. The principal of Yeshiva Torah Vodaath, Reb Feivel moved to reconstruct that edifice of Torah on the North American continent.

Reb Feivel's single-minded goal was to bring Torah to alienated Jewish children. People marveled at his sacrifice for a seemingly hopeless dream. Reb Feivel was a great scholar, extremely pious, and was infinitely expansive of vision. He was a Jew with a great, though broken, heart. He dared to affirm what was then an impossible dream; the possibility of building an Orthodox day school in every major Jewish community on these shores. Largely due to the efforts of Rabbi Mendlovitz, Torah Umesorah has grown to a network of more than 600 day schools in the United States and Canada, with a total enrollment of more than 165,000 children!

### The Enhancement of Jewish Communal Life

Rabbi Moshe Sherer built a relatively small Orthodox Jewish organization, Agudath Israel of America groups. Rabbi Sherer served since 1963 as President of Agudath Israel of America, an educational and social service organization that

also represents hundreds of Orthodox religious schools in the United States and Canada.

The organization belongs to the Agudath Israel World Organization of which Rabbi Sherer was appointed chairman in 1980.

Rabbi Sherer was known as an organizer with diplomatic and political skills that enabled him to forge coalitions within the decentralized world of Orthodox Judaism and with other religious groups.

"Sherer," said Vice President Al Gore, "was a remarkable force whose contributions to spreading religious freedom and understanding have been truly indispensable in defending and expanding those same rights for all Americans of all faiths."

Rabbi Sherer also had extremely close relationships with several other powerful politicians.



Congressman Patrick J. Kennedy (D-R.I.)

"Foremost in my thoughts are Albert Einstein and Elie Wiesel, whose works *Ideas and Opinions* and *The Night Trilogy*, respectively, remain on my desk as constant reminders of hard lessons learned by humanity.

I have also chosen Steven Spielberg and Yitzhak Rabin as influential Jewish people of the 20th century.

I will always remember Albert Einstein for his contributions not only in the area of sci-

ence, but for his commitment to human rights and dignity for all people. As a scientist we cannot deny that his theory of relativity and contributions in the area of physics have altered the perception of our place in the universe. For these contributions alone, Albert Einstein should be considered one of the most important figures of the 20th century. But personally, I have always treasured Dr. Einstein for his dedication to human rights. Writing on the subject of Jewish ideals, Einstein said in 1934 "history has given us a difficult road to hoe; but so long as we remain devoted servants of truth, justice and liberty, we shall continue not merely to survive as the oldest of living peoples, but by creative work to bring forth fruits which contribute to the ennoblement of the human race."

Elie Wiesel — To me, no other figure is more symbolic of the courage and grace under pressure that all Jews living through the Holocaust demonstrated. Wiesel's contribution through literature has reminded us all, in vivid detail, about the horrors and atrocities of the most comprehensive attempt of genocide in the 20th century. I chose Wiesel because his autobiographical account of the Auschwitz concentration camp and his fight for survival has forever effected me. Moreover, I found his contribution to the way in which all Jews have fought to try and understand their relationship to G-d in the

face of such cruelty was particularly compelling. In short, Wiesel's story reminds us not only of what the 20th century was all about, but what humanity will be faced with if we do not work to improve the human condition and dignity for all people.

As society has transformed itself into a world where technology and mass communication are central components of our social image and identity, I also choose Steven Spielberg as a person who is symbolic of the Jewish contribution to the arts. Through his work as director and producer, Spielberg has not only excited and thrilled millions of people, but more importantly he has touched our hearts and educated our minds with many of his pictures. I truly believe that his films "Schindler's List" and "Amistad" taught more people about the lessons of courage and family than almost any other artist of this century.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin — He lived fighting for the nation of Israel and he died for peace. I was shocked and dismayed by the senseless violence which took away the life of such a great world leader. I was deeply honored to have met with him in Washington only two weeks before his death in 1995, and one of the most moving moments of my life was attending his funeral. I honor his memory and his dream for peace in the Middle East by working in Congress to make certain that the peace process continues."

## R.I. Hadassah to Host National Board Mentor

The Rhode Island Chapter of Hadassah will hold a general meeting on Jan. 9 at 10:30 a.m. at Channel 36's studio in Cranston. Joan Astor, a past president of Southern New England Region and a national Hadassah mentor, will update members on Hadassah's vision for the 21st century and lead members in a planning process for the ensuing few years. All members are encouraged to attend to share ideas and opinions. For directions to the studio, call the Hadassah office at 463-3636.

## Feinstein Petition Draws More Than 500,000 Signers

Alan Shawn Feinstein's petition to Congress and the president, asking them to make a commitment to ending hunger in America, has now drawn more than half a million signers from throughout the country — 508,624 through Dec. 24.

Feinstein started the petition a year ago, moved by news of increasing demand on food pantries and soup kitchens in many states, mostly from working families at low-income jobs unable to stretch their paychecks and make ends meet. Those demands have continued to increase, despite the booming economy, according to the latest survey just issued by the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

"To have 30 million people going hungry or in danger of hunger in the richest country in the world, is a disgrace," said Feinstein. "We should be setting an example for the rest of the world by making the ending of hunger a top priority. The time to do it is right now."

To sign the petition, just visit: <[www.feinsteinfoundation.com](http://www.feinsteinfoundation.com)> where you can sign electronically. You can also send a free meal to a hungry person at that web site.

Feinstein has been in the forefront of helping hungry people both in this country and abroad for many years. He has founded food pantries in more than 200 churches throughout the country as well as in the Philippines and Africa. He recently founded the Center for a Hunger Free America with President Carothers at the University of Rhode Island, which now is also actively working on anti-hunger issues with him.

Feinstein said he will continue the hunger petition drive until Congress and the president respond to the will of the people.

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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Temple Emanu-El Leisure Club Holds Meeting

The Sunday meeting of the Temple Emanu-El Leisure Club will be held on Jan. 9, at 2 p.m. in the Bohnen Vestry.

We are fortunate to have as our guest speaker, Alan Shawn Feinstein, who will speak on "Projects in Education and Elimination of Hunger."

Feinstein, founder of the Feinstein Foundation, is a nationally known philanthropist and humanitarian whose impact on education and hunger relief is widespread in this country and abroad.

He began his career as a public school teacher, then started a financial advisory newsletter which reached a peak of 500,000 subscribers. In addition, he authored several best-selling financial guides and books. In 1984, a book was written about him and his impact on the financial world.

Now a full-time philanthropist, Feinstein has dedicated millions of dollars to instilling service learning programs in education and alleviating hunger.

He has received numerous honorary degrees and other awards, including the President's Medals from Brown University and Rhode Island College of Education.



Alan Shawn Feinstein

Several schools and colleges have been named for him, including the University of Rhode Island College of Continuing Education, where he has established a scholarship program to memorialize young people whose lives have been tragically cut short.

A social hour will follow the program.

## PHDS Plans Open House

Each year the Providence Hebrew Day School opens its doors and classrooms to the entire community. This year the Open House will be held on Jan. 12, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Parents of children entering preschool and kindergarten are invited to visit the spacious classrooms and see the teachers "in action." The classes for grades one through eight are also open to PHDS parents and prospective day school parents. The school administrators, Rabbi Mordechai Nissel and Mrs. Maureen Sheehan, will be available to discuss school policies, class curriculum, and educational philosophy. Informational packets about the school are available. Call the school office at 331-5327 for more information.

## Prospective Adoptive Parents Invited to Meeting

Anyone interested in exploring the possibilities of adoption is invited to attend informational meetings offered by Adoption Options, the adoption program of Jewish Family Service. 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 Jan. 5.

The agency is located on the second floor of the United Way building at 229 Waterman St., Providence. The meetings are free and open to anyone interested in pursuing an adoption. Call Adoption Options at 331-5437 or toll free at (800) 337-6513 for information or to arrange a confidential consultation. Or visit the web site at <www.adoptionoptions.org>.

## Cranston Senior Guild Kicks Off 2000

The Cranston Senior Guild will hold their first regular meeting of the new millennium on Jan. 5 at Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston, at 1 p.m.

Guest speaker will be Lt. David Lapatin of the Providence Police Department. Refreshments will be served. See you there!

## Caring For Your Elderly Parents Workshop Offered by JFS

How do you balance a job, caring for children and other responsibilities with the needs of an aging parent? What can you do about the sheer physical exhaustion, the overwhelming emotions as you become the caregiver for someone who used to be the most powerful person in your universe? How do you handle the guilt when you cannot do everything that you think you should do? These issues and more will be explored during "Caring For Your Elderly Parents," a Family Life Education workshop at Jewish Family Service.

The four sessions will be held on consecutive Tuesdays, from 5:30 to 7 p.m., beginning Feb. 1 at the JFS office, 229 Waterman St. in Providence.

Participants will have the opportunity to gain information, share feelings and learn coping strategies with others in similar situations, led by JFS clinical social worker Daniel Kane, who has extensive experience working with the elderly and their families.

The first session will introduce a basic understanding of "The Aging Process" and will cover medical and cognitive issues. Information will be provided on resources that are available. The second session, "Issues of the Aged Population," will explore the feelings of loss, depression and anxiety that often accompany the aging process. "Acknowledging Your Own Needs," will address caregivers' feelings of hyper-responsibility and stress. The final session, "Caring for Yourself While Caring for Others," will discuss dealing with guilt, strained family relations and handling anger.

Pre-registration is required by Jan. 12; the fee for the workshop is \$20. Call 331-1244 to register or for more information. Family Life Education workshops at Jewish Family Service are open to all who wish to attend.

## JFS Kosher Meals on Wheels, Kosher Mealsite Prepare for Winter

Those who attend the JFS Kosher Mealsite in Cranston or receive Kosher Meals on Wheels deliveries in the Cranston/Warwick area are advised to stay tuned to radio and television stations that list school closings, as the programs will both be closed whenever the Cranston schools declare a snow day.

Recipients of the JFS Kosher Meals on Wheels program will be receiving shelf-stable meals to keep on hand in case severe weather makes deliveries impossible. The meals are individually packaged, nutritionally balanced kosher meals that do not require refrigeration or cooking. Contents include tuna, fruit, juices, crackers and other non-perishables.

Who are recipients of Kosher Meals on Wheels? They are people older than 60 years of age, who maintain a kosher home and are homebound. Occasionally, someone who regularly attends the JFS Kosher

Mealsite in Cranston may have a temporary health problem and would be added to the program. When service is requested, a case manager from Jewish Family Service visits the home to do an assessment, identify other needs and provide any necessary referrals. Then, deliveries may begin. The case manager revisits periodically to make sure needs are being met.

On holidays, meals include traditional foods that are appropriate; a message about the history of the holiday is tucked in. "Our staff and volunteers are their safety net, sometimes their only contact with the outside world," said Erin Gisherman Minor, JFS director of professional services.

The JFS Kosher Mealsite in Cranston has added mah-jongg to its regular activities, which include tai chi, dance therapy and exercise classes, writing class, bingo and visits from the Bureau of Jewish Education Bookmobile. The activities and programs accompany a hot kosher meal every weekday throughout the month. 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 information about Kosher Meals on Wheels or the JFS Kosher Mealsite, call Mealsite Coordinator Ronda French at 781-1771.

## Daniel Goldstein Makes The Grade

Daniel Goldstein, 13, Winman Jr. High School, Warwick, R.I., made honors. His marks are as follows: English B, Spanish A+, Math B, Band B+, Physical Education B-, Science B, and Social Studies B+. His grade point average is 3.77.

## Look Mom, I Got An A!

Did your son or daughter make the grade this semester? Then send us their name, age, school and honors level to be published in the Herald, P.O. Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 02940.

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### Jewish Community Center Launches Intensive Drive for Increased Membership

24 Teams Organized for  
City-Wide Campaign;  
400 Is Goal  
Continues Until Jan. 15

An intensive drive for 400 new members was under way today as 24 teams representing organizations affiliated with the Jewish Community Center undertook a city-wide canvass. The campaign will continue through January 15.

With the co-operation of the Jewish community council, eight teams are representing the V. W. H. A., four are pledged by the Jewish Center Young Men's Association, a similar number each for the Jewish Parents' Association, the Jewish Women's Association, the Jewish Women's committee and a team representing the Center and its affiliates. Each team has a captain and five workers.

Sapinsky is Chairman  
Milton C. Sapinsky is general chairman and assisting him as managers are Mrs. Joseph J. Seeger, Mrs. Louis I. Krohn, Sidney L. Babinowitz, Albert S. Pinkerton, Mrs. Paul J. Rubin and Herman S. Galatin. Team captives are: Freda Simon, Evelyn Simon, Jay Cohen, Robert Cohen, Sadie Kamran, Sadie Hahn, Edith Jaffe, Harriet Winterman, Dr. Myron Keller, Ladas Korn, Dr. Sol Rosenfeld, Dr. Harry I. Goldstein, Mrs. Ruth Markoff, Mrs. Bernadette, Mrs. David M. Adelman, Mrs. Walter Adler, Mrs. Leader Feldman, Mrs. Frank Kohnovsky, Jack Frickler, Louis Adler, Frank Barad, Simon Cherev, A. Gurewitz and Mrs. Jacob Ernstoff.

It will be the biggest membership campaign that the Center has had in several years and has for its object to interest Jewish people in Providence in the work that the Center is doing by asking them to become active participants. The Center is offering an unusually varied group of activities for children, youths and adults. It sponsors more than twenty youth children clubs, religious schools with a registration of 220 children, a number of adult groups, gymnasium classes and a Sunday evening program of lectures and concerts which is recognized as an outstanding educational achievement.

Whole City Represented  
In its membership of over 1000 there are persons from all over the city and from all walks of life who realize the value of the Center as a unified Jewish communal agency. The campaign committee hopes to achieve its goal to add 400 new members.

The first report will be given Thursday evening, January 4, and will be followed by a meeting on Thursday, January 11, and a victory meeting Monday, January 15.

### Young Israel Unit Indorses Boycott

CHICAGO, (JTA) — An endorsement of the Jewish boycott of German goods was issued here at the closing session of the third annual convention of the Young Israel Unit, held at the Hotel La Salle last night. Speakers at the banquet which included the convention were: Isaac Nathan, president of the Young Israel Unit of Chicago; Moses Hoenig of New York, and Maurice Wolfson of Chicago, president of Young Israel.

### Mrs. Jacob Ernstoff



Chairman of Home for Aged Ladies Association Annual Meeting

### Home for Aged's Women's Unit to Choose Officers

Election of officers and reports covering the present year will feature the annual meeting of the Ladies Association of the Jewish Home for the Aged of Rhode Island next Wednesday at the orphanage in Hillside avenue.

In addition, there will be a program of entertainment and refreshments will be served. Mrs. Jacob Ernstoff is chairman of the arrangements committee and will be in charge of the tea and refreshments.

Annual reports will be received from Mrs. Harry Shatkin, president of the organization; and Mrs. L. Low, secretary, will read a consolidated report covering the activities of the following committees: administration, Mrs. Samuel N. Deutch; membership, Mrs. Samuel Gancer; home, Mrs. Morris Perry; auxiliary, Mrs. A. White; publicity, Mrs. Leo Logan; and financial secretary, Mrs. Milton Paley. Mrs. Leo Weiner, treasurer, will give her annual report.

Mrs. Ernstoff is being assisted in planning for the meeting by the board of directors who include Mrs. Charles Alexander, Mrs. Morris Berke, Mrs. N. Brown, Mrs. Samuel N. Deutch, Mrs. Jacob Ernstoff, Mrs. Harry Fisher, Samuel Gancer, Mrs. Harry Fisher, Mrs. Milton Paley, Mrs. Samuel Gancer, Mrs. Joseph Goldsmith, Mrs. J. Jerome Hahn, Mrs. Edward Hirsch, Mrs. David Kahnovsky, Mrs. Benjamin Kane, Mrs. Philip Koch, Mrs. Louis Linder, Mrs. Leo Logan, Mrs. Leader S. Low, Mrs. Samuel M. Berke, Mrs. Leon A. Marcus, Mrs. Frank Markowitch, Mrs. Leo Miller, Mrs. Samuel Newburger, Mrs. Samuel Paley, Mrs. Esther Fritzer, Mrs. William Robinson, Mrs. Ephraim Rosen, Mrs. Samuel Rosenfeld, Mrs. H. Rubin, Mrs. Gene Handwerker, Mrs. Harry Shatkin, Mrs. Morris Sheer, Mrs. Samuel Silverfeld, Mrs. Leader Singer, Mrs. A. J. Benjamin, Mrs. Benjamin Tuchman, Mrs. Leo Weiner, Mrs. Ignate Weiss, Mrs. Abraham White, Mrs. M. Wollo, Mrs. Isaac Wolf, and Mrs. Peter J. Wood.

and to a detailed report on the work of the National Council for Jewish Women's emergency Sabbath observance.

### DUCA'S TRIUMPH IS ACCLAIMED BY ROUMANIAN JEWS

"Iron Guard" and Other  
Anti-Semites Routed  
in Elections

### Disorders Mark Voting

BUCHAREST, (JTA) — The Liberal party headed by Premier Ion Duca, won an overwhelming victory in the Roumanian general election, early returns showed today.

The government, according to first returns, won 301 out of the 399 seats in the Chamber of Deputies, obtaining 54 per cent of the seats under the new electoral law. The total vote, however, will not be known for several days. Under the Roumanian law, the party obtaining 40 percent of the total vote, is automatically guaranteed two-thirds of the seats in parliament. Because of a heavy snow-fall, the vote was unusually slow.

Disorders Rife  
Election disorders were widely reported in Roumania. In Iaasy, Ibraila and Cserowitz, there were anti-Semitic disorders. Police made many arrests.

The anti-Semitic Iron Guard, which had been in flight or under arrest, was unable to put candidates in the field. However, they instructed anti-Semites to vote for the club headed by Professor Alexander Cuza. The anti-Semitic party received less than 5 percent of the vote.

Anti-Semites Defeated  
The state put in the field by Jewish groups was reported to have done well on the basis of incomplete returns.

The election of the Duca slate and the defeat of the anti-Semitic groups was widely hailed in Jewish quarters since the government headed by Dr. Duca is known to be friendly to Jews.

It is taken firm and effective steps to quell the activities of the Iron Guard, the Guletis and the Romanian Nazis. While it is generally understood that these measures were taken not only to protect the Jews, but because the anti-Semitic organizations are a threat to the Duca government, nevertheless Jews in Roumania have expressed the belief that their destinies were in safe hands with Dr. Duca.

### Beth Israel Plans Reunion of Alumni

A reunion of alumni, younger folks who at some time have been associated with the temple will feature tonight's program at Temple Beth-El. Rabbi Morris Schuchman announced today. More than 100 young men and young women have been confirmed at the Niagara street temple and many others are expected to attend.

Most of those confirmed since the conversion here, which was organized in 1921 have been under the supervision of Rabbi Schuchman, who has achieved a high reputation in the professions, in business and at college. With colleges and schools now closed for the mid-year vacation, it is expected many of those returning for the holidays will take part in the reunion.

### EARLY SETTLEMENT OF REICH PROBLEMS SEEN BY WEIZMANN

### Dr. Chaim Weizmann



Who Expressed Hope Problem of German Jews Will Be Settled

Says German Jews Will Be  
Half Present Number  
in Five Years

### Cites Palestine Gains

LONDON, (JTA) — German Jewry's position will be established shortly, in one way or another, Dr. Chaim Weizmann, former president of the World Zionist Congress, declared, and head of the Zionist commission for settling German-Jewish refugees in Palestine, declared in an address delivered before the conference of the British Zionist Federation, now in session here.

"Even hell has its limits," Dr. Weizmann said, pointing out that even if Germany were to expel all the Jews has been stabilized.

### Cites Emigration

"Within five or six years, German Jewry will be reduced to half its present number, and will perhaps be digested among sixty millions of Germans," Dr. Weizmann declared.

"One-third of the total Chalitzi (pioneer) immigration into Palestine is from Germany," the veteran Zionist leader pointed out. "Also more than one hundred tourists and capitalists enter Palestine from Germany each month. Assuming an annual emigration of twenty thousand German Jews, half will go to Palestine. The income to be expected for Palestine from various sources will be about one hundred and fifty thousand pounds annually and this will enable us to absorb 100,000 German refugees each year."

### Million Pounds Gain

"Should our campaign for two million pounds for the settlement of German-Jewish refugees prove successful, half going to Palestine and half to the rest of the world, Palestine will receive a million pounds in the next three years. And I can definitely prove that Palestine is capable of absorbing thirty-five thousand immigrants in the next three years."

"France cannot absorb twenty-five thousand refugees, but Palestine is absorbing thousands without needing or asking relief," Dr. Weizmann concluded.

Dr. Weizmann, British Zionist leader and member of the allocations committee, urged attending delegates to take the German-Jewish problem in a way that will encourage the German Jews to become better citizens elsewhere than believe that world Jewry will shoulder any burdens they impose on us. We must assume a long term attitude toward the German Jews," he said.

"The German question must be settled in the shortest time possible. We must have our hands free to face another emergency should arise."

"The declining birth rate among German Jews and the constant flow of immigration from Germany will reduce German Jewry, within a few years, to about two hundred and fifty thousand. Then the situation will probably be stabilized."

### A.E.Pi Convention Names Baruch to Governing Board

Morris Baruch of this city was named to the Supreme Board of Governors at the farewell banquet and election of officers of the Alpha Epsilon Pi national convention held Wednesday evening at the Baltimore.

The convales started Sunday morning at the college authorities and continued through Wednesday.

Among the guests at the banquet were Dr. Raymond G. Bressler, president of Rhode Island State College; Dr. William I. Machner, dean of Massachusetts State College, and Rabbi William G. Brande of Temple Beth-El.

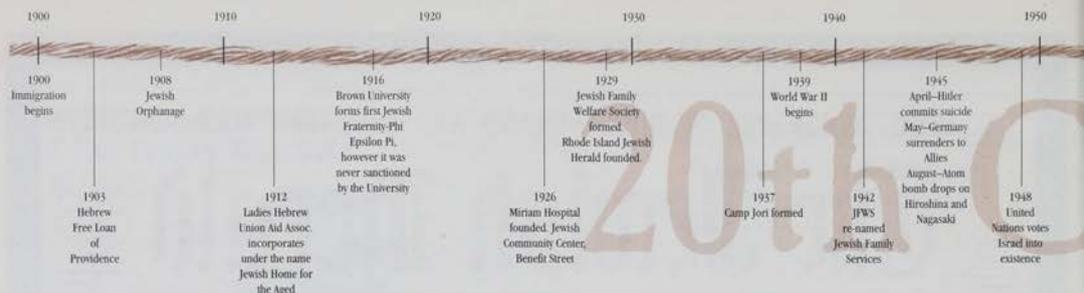
Both college presidents, in their addresses, emphasized the value of fraternity on the campus. Dr. Bressler emphasized that at Rhode Island State College such importance is attached to them that they are ranked by the college authorities. Dean Machner held that fraternities should try to solve, rather than the collection of themselves fall to offer.

Alexander L. Grossman of New York City, Morris H. Brown of Brooklyn, N. Y., Leon H. Traub of Philadelphia, and Joseph F. Fittz, Jr., Lester H. Block of Buffalo, N. Y., and Samuel H. Shapiro of Kansas, Kan.

### Membership Tablet Will Be Dedicated

The South Providence Hebrew Congregation of Willard Avenue will celebrate the dedication of a membership tablet with a banquet and entertainment Sunday evening in the Synagogue.

The toast will perpetuate the names of the members and officers and will be suspended in the hall of the Synagogue. Mr. Chesnick will be the toastmaster and the speakers will include Maxey Stone, president of the congregation, Alva Benndick, vice president, Frank Scollard, Harry Bressler, Samuel Mitchell, Ger-



## A Staple of the Jewish Community—Touro Synagogue

by Kimberly Ann Orlandi  
Herald Editor

Although built in 1763, Touro Synagogue, the nation's oldest synagogue, gained a new lease on life at the start of the

20th century. Founded by descendants of Sephardic Jews, the synagogue became a place of safe worship for the Jewish community—a place where they need not fear persecution because of their religious beliefs. But

when those families left Newport shortly after the Civil War because of dwindling economic opportunity in the seaside port, the synagogue fell into disrepair and was forced to close its doors. It wasn't until the early 1900s when the new wave of immigrants began arriving on Rhode Island's shores that the synagogue was reopened and in 1947 bestowed the high honor of having its name put on the National Historical Register. Today, whether a member of the Touro congregation or not, the synagogue has become a vital piece of both Jewish and American heritage.

"Touro is certainly part of the American Jewish experience, but it is also very much a part of the reason immigrants came to this country—religious freedom," said Bea Ross, executive director of The Society of Friends of Touro Synagogue.

In the beginning, they came for the same reasons. Puritans, Protestants, Catholics and Jews—religious freedom. Rhode Island was one of the few places in the colonies who welcomed minorities. The state's founding father, Roger Williams, along with John Clark and others invited religious and racial minorities to their new colony. Williams believed that it was more important that these immigrants believed in G-d—how they prayed was their own business.

"Touro has played an important role not only in Rhode Island history, society and culture, but in the history of our nation as well," said Ross. In letter after letter received over the years from Presidents Washington, Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy and Clinton the message is the same. ".....I trust through long centuries to come that the spirit of good will and tolerance will forever dominate the hearts and minds of the American people." — President Harry Truman on

the dedication of Touro as a national historic site. "It is not only the oldest synagogue in America but also one of the oldest symbols of liberty." —President Kennedy, on the occasion of the Bicentennial of the dedication of Touro (Sept. 15, 1963)

For Ross, who has become the caretaker for the synagogue, looking out of her office window, which sits directly across from Touro, she sees the 18th-century Georgian-style synagogue as "part of the founding of American Democracy." Ross says that the care of the synagogue is both an honor, privilege and tremendous responsibility. Within the coming years, the synagogue is planning a major renovation project, something that hasn't happened in half a century. (The project includes renovations to the synagogue, which includes addressing draining problems and bow in one of the supporting walls, as well as the establishment of a visitors bureau to be housed in two buildings directly in front of the synagogue.)

"It was why they came to America," said Ross of immigration, "to obtain religious freedom and civil liberties. "As we approach the next century, I can only hope that our role within the Jewish community strengthens and spills into that of all people who

desire to preserve our freedoms." Because of its unique history, Touro is sought after for funerals, weddings and bar mitzvas from local and out-of-town residents.

"It's beautiful at dusk," said Ross, "just as the sun is setting and reflecting off of the crystal chandelier. It's just beautiful."

Through an extensive schedule of year-round tours, Touro opens its doors to both Jews and non-Jews alike in an effort to educate everyone on Judaism, tolerance, and the synagogue's rich history. For Ross, one of the best ways to combat prejudice in general is to give people the knowledge they need about things they may not understand. Many who have visited the synagogue over the years have done so out of their curiosity about Judaism and also because of the stature of being named to the National Historic Registry brings to Touro, one of the most important things, according to Ross, that happened to Touro in the last century. "They all seem quite appreciative of receiving this new knowledge," said Ross of the thousands of visitors Touro receives, "and once you break down a barrier, you break down a prejudice."

Something to take with us into the next century.



Lasker Family - N.Y. Photo - ca 1907-1908. Top: Lottie L. Marks, Jean L. Golod, Eva Chesin. Second: Sophie Lasker (mother), Sophie's mother, Rose Lasker Soma, Hymber Lasker (father). Third down: Sam Lasker (became a marine), Jos. Lasker, Sarah Lasker, Meir Lasker (rabbi), Julius oldest child not in photo.



Sunday breakfast, March 25, 1945 at the Providence Jewish Community Center.

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1970

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Egypt signs a Peace  
Treaty at Camp  
David (Pres. Carter  
and Menachem  
Begin)1981  
Anwar Sadat  
assassinated1991  
Bruce  
Sundlum  
elected  
governor  
(to 1995)1993  
Israel and the  
PLO sign  
agreement of  
peace and  
mutual  
recognition1995  
Yitzak Rabin  
assassinated  
by Jewish  
extremist  
Jewish Home  
for the Aged  
closesMay 17, 1999  
Prime  
Minister Ehud  
Barak electedJuly 1999  
King  
Hussein of  
Jordan diesNov. 7, 1999  
Negotiations  
of peace  
between  
Israel and  
Palestinians  
opensDec. 15,  
1999  
Negotiations  
of possible  
peace  
between  
Israel and  
Syria open

# Century



Members of the Hebrew Free Loan Society, 1903.

## The Hebrew Free Loan Society No interest, no collateral

by Kimberly Ann Orlandi  
Herald Editor

When immigrants began to land on America's shores during the 1900s, the transition into a better life wasn't as easy as many thought it would be. Although many of the men were able to find work, there was an equal number who struggled to put food on their families' tables and clothes on their children's backs. They came with little in their pockets—a family heirloom, a piece of jewelry smuggled in their shoe. They arrived knowing little English and having few friends, but yet they seemed to make it—with the help of some generous Jewish philanthropists and local organizations.

It began in 1903 by a group of prominent Jewish business men who seemed to be always in demand when it came to soliciting a handout from those in need. On Feb. 4, the men, led by then chairman Samuel Priest, came together with one object in mind—to loan money, free of interest or charge, to any person in need of temporary aid. Thus, the Gemiluth Chesed Hebrew Free Loan Association of Providence was born.

For nearly 95 years, the Hebrew Free Loan Association has been a constant within the Jewish community—loaning money, interest-free and with no collateral, to those people who need to heat their homes, buy food, open a business or send a child to college. And in that time, the agency's role has changed little.

"You still have people who need short-term loans with no collateral who are strapped for cash and don't want to pay interest," said board member Suzanne Zucker.

What men like Priest, B. Flink, J. Feinstein, J. Kroll and others did was to give dignity to the immigrants coming into the state who were eager to work to fulfill the American dream, but found it difficult in the beginning to start their respective businesses.

"It might have been something as simple as a peddler needing money for a push

cart," said Zucker, "or money to buy coal or milk. Today, someone still needs money for heat. Still needs money to buy milk or something for a business. We haven't changed in 100 years."

Applying for a loan is relatively quick and painless—unlike at many financial institutions. Once an application is taken, one or two members of the board go out to interview the potential recipient, along with two co-signers, to insure that the financial need they are asking for is justified. Once that step is complete, and all of the paper work is in order the board votes on whether to award the person the loan. The loan is usually for a term of one year, and since the association doesn't charge interest, they rely on

the loans being paid back in a timely manner, along with members dues and donations from the community.

"There are three kinds of *mitzvahs* a person can perform," said Zucker. "The first is making a donation where the recipient and donor are both known. The second is when the donor is known but the recipient is not and the third and highest *mitzvah* one can perform is when the donor and recipient are both anonymous. That's what this organization is built on and why it will continue to flourish into the next century."

Thank You to Eleanor Horvitz and the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Society for their assistance and use of photographs in putting together this issue.



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# Happy Birthday Jewish Family Services!

## Celebrating 70 years of service in 1999

by Kimberly Ann Orlandi  
Herald Editor

What began 70 years ago as The Jewish Family Welfare Society—an agency which took care of the poor, distributed money and food to those in need, has today become one of the Jewish communities most important and central agencies—Jewish Family Services.

Today, JFS has taken on numerous roles within the community—from adoption and caring for the elderly to immigrant resettlement and counseling. Lifeline emergency response system for the elderly, and home care.

"One of the things we see today as a major issue within the community are the burgeoning problems of the elderly," said JFS Executive Director Paul Segal, who has seen many changes over his 27-year tenure. Over 70 percent of the agencies services are devoted to the elderly. That is quite different than in years past. As more and more reach the age of retirement, the elderly services at Jewish Family Services will be in demand, especially into the next century.

When men and women, families and friends, immigrated to the Rhode Island area during the early to mid 1900s, JFS was a vital link between the old and new world. In the beginning, the agency saw a great influx of immigrants from Russia, Germany and Poland, many of whom spoke little or no English. With the help of volunteers, part of the role JFS played was to help

immigrants better speak and understand the language, obtain job training and placement, find suitable housing and assist in the education of the children. With 70 years under their belt, their role has changed little. Today, according to Segal, many of the families coming into Rhode Island are Russian and have been sponsored by relatives who have been in the state for a while and who also speak the language. But during the early years, before family reunions, if an immigrant cellist, for example, came to this area from the Moscow Symphony, JFS would suggest that they relocate to either Boston or New York—cities where opportunities matched their background. Today, however, much of the immigration is family reunions.

"There are some who speak English but by and large most have little or no English background," said Segal. "Our goal is to get them indoctrinated into English, which leads, ultimately, to employment and/or school."

One of the things, according to Segal, that many of the immigrants find disheartening is the fact that when they arrive in the United States as a doctor or lawyer from their native countries, they may not be looked upon as so in the states. Another obstacle to overcome is something we, as Americans, call "upward mobility." For most of us, the first job we take is not the one in which we will spend the rest of our lives—we are always striving to move up the corporate ladder. That, according to Segal, is a

concept foreign to these immigrants. In their respective countries, when one found a job it was theirs for life!

It is estimated that there are between 10 and 13 Soviet immigrants currently living in Rhode Island—a drop over the last several years. On average, JFS sees about 30 immigrants petitioning for residency per year. At the peak, during the 1970s, JFS was averaging 180 immigrants. But, with the current situation in Russia, it is difficult to predict just how many Russian immigrants will be coming into the area in the next century.

"None of us know what is going to happen in the Soviet Union and that's the problem. Economically and politically, the climate changes daily. Many of the families have already gotten out and have relocated to Israel and Canada," said Segal.

The success of Jewish Family Services, is based, in part, on immigrants. Families coming into the state searching for both religious and political freedom, much like Segal's family. For that reason, Segal regards immigration as one of the most important events of the last century with regard to the Jewish community.

"A staunch work ethic, the desire to educate their families and give them the opportunities many of them did not have—that's what this country and especially this state is based upon. If it wasn't for the immigrant population, many of us wouldn't be here," said Segal.

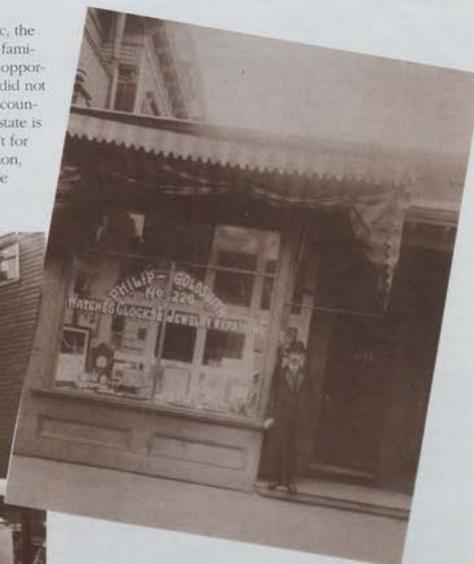


Goldsmith Pharmacy, 36 Camp Street, Providence.



PARADE STREET FACILITY - 1926-1952

Miriam Hospital, Parade Street (1926 to 1952)



Left: Willard Avenue, looking east, circa 1947. Appearing in the photo are Perler's Bakery on the left (No. 207) and on the opposite side of the street, from right to left, Louis Beviner, grocer (No. 214); N.Y. Delicatessen and Public Model Creamery (No. 205); Jewett's Creamery (No. 204); Bazarsky's Meat Market (No. 202); Suel's Bakery (No. 200); Harry's Fruit Market (No. 198); Spiegler's Meat and Poultry (No. 190); Keller's Meat Market (No. 184); and Samuel Beviner's Meats (No. 182).



## Census 2000 — Make Yourself Count

*With a Focus on Minorities, the Census Will Also Open Up Job Opportunities*

by Luke O'Neill  
Community Reporter

The grand opening of the Providence Local Census Office at 222 West Exchange St. took place on Dec. 23, marking the 100 days until Census Day 2000 on April 1. The building, 8,700 square feet and once a factory, is the new home to the census bureau established in September.

At last week's opening, several government officials urged Rhode Islanders to step forward and be counted because an accurate census count will be used to allocate \$185 billion annually in federal and state funding. The financial aid provides funding for education, housing, transportation and health care for the next 10 years.

The national census, recorded every ten years, is also used to redistribute congressional seats and determine congressional districts.

The 1990 census counted 1,003,500 Rhode Islanders. However, many said the numbers were not accurate because of the under-counting of minorities. Among the reasons for the miscalculations are language barriers and cultural differences. Many U.S. immigrants may have come from countries where it was dangerous to partake in a census since information would be used against them.

Matt Leporacci, manager of the Providence LCO, and others emphasized that the U.S. census is always taken in strict confidentiality and it is against the law for anyone to breach this trust. Up to five years in prison and \$5,000 in fines are the penalties for anyone breaking this privacy law. Leporacci also said the census, taken since 1790 and started by Thomas Jefferson, "has never had a breach of confidentiality."

"This is the first time that the census has reached out so strongly to populations of color," said Darrell Waldron, executive director of R.I. Indian Council.

In the 1990 census, Asians were under-counted by 2.3 per-

cent; African Americans by 4.4 percent; Native Americans by 4.5 percent; and Hispanics by 5 percent.

"We're not interested in whether someone's a citizen or not," said Leporacci, "we just want to know if they're living here."

In the last census in 1990, the United States totaled a population of 248,709,873 (excluding Puerto Rico), an increase of more than 22 million persons from 1980. The expected census total for 2000 is 274 million.

"That's what the census is all about — numbers," said Arthur Dukakis, regional director of the U.S. Bureau of the Census. "And we need numbers so that our government can distribute funds to local governments, to cities, to states and to towns based on population," he said.

"Let's make sure that Rhode Island stands tall and gets every single penny that we deserve in the next 10 years from the federal government," said Lt. Gov. Charles Fogarty of the census.

Census questionnaires will be sent out to households across the country in mid-March. The census questionnaires, consisting of the shortest form in 180 years, asks questions of gender, race, age and if the house is owned or rented. The short form will be distributed to 83 percent of America's houses. A longer form, sent to one of six houses, will ask questions of education, employment, ancestry and disabilities among other things.

From April to June of 2000, census takers will visit houses across the nation that did not return census forms. The field work is expected to be completed by the end of 2000.

Asked about the homeless population, Leporacci said the census bureau will conduct a "T-night" where census takers are sent out between 4 and 7 a.m. to count as many transient and homeless persons as possible.

"Everyone deserves to be counted...our whole goal is to get as accurate and complete a

count in this country as possible," Leporacci said.

U.S. Sen. Robert Weygand stressed the importance of funding from the federal government for education, affordable housing and congressional representation. If Rhode Island's population figures fall below 950,000, the state will lose one representative in Congress.

"It pays to be counted," said Mayor Vincent A. Cianci, Jr., "we can't afford to have any segment of our population omitted." The mayor called the census a "methodical, organized effort" with an emphasis on confidentiality.

"The stakes are too high for our city to be undercounted," Cianci said.

According to Leporacci, Census 2000, the 22nd census overall, is the first time the federal government has hired a professional advertising agency to present ads. About \$166 million was invested in national advertisements "in an effort to reach virtually every group imaginable in this country," said Leporacci.

"The census gives us an opportunity to count everyone equally," said Victor Capellan, executive director of the Center for Hispanic Policy and Advocacy. Capellan said the census is a responsibility to eliminate past under-counting that not only affects minority communities, but also the entire state.

Hundreds of temporary jobs will be available in the Providence and Warwick census offices for those who wish to help in the coming months. People may work 20 to 40 hours a week with a \$9.75 to \$12.75 hourly rate of pay depending on location and office.

Potential employees, who must be 18 years old or older, are required to complete a 28 multiple-choice questionnaire that will ask basic questions — reading, math, and map-reading skills. The 30-minute test can be retaken if failed and is also available in Spanish.

Employment is also available for those ages 16 and 17 for non-driving positions.



A MAN POSES as former president Thomas Jefferson at last week's census gathering. Jefferson implemented the first constitutionally mandated census in 1790. Herald photos by Luke O'Neill

The Providence and Warwick census offices are expected to hire a combined 1,400 people for the census taking. To inquire about job opportunities, call the Providence office at 553-2010 or the Warwick office at 734-5832.

Members of the census bureau underscored the importance of employing familiar neighborhood faces including minorities to span the entire

country to get an accurate count. The census is the largest peace time operation by the federal government.

R.I. Sen. Charles Walton called the census the state's "best last chance" to have the federal government recognize Rhode Island's growth.

"If we don't stand up this time and be counted," said Walton, "we only have ourselves to blame."

### Automotive-Related Y2K Issues

*Will Motor Vehicles be Affected by The Y2K Bug?*

The in-car electronics used to manage everything from electronic ignition, vehicle emissions, air bags and stereo systems will not be disabled by Y2K problems. These systems have microprocessors that are not date-sensitive. Auto manufacturers are confident their cars will not be affected.

### Will AAA be Able to Respond to Roadside Calls For Help?

As long as local communications networks are functioning and motorists are able to place a telephone call, AAA will be able to respond to requests for help. AAA telecommunications centers have contingency plans which allow them to route phone calls to other AAA phone centers should they lose electric power or phone service. AAA's network of tow trucks rely primarily on radio voice communications which do not have date-sensitive microprocessors.

### Will Gasoline be Available?

The energy industry has indicated that it is largely Y2K compliant in reports to the federal government. There is no reason to suspect that gasoline shipments or supplies will diminish due to Y2K issues. A local loss of electrical power at gasoline stations would prevent the pumping of gasoline and processing of credit cards, however, so it is a good idea to have at least half a tank of gasoline in your vehicle on Dec. 31, as well as enough cash to fill the tank if necessary.

### Will Traffic Management Systems be Operational?

It is difficult to know whether the systems that control traffic lights and other signals have been made Y2K compliant in all areas. Should a local outage occur, authorities can manually direct traffic, if necessary.

### What Steps Should Motorists Take to Prepare For The Year 2000 Conversion?

In general, motorists should prepare for Y2K as they would an approaching weather emergency. Keeping some gasoline in the car, having enough cash to buy a tank of fuel, and taking care of needed vehicle maintenance are common-sense preparations.



MAYOR VINCENT A. CIANCI, JR. and local representatives cut the red ribbon, officially opening the Providence Local Census Office at 222 West Exchange St.

## FEATURE



## Wrapping Souvenirs

by Mike Fink  
Herald Contributing Reporter

I was just getting used to the 20th century. We're leaving it behind like the corridors and hallways of a familiar school. Instead of resolutions for the seasons ahead white and fresh as snow, I count regrets and list losses among the gains. Conservative by nature and slow to change, I was born homesick for the olden days.

Buggies go better than motorcars, with their stately pace and dignified clatter of hoof and wheel. Carrier pigeons and pony express hand over your message in pen and ink with more style and charm than the silent zap of E mail. The decade of my start in life was the time when the high hopes of the flapper and speakeasy era had come crashing down. My mother's tiara and beaded dancing shoes went up in the attic. My grandfather's chair factory was ailing and getting ready to close its doors.

The Depression at least gave artists, poets, scholars, and gardeners worthwhile things to do. Along came the Hurricane like a giant to blow down that deck of dreams. "The only thing we have to fear is fear," FDR told us. My boyhood fear was just that, nameless and unreasoning, seeping into nightmares and street alleys as War came to America.

For us as Jews, that unspeakable horror leaves us only the legacy of loyalty, each lost soul like a blessed *dubukh* within our own. But a child oceans away from the fires of battle and murder could at least mark the line between liberty and tyranny.

I recall the eve of New Year, 1950. Magazines hailed the fabulous '50s as a boomtime for building, buying, bonding with family and neighbor. I held a contrary view of the spell of my youth. In debate, I argued against the House Un-American Activities Committee, the execution of the Rosenbergs, not to mention the cutting through of highways as the tenements of our grandparents were betrayed and torn down. Sure, it was fun to get a job, a date, a license, but the dim light and mind of television and the clamor of a mindless marketplace struck me as shifty and stifling. Instead of admiring the gimmicks of cinemascope and stereophonic sound, I looked

backward at the things left behind in their wake. Dietrich's wartime lyrics, the spirit and sparkle of the scripts of films of the duration spoke eloquent words.

By 1960 I was working for an ad agency that turned out copy



A wall in Washington with a line from FDR

for the Kennedy campaign and fashion look. We made much of Jackie's turned back pillbox hat, and of Jack's hatless windblown look. But the celebration of new energy couldn't turn me on like the glimpse of Robert Frost at the inaugural, and the reminders of great classy figures like Adlai Stevenson, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Harry Truman, whose rather eccentric trademarks called out to me more clearly than chic and slogan.

By 1970 my nostalgia had translated into practical affairs and matters. I was setting up my own world and the ingredients were my heirlooms. I furnished my homes with the chairs my grandfather had manufactured and my father and uncle had upholstered. The city of Providence was restoring its masterpieces and so was I, framing family pictures, gathering forgotten and forsaken fixtures, furnishings, figurines, teacups and treasures. In the '80s my son came along, and I named him for Raoul Wallenberg, the tragic hero of the '40s, savior of the bodies and souls of the Hungarian Jews. The urge to bring things together carried me from recycling to recounting.

By 1991 I was writing stories among these pages. I live for each precious moment of every day, but I connect today with

yesterday as it is reborn and recharged with the telling.

If you run out of tomorrows, then others must come along and carry the torch of *zachor*, of *yahrtzeit*, of stories through winter. Somebody has to keep a file on the trees in your block, the autograph book of your school days, your family album, the headlines that imprint your generation, the tales the tongue tells of your fellow travelers in fate.

We turn a heavy page tomorrow night, as a hundred, a thousand, two thousand years go by since we took our silver candlesticks from Jerusalem to Rome in chains, walked across Europe

## Yet To Be

by Mike Fink  
Herald Contributing Reporter

"Grow old along with me," penned Robert Browning in his poetic portrait of Rabbi Ben Ezra, promising that "the best is yet to be." Summer sundials sometimes take a quote from those gentle lyrics.

On this last shabbat of the Roman millennium, the mind wanders over the years like a small white butterfly over a sunny meadow, or a soft moth in the moonlight. Yiddish as a mama-loshn dates back a thousand years. The Touro, a shrine synagogue of the Enlightenment, goes only to the birth of the American chapter of Jewish history. The current century ticking away over this weekend was touted as the era when "you can't hold up the wheels of progress," in my father's favorite phrase.

The 20th century, proud of its trains and planes, its tall towers and marvelous movies, brought the most shameful and savage bloodbaths, polluting the rivers of Europe with our ashes, a sacred silt in air, soil, water, and fire.

More personally, my family, like many in our community, had left the Ashkenazic region and moved westward to the realms of the English language. Whitechapel in London, Montreal, Quebec in Canada, Providence, R.I., in New England, here in the United States of America. I belong to this hundred year metamorphosis.

"For which the first was made," wrote Browning about the past and future, youth and age.

For my recent birthday, my wife bought me a new timepiece. She once gave me a wind-up, antique pocket clock on a chain, but we're all too busy to turn and twist that dial



in the classic gesture. We rely on the trusty battery. My Danish model, slim and silvery like a full, chill winter's moon, suits me perfectly. It has no second hand and no cluttered and complicated extra dials and frills. It just marks the hours that go by, quietly, smoothly, sleekly, and tells time and its tales. We're a moon people, we Jews.

A colleague phoned me early in the morning to ask me what Jews think about the millennium. If our spiritual world is beyond five thousand years old, not a mere two thousand, what happened to start the watch up and at em? Was it Eden, the Flood, or the Temple?

About Y2K, my little wristwatch at my pulse whispers, take it slow, let it pass, just keep on going.

## Travel Through Torah

by Mike Fink  
Herald Contributing Reporter

Our Torah isn't a collection of fables with easy ethical endings to each episode. I pick up my Koren edition of the Jerusalem Bible and find everything from novels to filmscripts worthy of Paramount epics, from landscape poetry to existential drama of the absurd, pagan poems and pet columns, travelogues, architectural plans and battle diaries like Eric Pyle's. I get into some *Isuris* for the scrolls I dig out from my readings in the Book.

The other afternoon I was looking through Ezekiel, spelled *Yehezquel* in Koren, and ran into the troubled account of a pair of sisters named Ahola and Aholiva. Unlike the Woman of Valor in Proverbs, these daughters of the same mother brought *shanda* not *nachis* one worse than the other.

Get this. Ahola looked at the "charming young men" among her neighbors, "captains clothed with blue and riding upon horses," like centaurs. She "doted upon them," particularly if they wore "gorgeous vermilion girdles and flowing turbans." If this Ahola saw their images portrayed upon walls, she sent messages to them and greeted them as "paramours." She painted her eyes and decked herself with ornaments. Her sister Aholiva



Read at your own risk.

Herald photos by Mike Fink

went even further in sin. She wore bracelets and crowns and welcomed guests upon a "stately bed."

Don't these passages bring back the tone of voice-over by Cecil B. DeMille, who mixed spectacle and sermon, his own smug version of Hollywood itself, in big shows like "David and Bathsheba," "Samson and Delilah," "Solomon and Sheba," and both a silent and a talkie "Ten Commandments?"

Elie Wiesel sees all the biblical portraits as ancient, ancestral predictions of the Holocaust, the Divinity that shapes our ends. Isaac B. Singer regards the Five Books of Moses the way Shakespeare viewed Elizabeth

than dramatists, sources with material for his own sonnets, sonnets, soliloquies.

As for Ahola and Aholiva, they came to a bad end, those sisters, the same sad, dark destiny as Cinderella's vain siblings. But they have their day in the sun, at court, like the movie stars of the silent era. Midrashim make meanings and messages from their cruel punishment. The Sabbath sojourner on an afternoon tour through the text will find adventure, romance, exotic passages in green mansions, and footholds of fate.

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## A Look Back

by Harry Kolodny

This publication has invited comments with regard to two questions. First, "What were the most important events of the 20th century that shaped and influenced Jewish life?" Second, "Who were the Jewish faces who made the greatest contributions to both American and Jewish societies?"

It is somewhat difficult to write of the second question. There were so many names of individuals, men and women alike, who made many contributions to our society. It would be a rather hopeless task to either name them all or inadvertently omit several important names.

A reply to question one is a virtually simple task. At the onset of the 20th century, and quite probably in the late years of the 19th century, there came a huge and tremendous exodus from Eastern Europe by the Jewish people, who emigrated to this country to seek a better life — immune from the suffering and blatant anti-Semitism endured in their home countries.

The most important issue facing these people at that time was to implant and observe the four tenets of true Judaism. The establishment of a synagogue, a cemetery, a home for the aged and a hospital.

The early synagogues were first established within private homes, later small buildings as independent houses of worship. The people were somewhat clannish in religious matters, resulting in buildings by Latvian immigrants, Galicians, Polish Jews and those of the Ukraine who were designated as Russian Jews. They were all former inhabitants of the coun-

tries which comprised the Soviet Union.

They were also poor. Well into the 20th century, one rabbi, employed at near starvation wages, would act as spiritual leader for as many as five synagogue congregations.

At this time, they all banded together and with nickel and dime contributions, aided by the many lodges and organizations established during that period, purchased a small piece of land in Warwick which has since grown into the beautiful, well-kept cemetery — Lincoln Park. From there, they went on to establish a Jewish Home for the Aged, a three-story house on Orms Street in Providence, with a small adjacent cottage.

The cottage was the home of a young widow with two small children. She was the only person who ran the home in its entirety. This Jewish Home remained at this station until the latter half of the first quarter century, when a Jewish home was built on Hillside Avenue, Providence. This remained as such until the early 1990s when, unfortunately, it was closed and the aged residents were dispersed to several secular homes within this and adjacent areas.

Next, within this period of time, again with small donations, a tall shabby building was purchased on Parade Street, Providence, and inaugurated the Miriam Hospital.

After several years, a new and grand Miriam was built on the East Side in the lot of the Jewish Orphanage, the building town down to allow the hospital to be built in that space. The Jewish Orphanage, also built in those early years, served an invaluable service, until methods more

modern were formulated to care for the orphans of that period.

Also, within this period of time, a building was obtained on Benefit Street, Providence, which became the Jewish Community Center — the forerunner of the beautiful and highly efficient present day Jewish Community Center, at the corners of Elm Grove Avenue and Sessions Street, Providence. This modern establishment is also the home of a Holocaust Museum, a valuable asset to the entire population of this area.

Further, Rhode Island Meals on Wheels, Inc., a secular and non-profit organization, has furnished daily hot meals over the past 30 years as well as providing kosher meals to mealsites, private homes, federal supported units, as well as to residents of nursing homes. The kosher meals were gathered and delivered each day by the devotion and dedication of the staff and volunteers of the modern Jewish Community Center.

The original Community Center featured a gymnasium for all types of athletics and other physical events. It sponsored lectures, individual small clubs were formed and the end of Yom Kippur day featured a highly successful dance, first in the center gym, and in later years at the Arcadia Ballroom on Washington Street, Providence. It was a complete center for Jewish educational and social programs.

Also, in this part of the century, the Jewish people purchased a three-story house on the corner of Jefferson and Orms street, Providence. This was designated as a temporary home for itinerant Jews, affectionately known as "Jewish hobos." These were the wandering Jews who



ORIGINAL ORPHANAGE BEFORE RENOVATION

Photo courtesy of the R.I. Jewish Historical Society

had no homes and traveled throughout the country consistently. Usually they were highly religious individuals, who reported each day to various synagogues for services.

Dedicated women ran this house, where the guests would stay for possibly a week to 10 days at no charge. During that time they would be well fed and housed, medically advised, clothed, laundered and cleaned and sent on his way. The custom of depositing coins in a *pushka* at early morning services was established and the coins collected were given to the traveler. The *pushka* is still very common in many synagogues, the money now utilized for chapel needs.

Another feature was the many Hebrew schools established in various parts of the city and state. The most prodigious was the Talmud Torah at the Congregation Sons of Zion at the corner of Orms and Charles streets, the present site of the Marriott Hotel.

The classes met after school and on Sunday morning and were generally of two-hour duration. They provided a solid education in Hebrew and Torah although the methods of teaching were the old ways utilized for centuries, learning by rote.

The Jewish community, in the

first half of the century, continued as a sort of closed society. No Jew was ever in want of food, clothing or shelter, as well as help for educational purposes.

Following the conclusion of World War II, there was evoked a complete change. The small shul, usually with 100 or so members, was engulfed by the several large temples with members of between 1,200 or 1,500 families.

And so we come to the conclusion of this century and we Jews can look back with pride at our accomplishments, in war and in peace. We produced competent professional people in the arts, in business and in politics, a great asset to this country and there is no reason to believe we shall not continue as such in the coming century.

It might be fitting to conclude with the age-old blessing recited so many times each year in our religious institutions and in the family life within Jewish homes.

Boroch Ahtav Adonai elohayno melech haw-olam, she-che-yaw-noo o'k-maw-noo v' hige-awnoo laz-mah-zeh.

"Blessed art thou, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe who has given us life, sustained us and enabled us to reach this season."

Harry Kolodny is a resident of Pawtucket.

## New Yeshiva to Train Modern Orthodox Rabbis

Yeshivat Chovevei Torah, a new Modern Orthodox yeshiva located near Columbia University, will begin training students for the rabbinic next September, according to Rabbi Avi Weiss, dean of the yeshiva and spiritual leader of the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale. "The mission of the new rabbinic program," said Rabbi Weiss, "will be to train men to enter professionally into Jewish religious leadership, so as to shape the spiritual and intellectual character of the Jewish community in consonance with modern, open Orthodox values and commitments."

The yeshiva will offer a full-time course of study over four years, one of which will be spent in Israel. The program

will provide students with the intellectual, spiritual and communal training to become successful rabbis. Students will be prepared to meet the high standards of ordination tests given by the Chief Rabbi of Israel. The yeshiva will admit up to 10 students a year, each of whom will receive a full remission of tuition and a substantial stipend. In return, these students will make a commitment to serve in the rabbinic for a minimum of three years after completing the program. Registration for the rabbinical school will commence Jan. 17, 2000.

The rabbinical school is a natural outgrowth of the highly successful Yeshivat Chovevei

Torah Undergraduate Program. This program, directed by Rabbi Dov Weiss, opened in September 1999. In its first semester it has attracted 50 students, mainly from Columbia University and Barnard College. Students involved in this program commit 2 1/2 hours each day to serious Torah study. Rabbi Weiss is a past rabbinic intern of the Jewish Center of Manhattan, and a former Wexner Graduate Fellow.

Yeshivat Chovevei Torah is located at Congregation Ramoth Orah, 550 West 110th St. in New York City. Persons interested in registration or further information should contact the yeshiva's office at (212) 666-0036.



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## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

# What Does a Broadway Company Manager Do?

by Kimberly Ann Orlandi  
Herald Editor

That's exactly what I wanted to know. So I went directly to the source. I asked Alan Ross Koshier, the company manager for the touring company of "Beauty and the Beast," which will be at the Providence Performing Arts Center playing Jan. 4 through 16, just what his job entails.

So, what exactly is a company manager?

"Basically," said Koshier, "I am the producer's representative with the venue. I make sure that the producer gets his money and in the same vein, I also make sure that the 71 members of the company get their money from the producer." Let's just think that's all there is to this often 80-hour-a-week responsibility. As the company manager, Koshier makes sure that his talent and crew have hotels to stay in, transportation if needed, any special needs, desires or requirements. Koshier sees that they are all catered to—despite any occasional personality clashes. In a nutshell, he makes sure that the whole production runs as smoothly as possible. "In Providence, for example, I'll sit down with the theater's representative for settlement at the end of the

night and he'll give me all of the bills they've incurred along with all of their advertising bills for the performance. We'll go over everything one by one. Every now and then I'll get a strange bill for something that wasn't agreed upon, and that's when you may or may not have a discussion over it. One of the benefits of working for Disney is that they are a detail-oriented company with great resources."

Do you ever get any time off?

"Yes. If there is something I want to see in a particular city I'm in I'll work my schedule as such. I do have an assistant who helps a great deal. During the day I do most of my communications, and interviews, and at night I'm at the theater. Most of my work takes place before and after the show so it gives me time to sit in the back of the theater and watch the audience's reaction to the performance. That's what makes it all worthwhile."

Does dealing with so many different people at one time try your patience?

"Sure, everyone has a "unique" personality, myself included, but the trick to keeping everything on track is working through any of those conflicts and that's something I've been able to successfully accomplish over my 20 years in the business," said Koshier.

It must be nice after all of those years to be asked by Disney to be a part of their family?

"It's nice to know that people know who I am and they are familiar with and respectful of the way I work," said Koshier. "When I started out I was like everyone else, just trying to make a name for myself."

How did you get into the business?

"I began in summer theater in Philadelphia," said Koshier, "after I graduated from Temple with a bachelor's of art in theater management." Although his schooling gave him a solid foundation on which to build his career, Koshier says that there is no course of study which can prepare you for a job like his. "It's a lot of on-the-job training, watching, asking questions and learning patience."

It must be difficult on personal and family relationships being on the road so much?

"Yes, there were times when I would miss a wedding or bat mitzvah, and that was tough. But I've come to a point in my career where I am able to work out my schedule so that I am home in Philadelphia for important family events and holidays. Being on the road has taught me one thing—who my real friends were."

Would you ever give it up?



JOHN ALBAN COUGHLAND (*Cogsworth*) in the Third National Touring company of Disney's "Beauty and the Beast."

Photo by Joan Marcus

"No," he said emphatically. "I love it too much. I'm a very spoiled person. I've been on the road for 20 years and I love hotel living. Having everything catered to me and never having to do my own laundry," he said with a chuckle.

"Beauty and the Beast," which opened in Tulsa, Okla., on Rosh Hashanah, is the production's third touring company. The 71 people it takes to bring such an elaborate production to the stage includes actors, technicians, management, costumers and set designers.

This production of "Beauty and the Beast" seems to lend itself well to being translated into a Broadway musical. But, is it different than the movie version?

"Sure, because the action is right there in front of you, although the story is the same. When you see it on the screen or in your living room it isn't as personal as seeing Belle's beautiful dress up close or watching the interaction between Belle

and the Beast, and this isn't just a story for youngsters. It's a wonderfully human love story that doesn't depend upon the actress, like "Miss Saigon" or "The Phantom of the Opera" to entertain. This is a perfect first experience for a novice theatergoer and a fun first date."

Does the fact that this is a Disney production lend anything to the performance?

"I'm sure that some people will come to see the show because of the name "Disney" and that's fine. Producers like Disney do have a name to live up to and people expect first-rate, quality entertainment from them. That's why the sets were redesigned to accommodate theaters and costumes were duplicated from original movie designs. We are sticklers for detail."

But with all of that usually comes a high ticket price doesn't it?

"Yes, there is no argument that the theater is expensive, but what isn't? It's a question of motivation, not afford ability."

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## SheshBesh Debuts at Boston's First Night

The talented Israeli musical ensemble SheshBesh will participate in First Night Boston 2000 celebrations. Presented by the Consulate General of Israel to New England, SheshBesh will perform two concerts at the Castle at Park Plaza on Jan. 1 at 9 p.m. and then again at 10:30 p.m.

SheshBesh draws its inspiration from Sephardic Jewish musical traditions and oriental folk melodies from Morocco, Iraq, and Uzbekistan. Israeli composers with ethnic and classical music backgrounds have expertly arranged the group's unique sound, a fusion of East and West.

SheshBesh includes: Yossi Arnheim, principal flutist of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra; Tomer Yaviv, principal percussionist in the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra during the 1990s; Yair Dalal, a leading artist in Israel's ethnic music scene; and Amir Massarik, performing on double bass.

You are invited to celebrate New Year's 2000 and enjoy SheshBesh's American premiere. Individuals are requested to show their First Night buttons for admission.

## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT



## A Camera's Perspective Of Israeli Life

by Luke O'Neill  
Community Reporter

Lev Poplow, a local photographer and Philadelphia native, is showing his photo exhibit at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island Arts Center Gallery 401. The exhibit, "Perspective: Images of Israel," hangs from Jan. 3 to Jan. 31 with a special opening night gala Jan. 6 from 5 to 8.

Poplow, 37, tried to capture how people see and perceive different aspects of society during his six-week trip to Israel this past summer. In his first three weeks, he accompanied 20 other people on the trip organized by the Bureau of Jewish Education for Hebrew educators. The group returned after the three weeks, but Poplow stayed three more weeks, when many of his photographs were taken.

"I went [to Israel] with an open heart and an open mind to see what I saw and photograph whatever grabbed me emotionally, because I'm much more of an intuitive type of photographer," Poplow said in a phone interview.

The exhibit, consisting of 35 to 40 black and white pictures, adopts a documentary form of presentation as it focuses on the idea of iconography. Spending all of July and the first two weeks of August in Israel,

Poplow said the trip served two purposes — an educational tool and a photo project.

Poplow, a teacher of Hebrew and Israel and Jewish life cycles at Temple Beth-El, Providence, said the idea behind the photo exhibit "is really to show as much as possible and as many different perspectives and as much perspective as possible," from Israel.

He admitted to being a slave to the corporate world for much of his life. He held down good jobs and made decent pay, "but was never happy."

"Now I'm poor, but I'm happy," joked Poplow of his artistic pursuits.

Poplow ventured into the photography world in March of 1998. Even though he is still quite new to the photography landscape, his work has been shown in seven different group shows at various galleries. Poplow already had solo shows by September of last year at three different galleries. The January exhibit will also be a solo presentation consisting mostly of 8 x 10 photographs at Gallery 401, southern New England's acclaimed Jewish art gallery at the JCCRI.

"I'm hoping the show will answer some questions and raise some questions, will spark some curiosity, hopefully will create dialogue between differ-



"Preparing for Shabbat"—a photograph by Lev Poplow on his six-week trip to Israel. The photograph will be part of his larger exhibit, "Perspective: Images of Israel," at Gallery 401 in January.

Photo courtesy of JCCRI

ent communities as time goes by," Poplow said. By speaking through his photographs, Poplow is "hoping to bring [the exhibit] to larger communities."

After attending Syracuse University, Poplow found himself in the business realm. "I spent all those years in the corporate world, I really never pur-

sued anything creatively. But when I left that world and I began to really go in search of who I really am and what I really care about, I came to realize that the idea of being creative was something I really wanted to pursue," he said.

Poplow also experiments with sculptures, painting, ce-

ramics and occasional glass-blowing.

After moving to Providence in 1985, Poplow eventually broke off his corporate shackles to pursue a personal happiness that many people nowadays only long for.

"Everything I do is something I have passion for," said Poplow.

## When The World Was New

(Continued from Page 5)

scribes it, "it was almost as if Mother had the foresight to get them out before anything happened." Her mother only made one trip back to introduce her children to their grandparents; she vowed never to return. Ethel, although she did travel to Europe many times throughout her life, has never visited either Poland or Russia. The memories, said Ethel, are just too painful. But for this daughter of immigrants, growing up in America, and in particular New York City, was a childhood made in heaven.

A tailor by trade, her father worked in a factory until the day when he owned a small factory of his own. He later opened a tailor shop where he repaired and made clothing. Her mother worked when she first arrived in New York but later remained at home with her children once they were born.

"She was a wonderful woman," said Ethel of her mother. "And that seems to be something she instilled in me growing up, the importance of family." Ethel's daughter today jokes with her mother how

"gram raised two generations of worriers."

Ethel recalls her younger days in Brooklyn and Queens with fondness. She grew up in a strictly Jewish neighborhood of Brooklyn until moving to Queens where the neighborhood became more ethnically diverse. Her daughter was born during the height of the depression, 1929; her son, Ira, now a professor and head of the psychology department at the University of Rhode Island, was born in 1943. But even during the darkest of days, Ethel says her life in New York during those years was the most gratifying.

"We were fortunate. My hus-

band took work wherever he ethel. "It's wonderful to watch the annual Macy's Thanksgiving parade because Moe would help them blow up the giant balloons every year."

Listening to the memories she recites is like turning the pages of a history book, with one exception—they're filled with personal experiences and feelings. She remembers, as a child, watching women on the streets cry with any image or mention of the war [World War II]. Not understanding why they were crying, she asked her mother. "They are worried because their husbands and children are overseas in the war."

the matriarch replied. "That was my first real understanding of what it meant to go to war," said Ethel.

The bygone days of yesterday are now but fuzzy, grey images relegated to the depths of Ethel's memories until prodded by an inquisitive soul such as myself. She lives her days grateful for the times she has had and the family she has raised. She speaks of her two grandsons, one an attorney in

Manhattan, the other an architect/engineer living close by in Wakefield, with great admiration. At 92, she also has two great-grandchildren, one 4 the other almost 2, for whom she thanks the L-rd every day.

"I am just fortunate to have lived as long as I have and have been able to see my family grow up. I never thought I'd live this long," she said honestly. "Everyone else in my family died at young ages. I am very thankful."

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# OBITUARIES



## CHARLES M. BROWDY WELLINGTON,

Fla. — Charles M. Browdy, former owner-director for 29 years of Camp Mar-Lin in Windsor, Conn., died Dec. 19 in West Palm Beach, Fla.

He lived in West Hartford, Conn., for 50 years and was a former member of Temple Beth Israel of West Hartford.

Born in Holyoke, Mass., he was a graduate of Springfield College and the New York School of Social Work. A veteran of World War II, he participated in the Anzio Beach Head invasion, receiving a Bronze Star in addition to other honors. His tours of duty included assignments as a psychiatric social worker, supervisor of group psychotherapy, and faculty member of the School of Military Neuro-Psychiatry at Mason General Hospital in Brentwood, Long Island, N.Y. He was instrumental in setting up group work therapy used today in veterans' hospitals.

For three years during college, Browdy was the director of activities at the Community Center in Springfield, Mass., and assistant director of the Providence Community Center. At the age of 19, he directed the Hecht Pioneer Camp in Westwood, Mass., a day camp for boys. For three years he also directed Camp Centerland in Rhode Island, in conjunction with the Rhode Island Jewish Center. At the most recent Camp Mar-Lin reunion, this past June, he was honored with a plaque that read, "Camp Mar-

Lin a thing of beauty, a joy forever, for 29 years of bringing happiness and life-long memories to the lives of thousands of children."

He is survived by his wife, Ethel (Kay) Browdy; a daughter, Linda B. Feinberg and her husband, Robert, of Old Bridge, N.J., and two grandchildren, Craig Lawrence Feinberg and Farrah Gwen Feinberg. Funeral services were held Dec. 24 in the Chapel of the Weinstein Mortuary, 640 Farmington Ave., Hartford, Conn., with interment in Kodimosh Synagogue Cemetery, West Springfield, Mass.

## SARAH GOODBLATT

PROVIDENCE — Sarah Goodblatt, 87, of 1085 Main St., died Dec. 24 at Miriam Hospital. She was the wife of the late Alex Goodblatt.

Born in Russia, a daughter of the late Morris and Ida (Teplitzky) Silbert, she came to the United States as a young girl and settled in Providence.

She was a member of Hadassah, AMIT, the Jewish Home for the Aged and Miriam Hospital's Women's Association.

She leaves a son, Sherwin Z. Goodblatt of Sharon, Mass.; a sister, Florence Kaplan of Providence; two grandchildren and a great-grandchild. She was the sister of the late Ethel Lerner.

A graveside funeral service was held Dec. 26 in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. Arrangements were made by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

## IRENE GREENBERG

PROVIDENCE — Irene Greenberg, 91, of 1085 North Main Street, died Dec. 25 at the Pawtucket Memorial Hospital. She was the wife of the late Myer Greenberg.

Born in Providence, and a lifelong resident of that city, she was the daughter of the late Israel and Anna (Lato) Heller.

She was a member of Temple Emanuel and the Jewish Home for the Aged Women's Auxiliary. She was a graduate of Bryant College.

She leaves four sons, Dr. Melvin Greenberg of Providence, Dr. Allen G. Greenberg of Warwick, Irwin G. Greenberg of Providence, and Richard D. Greenberg of Pawtucket; nine grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Benjamin Heller, Bessie Heller and Alice Brootman.

The funeral was held Dec. 27 at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. Arrangements were made by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel.

## FLORENCE G. HANZEL

CRANSTON — Florence G. Hanzel, 79, of 201 Hoffman Avenue, a clerk for the Rhode Island Registry of Motor Vehicles for five years, retiring 23 years ago, died Dec. 24 at the Miriam Hospital in Providence. She was the wife of Dr. Harold Hanzel and the late Barney Coken.

Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Louis and

(Continued on Page 19)

## Ask The Director

by Michael D. Smith ED./R.E.  
Shalom Memorial Chapel



*I hope everyone had a happy Chanukah. This week I had more questions concerning Shiva. Thank you for sending me these questions.*

**Upon arriving at the house of shiva after attending the funeral of a friend, I noticed a pitcher of water at the entrance to the house and people pouring the water over their hands. What is the significance of the water at the door step? S.L., Warwick**

The question of washing the hands after a Jewish funeral originated from several superstitions. The most common one is that washing the hands became a ritual designed to wash off evil demons which people believed might have attached themselves to those people at the cemetery.

**Why do mourners usually have dairy meals when returning from the cemetery to start shiva and what is the purpose of having hard-boiled eggs? P.N., Barrington**

The "meal of condolence" which is generally served to the mourning family by close friends and relatives usually consists of breads and eggs, foods which in Judaism are associated with life, and dairy products, which are easily digestible. We try to make the mourning family as comfortable as possible so we don't usually serve a heavy meat meal at this time.

Bread is the staff of life in Judaism, and in virtually every other faith. At a time of mourning, it is especially appropriate. Eggs are an obvious symbol of life. At the seder table on Passover, they are dipped into salt water to acknowledge that life sometimes brings tears and pain. At the meal of condolence, a time of grief, we eat hard-boiled eggs to affirm hope in the face of death. As eggs harden the more they are cooked, we eat hard-boiled eggs to symbolize our determination to be resilient in the face of tragedy.

**Is there any religious significance to signing the register book at a funeral service. A.S., Warwick**

No. The register is a keepsake for the family. The family will have this book of friends and relatives who attended the funeral service and as time goes on, they may look through the book and get some comfort from it.

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.

Michael D. Smith is a licensed funeral director and owner of Shalom Memorial Chapel.

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## CLASSIFIED

## Obituaries

(Continued from Page 18)

Gertrude (Epstein) Goldstein, she had lived in Cranston for 23 years.

She was a salesperson for the former Brodsky's toy store for many years. She was a life member and past president of Hadassah, a member of the former Temple Beth Israel, and of Temple Torat Yisrael and its Sisterhood, Hope Link, and a member of Crestwood Country Club, and the Women's Association of the Jewish Home for the Aged. She was also a volunteer for Hasbro Children's Hospital.

Besides her husband, she leaves a daughter, Loraine Schulman of Warwick; a son, Gary Coken of Warwick; two stepsons, Dr. Melvin Hanzel of Warwick and Dr. Jeffrey Hanzel of Richmond, Va.; seven grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Beatrice Hanzel.

Funeral services were held Dec. 27 at Shalom Memorial Chapel, 1100 New London Ave., Cranston. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. Arrangements were made by Shalom Memorial Chapel.



#### DR. GERALD P. ROSENTHAL

CHARLESTOWN

— Gerald P. Rosenthal, D.D.S., 67, of 71 Cove Drive, formerly of Second Street, Attleboro, a dentist in private practice for 38 years in Attleboro, who retired in January, died Dec. 21 at home. He was the husband of Shirlee R. (Allen) Rosenthal.

He was a graduate of Woonsocket High School, the University of Rhode Island and New York University. He was an Army veteran of the Korean War.

He was a member of Congregation Agudas Achim, B'nai B'rith, the board of directors of Attleboro Public Library, the Lions Club and the Attleboro YMCA.

Besides his wife, he leaves four daughters, Judy Richard-

son of North Attleboro, Jody Rosenthal of Providence, Joyce Rosenthal of Attleboro, and Jill McLoughlin of Mansfield, Mass.; a sister, Nancy Lerner of Evergreen, Colo.; and five grandchildren.

The funeral was held Dec. 24 at Congregation Agudas Achim, 901 North Main St., North Attleboro. Burial was in Riverbank Cemetery, Westerly. Arrangements were made by the Holt Funeral Home, 510 South Main St., Woonsocket, R.I.

#### ESTER B. SCHOENFELD

JAMESTOWN — Ester B.

Schoenfeld, 86, of 105 Walcott Ave., manager and proprietor of the former Jackson (N.J.) Beauty Salon for many years before retiring, died Dec. 21 at home. She was the wife of the late Kalman Schoenfeld.

Born in Poland, a daughter of the late Aaron D. and Hana Feldman, she had lived in Berlin, Germany, for many years before coming to the United States. She had lived in Jackson and in Brookline, Mass., before moving to Jamestown in 1987.

She was a survivor of the Holocaust, escaping from a concentration camp in Poland with her husband and daughter, and of the Warsaw Ghetto. She was a member of the Holocaust Museum.

She was a member of Temple Shalom in Middletown and its Tree of Life Group.

She leaves a sister, Bella Feldman of Miami; two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She was the mother of the late Judith Rosenberg and sister of several late siblings.

The funeral was held Dec. 23 at Temple Shalom, 233 Valley Road, Middletown. Burial was in Beth Olam Cemetery, Middletown. Arrangements were made by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

## Events

(Continued from Page 1)

ist forgery, is published; The Shoah; Zionism/establishment of the modern State of Israel; ingathering of the exiles and the redemption of Soviet and Ethiopian Jewry."

Abe Foxman



Abe Foxman, national director of Anti-Defamation League

"The Holocaust, in my opinion, must be considered the most significant event in Jewish history in the past 100 years. We know the horrific impact of the loss of 6 million Jews. Just as significant is the impact the Holocaust has had—and will continue to have—on succeeding generations of Jews throughout the world. It serves as a catalyst, creating an even stronger bond and sense of purpose among all Jews through the memories of the horrors of the Holocaust victims and the heroes of its survivors. And it will for hundreds of years to come."

Art Poulten



Art Poulten, Touro Fraternal Association

Thank you to all of the community members who contributed to this article.

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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, Judicia, Hope St.

## Road from Hapsburg

(Continued from Page 3)

through Hitler. The results were another world war.

The countries created for self-determination by Versailles, Hungary, Poland, Rumania, Czechoslovakia would suffer terribly under Nazi and Soviet dominance. Yugoslavia also suffered under the Nazis, but then after World War II, it came under local communist control of Marshall Tito, which was somewhat better than Moscow's dominance. But after his death, Yugoslavia became a battleground between Serbs and Croats and Albanians; between Catholics, Muslims, and Russian Orthodox. The lesson Wilson failed to learn about different people occupying the same space continues to haunt the region up to the present day.

It is very possible that if Charles, the last Hapsburg, had been utilized to create reform within the existing framework that had been in place for 700 years, World War II and the loss of millions of soldiers, the murder of 6 million Jews and 5 million of other nationalities as well as the death of countless other civilians could have been avoided. Fifty years of Soviet dominance in Eastern Europe and today's bloodbath in the former Yugoslavia might not have happened.

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## R.I. Bar Foundation Seeks Scholarship Applicants

Is law school in your future? The Rhode Island Bar Foundation is seeking applications for its Thomas F. Black, Jr. Memorial Scholarship.

The Bar Foundation will award a scholarship of \$7,500 to a R.I. resident who will enroll as a first-year student in an American Bar Association accredited law school for the academic year beginning September 2000. The scholarship is for the first year of law school only and non-renewable.

The scholarship is awarded based on scholastic achievement, financial need and good character without discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin or disability. The application deadline is **March 17, 2000**. For application forms, call the Bar Foundation at 421-6541 or write to the office at 115 Cedar St., Providence, R.I. 02903. In the past 11 years, the Bar Foundation has awarded \$69,000 to law students.

## Polls

(Continued from Page 1)

Communities (formerly UJA) in recent years. Almost all of the funds come from evangelical Christians in the US.

Johann Luckhoff, executive director of the ICEJ, called the polling results "a lot of great interest to us," as it "measures how effective evangelical Christian efforts have been in conveying our message to Israelis that there is a new kind of genuine Christian concern for them."

"While it shows there is still much work to be done, we are encouraged that Israeli Jews are very appreciative of our support," said Luckhoff. "Part of our motivation when we established the Christian Embassy 20 years ago was to have a vehicle to address some of the more negative Israeli views towards Christians we encountered back in the 1970s. This shows things have progressed since then."

Clarence Wagner, interna-

tional director of Bridges for Peace, said "we are pleased that Israelis are enthusiastic about Christian pilgrims coming to the land... [and] that we are not considered avowed missionaries or anti-Semites." He added, "However, we are saddened that most Israelis do not even know a Christian, and that when asked which Christian group was most friendly towards Jews and Israel, the evangelical community was listed near the bottom of the list."

In contrast to other Christian communities, many millions of evangelical Christians worldwide tend to be very supportive of the modern state of Israel and contribute tens of millions of dollars annually to assist Jewish immigration and absorption in Israel. In most years, they also make up the largest percentage of Christian pilgrims to the land of Israel.

**RHODE ISLAND JEWISH HERALD**

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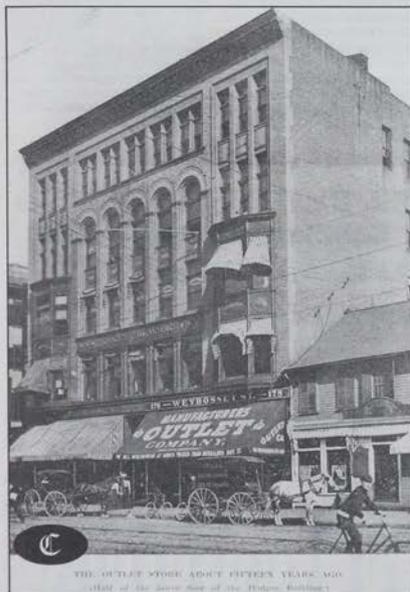
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# Gone But Not Forgotten



THE OUTLET STORE ABOUT FIFTEEN YEARS AGO  
(Part of the lower part of the Hodges Building)



## Images From The Past

- A. Do you remember getting prescriptions filled at Olneyville Square Pharmacy? Perhaps you ran into Paul H. Rouslin or Harry J. Sklut, proprietors of the store.
- B. North Main Street (1904-1906) looks quite a bit different today. Stores like Providence Remnants, shown, were replaced by large department stores.
- C. The Outlet Store which occupied half of the lower floor of the Hodges Building.
- D. With no Super Stop & Shop to go to, the community bought their fruit from Sam Weisman and his brother David at their fruit stand on the corner of Prairie and Willard Avenue.
- E. A much slower way of life. Beery's Liquor store at the corner of Willard Avenue and Gay Street.

Photos courtesy of  
The Rhode Island Jewish Historical Society and Eleanor Horvitz