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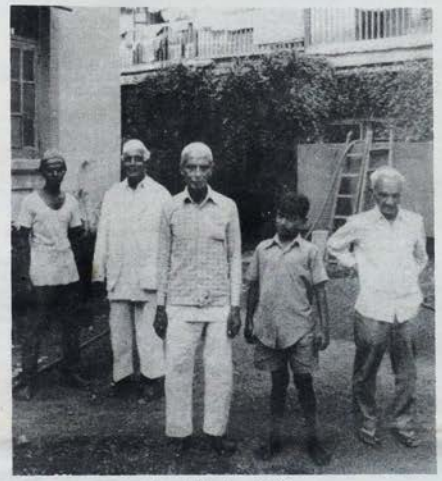
R. I. Jewish Historical
Association 11
130 Sessions Street
Providence, RI 02906

RHODE ISLAND HERALD

THE ONLY ENGLISH-JEWISH WEEKLY IN R.I. AND SOUTHEAST MASS.

VOLUME LXXII, NUMBER 26 FRIDAY, MAY 31, 1985 30¢ PER COPY

Jews In India Struggle For Survival



Jews in Bombay, India.

by Richard Lobell
UJA Press Service

The hazy light streaming through the many stained glass windows falls on the ornate pillars and carved wooden railings of the Magen David Synagogue in Calcutta, India. Two thousand members once filled the hall with song and prayer, but now the synagogue gains rarely more than a *minyan*, ten men, on a Friday night. They sit apart from one another and their voices echo in a ghostly manner in the nearly empty chamber.

Today some 5,000 Jews remain in India. The majority are in Bombay and are called B'nai Israel, Sons of Israel. Most others are in New Delhi, Cochin and Calcutta, but tiny groups or families live in other cities.

They've left, some for England and America, others for Israel. They've gone, and soon only empty buildings, unused books, and old, forgotten diaries will remain to tell the centuries-old history of the Jews of India.

Interestingly, the Jews of India have never suffered from anti-Semitism. Shellim Samuel, Chief Prosecutor of Bombay's Supreme Court, a leading figure in India's legal community, is one of many prominent Jews. Prominent in his law office are pictures of David Ben-Gurion and Theodore Herzl.

"I have always been open and proud of my Jewishness," says Samuel, "and for me as for all other Indian Jews our Jewishness has never been a hindrance, professionally or socially."

Bombay's B'nai Israel say their ancestors arrived as refugees, who fled from the Holy Land at the time of the destruction of the First Temple 2,500 years ago. They believe their ancestors were seven men and seven women who survived a shipwreck on the Konkin coast, south of Bombay.

Verifiable Jewish history dates back 1,000 years to Cochin, which is a group of islands in the State of Kerala on India's southwest coast. Two ancient copper plates, preserved today in the 400-year-old Pardesi Synagogue there, show that the Jews received a charter from the area's Emperor during the Chola-Chola War in the tenth century. Scholars believe the Jews may have been rewarded for financial or military aid to help repel a foreign aggressor.

The charter grants the Jews full sovereignty over their own lands in Cochin. With this charter, the island of Cranganore apparently became the only sovereign Jewish state to exist between the times of the ancient kingdom of Israel and the modern State of Israel — nearly 2,000 years.

In the Middle Ages, the Jews of Calcutta controlled vast Oriental mercantile empires. The names Sasson and Ezra were known to all and they lived in mansions of exotic splendor and earned untold wealth.

In 1920, the first Zionist organization was established in India and the local community organization passed a resolution expressing full sympathy with the Zionist cause. Although Jews in other countries were sometimes hesitate to speak out for Zionism, and India's Jews were not and there were no untoward consequences.

After Israeli statehood was establishd in 1948, *aliyah*, or the "going up," to Israel, began in earnest for Indian Jews. *Aliyah* accelerated in the early 1960's and, in the first 20 years of Israeli statehood, roughly half of the B'nai Israel community of 20,000 emigrated to Israel.

Today, for many of those who remain, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee and the Organization for Rehabilitation Through Training, which JDC helps support, serve as the main links to the outside Jewish community. JDC helps elderly Indian Jews with day centers and homebound services and it aids youngsters in schools. It receives virtually all its $49.5 million world budget from the United Jewish Appeal/Federation campaign. ORT, which is celebrating its 20th anniversary in India, administers both girls and boys school for over 700 students. ORT-India graduates boast a 100 percent job placement rate — no mean feat in a subcontinent of poverty.

William Novak At Am David: Jewish Humor Through The Ages

by Robert Israel

WARWICK — William Novak, a Jewish journalist, humorist and anthologist of Jewish humor in *The Big Book of Jewish Humor*, told a capacity audience at Temple Am David here last Thursday night that humor is an intrinsic part of the Jewish experience.

He needn't have stated it. The majority of the audience came to laugh, which they did repeatedly and robustly, as Novak told story after story to illustrate his theme, a discussion of Jewish humor through the ages. Speaking under the auspices of the Jewish Federation's series, "Toward Jewish Survival," Jewish humor (which Novak defined as "Jokes that no Gentile understands and every Jew has already heard,") emerged as one of the key ingredients of that survival, the ability to laugh at oneself in the face of despair.

Historical Humor

Novak traced Jewish humor to the earliest days of Jewish life. He has researched humor, looking for it in the Torah ("Some say that's where Jewish humor begins, but it really is more evident in the Talmud"), and finding it flourishing in Eastern Europe, the Lower East Side of Manhattan and today, everywhere one looks.

William Novak

There is folk humor, the Chelm stories, Yiddish humor, anti-Semitic jokes, and jokes about other Jews. Indeed, before

(Continued on page 7)

Residents of Jewish Home For Aged Get Special TLC

by Susan Higgins

The residents of the Jewish Home for the Aged are getting a little more tender loving care these days and it shows. They are the lucky recipients of a progressive program created to improve the quality of their lives and expand the education of doctors in training. Dr. Henry Izeman, Medical Director at the Jewish Home expressed his delight, this week, at the success of this unique arrangement.

When a new resident arrives at the JHA, a multi-disciplinary team is assembled to assess and anticipate the needs of the individual. Participants in this group include; a primary physician, a nurse, a social worker, a physical therapist, an activities specialist, a dietitian, a psychiatric nurse, a psychiatrist, an internist and a medical resident. Although one professional from each of these specialties will be assigned to the new arrivee for the duration of his or her stay, the primary physician may only visit the home once a month.

Dr. Izeman, who is also in charge of the geriatrics program at Miriam Hospital, and William Edlestein, Director of the JHA, sought to increase the presence of physicians at the Home. They met with three Miriam Hospital administrators, whose thinking was fortuitously in concert. Herbert Lichtman, Chief of Medicine, Fred Schiffman, Associate Chief of Medicine, and Reid Coleman, Director of the Medical Residents Program, met with the concerned members of the JHA staff and each found they held the missing links to solving the problem.

An ever-increasing percentage of our population is over 65 years of age. The need to expand the education of medical residents in the area of geriatrics was acknowledged by experts on the national level. Experience and exposure to the unique problems of the elderly were almost non-existent in the training of medical residents.

After intense negotiations and dedicated cooperation, the first medical resident started a one-month rotation at the Jewish Home for Aged last September. The activities of the medical resident are coordinated with Catherine Lynn, Assistant Director of Nursing. Lynn visits each nursing unit every day to determine which residents need immediate medical attention. She compiles a list which alerts the medical resident, who spends five mornings a week attending to the needs of these people.

There are many benefits associated with this arrangement. After the on-site resident makes his diagnosis, he contacts the primary physician. This team approach effectively increases the capacity of caring for the person in the Home. Residents of the Home who are seen by a medical resident, can be treated more quickly, thereby reducing the number of necessary trips to the hospital. This eliminates the trauma associated with hospitalization. Nurses at the Home say they feel more confident knowing the residents are there to back them up.

In addition to being present at the Home every morning, medical residents make teaching rounds, once a week with Dr. Izeman and once with Dr. Coleman. This is possible due to the close working relationship the JHA enjoys with the Miriam Hospital.

All this extra attention has delighted the happy recipients. Evidence from studies shows the more interactions a person experiences, the greater the stimulation of that person. Residents at the Home have expressed positive feelings of being cared for and increased security.

Dr. Izeman summarizes the situation succinctly. "There is a fragility about our elderly people. We try to give them the best possible care. Sometimes early treatment is crucial. The sooner we identify someone's condition the less likely it is to deteriorate. The additional presence of the medical residents helps us maintain a sensitivity to our residents here."

(Continued on page 7)

Local News

Cong. Beth Sholom Rummage Sale

On Sunday, June 2 a giant rummage sale will be held at Congregation Beth Sholom, 275 Camp St. The sale hours will be 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Articles of all sorts, including clothing, records, toys, furniture and many other things, will be offered for sale. The profits of the sale will go towards the benefit of the synagogue.

• • •

Emanu-El Garden Club To Meet

Emanu-El Garden Club will tour and have lunch at the home and garden at "SIAGA," home of the well-known floral arranger, Kenn Stephens, on Thursday, June 6, 1985.

The tour will be at 10:00 a.m. Lunch will be at 12:30 p.m.

Members will meet at the Temple parking lot at 8:45 a.m. to car pool.

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JNF Holds "Green Sunday"

Proclamation of May 19th as Green Sunday, (left to right) Bernard E. Bell, President, Rhode Island Council, JNF; Claire Bell; Ramon Berger; Joshua Teverow, Green Sunday Chairman; Governor Edward DiPrete; Jenny Klein; Jerald Katz, Director, New England Region of Jewish National Fund.

What do telephones and trees have in common? On Sunday, May 19, hundreds of Jewish households in Rhode Island discovered the answer. "Why, Green Sunday," "of course!"

Thousands of trees were planted in Israel as a result of the Jewish National Fund's annual Green Sunday phonathon, held in Providence at Alumnae Hall on the Campus of Brown University.

Rhode Island's Green Sunday is part of a nationwide effort by JNF volunteers. Its goal is to have every state establish a forest in Israel.

In New England with its rolling farmland, verdant forests and abundant water, its quite easy to take trees for granted. However, less than 10% of Israel is covered by vegetation.

Since its founding in 1901, at the personal urging of Theodore Herzl, Jewish National Fund has been at the forefront of the pioneering effort to purchase and reclaim the land of Israel — not from hostile armies, but from the ravages of centuries of warfare and neglect which left our homeland decimated and lifeless.

With the help and support of the entire Jewish people, JNF has turned barren sand to fertile land through the planting of over 160 million trees.

Both the many volunteers who gave of their time to work on Green Sunday, and the thousands of Jews who answered the call, can be proud of their contribution to the historic, nation-building achievement of making the desert bloom.

S.A.G.E. Concert A Success

S.A.G.E Concert at Temple Emanu-El.

Singing. Dancing. Reunions. Friendships, old and new.

The 280 seniors from Pawtucket, Providence, Cranston and Warwick were entertained by the Shirim, a Klezmer group from Boston, at the third S.A.G.E. (Senior Adult Group Educators) concert held on Tuesday, May 14 at Temple Emanu-El.

In addition to the music and the delicious desserts, the S.A.G.E. concerts provide an opportunity for senior citizens to reunite with friends long remembered. Maxine Richman nad Debbie Prinz of Jewish Family Service arranged a meeting between a woman at the Jewish Home for the Aged and her long-time friend at Dexter Manor. A man in a wheel chair was heartily kissed by a woman he had not seen in years. Smiles and tears, emotional moments, laughing, singing — these are the essence of a S.A.G.E. concert.

S.A.G.E. is a group of professionals who represent several Jewish agencies including the Bureau of Jewish Education, Jewish Community Center, Jewish Family Service, Jewish Home for the Aged, Leisure Club of Temple Emanu-El, Shalom Apartment and the Jewish Family Service Mealsite at Temple Torat Yisrael in Cranston.

Funding for all S.A.G.E. concerts is provided by an endowment grant from the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, and this concert was partially funded by a mini-grant from the Klezmer Foundation.

Alzheimer's Support Group At Miriam

The Rhode Island Chapter of Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association is sponsoring a support group for family members of Alzheimer's Disease patients.

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. at The Miriam Hospital. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 6, 1985.

For additional information, contact Sheila Webster at The Miriam Hospital at 274-3700, ext. 2072.

Charles Silverman To Exhibit Work

Charles M. Silverman will be showing original pencil drawings and limited edition prints with remarques featuring the unique charm of Rhode Island lighthouses at the Thistle Gallery, 3988 Main Road, Tiverton, on Monday, May 27 through May 29.

"Night At Pops" June 27

A meeting was held recently at Pier 4 to plan the upcoming "Night at Pops" of the New England Area, American Associates Ben-Gurion University. Those attending were: (l-r) Jeremiah Sundell, President New England Region; Ralph Kaplan, 1985 Concert Chairman; Bob Bernstein, Associate Chairman; Joseph M. Linsey, Honoree, 1985 "Night at Pops"; Alfred S. Ross, 1985 Vice Chairman; Jeffrey Kosow, Associate Chairman; George Shrut, Chairman Executive Committee; Arthur H. Cort, 1985 General Chairman.

The Second Annual "Night at Pops" of the New England Area, American Associates Ben-Gurion University, will take place on Thursday evening, June 27, 1985, at Symphony Hall, Boston.

As announced recently by Jeremiah Sundell, President of the New England Area, the evening will be a tribute to Joseph M. and Thelma Linsey in recognition of their support of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

Arthur Cort, General Chairman of the 1985 Ben-Gurion University "Night at Pops," stated at a recent meeting of the Chairmen and Committee, "I am honored again this year to serve as General Chairman for the Ben-Gurion University "Night at Pops." In addition to our outstanding honorees, Joseph M. and Thelma Linsey, we are fortunate to have an exceptional group of people who will serve Chairmen and members of the Tribute Committee." Mr. Cort continued, "We are certain that the event will be a sellout with their help."

The following individuals are involved in the 1985 "Night at Pops": Honorary Chairman—Dr. Abram L. Sachar; General Chairman—Arthur H. Cort; Vice Chairman—Alfred S. Ross; Concert Chairman—Ralph Kaplan.

Associate Chairmen are: Robert L. Bernstein; Diane and Edward Isenberg; Earl L. Katz; Jeffrey Kosow; Hon. Theodore D. Mann; A. Raymond Tye; Rabbi Richard M. Yellin.

Members of the Tribute Committee are: Harvey Allen; Leo Allen; Matthew Avruch; Milton and Anne Borenstein; Nathan Buchman; Max Coffman; Murray Fertel; Hirsh Freed; Earle Pat Groper; Stephen Gordon; Louis L. Kaitz; Bernard Kaplan; Russell Pergament; Robert Selby; George Shrut; Melvin A. Ross; Irving Shapiro; Eliot Siegal; Louis Spero; Mrs. Dorothy Peck Steinfeld; Jeremiah Sundell.

Arthur Cort also stated that "A Souvenir Journal will be published once again this year in conjunction with this event. The book will be distributed to all in attendance on June 27. We are looking forward to a very successful book through the efforts of our Souvenir Journal Co-Chairmen, Ronald D. Cort, Jody Katz, James M. Stavis and Michael Tye."

For further information concerning this program, please contact the New England office of Ben-Gurion University at (617) 236-4390. In R.I. contact Bob Bernstein at (401) 728-3600.

Herman Feinstein Helps Honor "Wacky"

Herman M. Feinstein, class treasurer and fund agent for the class of 1916 at Brown University, recently helped raise funds to honor Westcott "Wacky" Noulton at the Hall of Fame room.

Image And Reality At U. Of Hartford

"Image and Reality: Jewish Life in Terezin," an exhibition of art works created by prisoners in the concentration camp, will open to the public at the University of Hartford's Joseloff Gallery on June 5. Gallery hours will be 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. seven days a week.

An opening reception, which is by invitation only, will be held at 5 p.m. on June 3. The exhibition will be on view June 4 for those attending the special Academic Convocation in Lincoln Theater to commemorate those who died either at Terezin or after their deportation to the death camps. Elie Wiesel, noted writer on the Holocaust, will address the convocation and receive an honorary degree.

Admission to the exhibition, which will be on view through July 29, will be $2.

Terezin, which the Nazis called a "paradise ghetto," was created by the Nazis as part of their plan to destroy the Jews of Czechoslovakia and of other parts of Europe. It served as a way-station in the move toward the death camps further east. At the end of the war, only 10,000 of the original 140,000 Jews who were shipped there remained alive.

The "Image and Reality" exhibition consists of art works created by both adults and children imprisoned at Terezin, as well as photographs and artifacts that document life in the camp. There are also informational panels prepared by the B'nai B'rith Klutznick Museum in Washington, D.C.

The exhibition complements "The Precious Legacy," Jewish treasures from the State Jewish Museum in Prague, being shown concurrently at the Wadsworth Atheneum.

The University has arranged six symposia on "The Holocaust in Historical Perspective" which will be held Tuesdays at 8 p.m. in Millard Auditorium. Admission to all six is $25.

The University is making "bed and breakfast" facilities available in its new student housing for groups from out of town who may wish to attend both exhibitions, as well as related events at the Hartford Jewish Community Center, the Charter Oak Synagogue, and the Noah Webster House of West Hartford.

For information about tickets or group tours, call 243-4963.

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From The Editor

by Robert Israel

Levels Of Satisfaction

PORTLAND, Maine — I traveled here over Memorial Day to pay a visit to a land I have always loved and to see the rugged northern seacoast. When I was a senior in college I lived in Kennebunkport, a small town just south of here, where I wrote my senior thesis. The city of Portland has been undergoing renovations, like Newport, where once abandoned warehouses are now the sites of upscale shops, boutiques and restaurants. I also wanted to see how our northern neighbors are progressing, to get a sense of life beyond Rhode Island's borders.

The Jewish community in Maine has grown over the past several years, according to an article in the *Maine Sunday Telegram* about a rabbi, who also works as a speech therapist, in Auburn, a town northwest of here. There is a small synagogue in Portland itself, but no Jewish newspaper to read about the comings and goings of the community and no central Federation office to call to inquire about Jewish needs.

I recall having read an amusing notice in another Maine newspaper years ago. A Jewish family in northern Maine had a brit mileh and as is customary, word of the event was passed from neighbor to neighbor, most of these neighbors being non-Jews. Well, word evidently got to the local gossip columnist who, in the Sunday paper I read later, wrote it up under the headline, "Jewish Ritual Draws A Big Crowd." To give the gossip columnist credit, she did her homework and explained the meaning of the ritual and why people were assembling as the home to share this mitzvah. It spoke to me of one of the guiding lights of Judaism — the ability to share an experience and utilize the most important vehicle to help others understand why we do what we do — education.

• • •

Whenever I travel, I always make a point of visiting places that are not on the tourist agenda in order to get a sense how people are living. I visit the neighborhood markets and other places where people congregate and try to engage individuals I meet in conversation, to glean from them a sense of the quality of life in their area.

In Portland, there is a bustling old port section that is teeming with taverns. Men and women stumble in and out of these taverns, full of high spirits. Nearby, the young people watch them with envious eyes and I overheard several of them curse the fact that they weren't old enough to follow the well worn path to the bar.

Having been an educator of high school youth, I am particularly sensitive to young people, to the frustrations they are enduring in their growing years. I have always tried to impart this piece of wisdom to them: whatever you do, it is important to find your own level of satisfaction, not to exceed it, to prove that you can, but to stay within the healthy limits of what that level dictates to you. In this manner, you will find a balance, no matter what you embark on.

I recall having traveled in Nova Scotia years ago, during the winter, when the Bay of Fundy was frozen and all the fishing boats were grounded, leaving the men with nothing better to do than to sit in the taverns and drink. When I passed through the town of Inverness, on the way to the Cape Breton Highlands, I saw many young boys, at ten o'clock in the morning, already inebriated. It was a very sad sight. There were no educational programs designed to explain the costs of addiction, no social activities that would lure the young people away from obtaining intoxicating substances.

I do not wish to sound like a preacher — I feel that as an adult, one can choose whatever poison one wishes, so long as one imbibes with the understanding that you have to keep off the roads and have to still behave as a person who respects others. But I am alarmed at the degree to which people abuse themselves and others in the process of reaching a height they frequently stumble and fall from.

In our own community, there are few places where adults can congregate to listen to music, let's say, without being in the atmosphere of alcohol. Young people have this same difficulty. I am particularly proud that within our community we have youth organizations like the BBYO which encourage young people to communicate without intoxication. The Elkin Midrasha High School is another example of a group that encourages young people to explore meaningful relationships.

I wanted to tell the young people I met in Portland to explore other opportunities for themselves but I was not there long enough to make an impact. Instead, I chatted with them about their love of music, I let them vent their fury that adults could drink liquor and they could not. They sipped on their soft drinks while the ferry boats entered the harbor and a chill breeze carried the night sounds of laughter from street to street.

Women Rabbis: An Orthodox View

by Avi Shafran

Every accolade which the press, including the *Herald*, (Robert Israel's editorial, May 17), bestows on the Conservative movement for what seems its openmindedness and foresight in ordaining a woman, carries the insinuation that *halacha*-true — or "Orthodox" — Judaism lacks those qualities. It does not, nor are they evidenced in the Conservative movement.

My own first feelings, upon hearing of that ordination, were happy ones; I was glad that the Conservative movement had finally quit beating around the bush. For, after all, the Reform and Conservative movements, unencumbered as they've chosen to be by the rigors and stipulations of *halacha* (Jewish Law), have really never had any excuse for not accepting women in all roles. During the many years they didn't, they had no justification. They were simply and inexcusably discriminatory toward and demeaning of women. No other explanation is possible, certainly not the demands of Jewish Law, for they have not changed.

What has changed, of course, is the social context. The pressure of public opinion was the midwife of Conservative and Reform women rabbis, indeed of those movements themselves. Not foresight, but a sort of good-natured opportunism brought this about.

Congratulating those movements, though, is like praising an exclusive social club for buckling under pressure and accepting women as Grand Poo Bah's, while casting aspersion on the Boy Scouts for not being the Girl Scouts instead.

Orthodoxy hasn't found a new respect for women, because Judaism has always respected women manifestly, even while assigning them particular roles in life, the lot of every Jew.

One very telling example of the reverence which *halacha* has for women concerns an area which, though played-down by the typical liberal Jew, has been rightfully targeted by the most militant feminists as the quintessential expression of contempt for women: the viewing ot them as sexual objects. *Halacha* forbids even the gazing at a woman's little finger for base gratification, as that would denigrate the woman by misusing the holy power which is only valid in the context of a mutually-respecting marriage-bond between a man and a woman. Thus the Torah — "Orthodoxy," if the term must be used — condemns even the slightest "using" of the specialness which is woman for the personal pleasure of a man.

An ethos with such a proscription is regarded as *insensitive* to the dignity of women? Are people mad?

No, not mad, just bent on ignoring facts and realities, and on distorting elements in *halacha* to project them as sexist, all in order to foster a distrust in modern minds for Judaism, eternal, original Judaism.

The bottom line: The law of the religion of Judaism excludes women from certain roles in no uncertain terms, as it does non-Cohanim, non-Levites, non-learned, or non-females from others. If the law wasn't explicit on that count, Orthodoxy would have *always* had women rabbis, just as it had women scholars and women role models, not to mention women prophets.

The law, though, does preclude women rabbis, indeed women witnesses, as any talmudic scholar, whatever his affiliation, knows. It is for this reason that "right-wing" Conservative rabbis, who had hoped that their movement would always have some claim to being "halachic," are outraged at this clear disregard of Jewish law. That law is sometimes fathomable, sometimes not; but it is always the law. The acceptance of only what we ourselves would prescribe is an acceptance of only that: ourselves.

I have no doubt that the Conservative movement will benefit greatly as a movement from the added intelligence, sensitivity, and creativity which its women, in their new leadership roles, will bring, just as Judaism has always benefited from the participation of its women in their rightful roles. However that doesn't alter the fact of that well-intentioned innovation being irreconcilable with Jewish law.

The Conservative movement's move bespeaks a wonderful — if belated — concern for women, but a misguided one. It may be rooted in Jewish love and respect for others, but all the same ignores the Source of those concepts and His law; like all endeavors attempted for social or humanistic reasons which yield results contrary to God's revealed law, it is, though well-intentioned, wrong.

The noting of the Conservative movement's revelation of its true attitude toward *halacha* should not — as it invariably will — be perceived as a rejection of Jews who identify with that, or other movements. We note this important exhibition not to perpetuate the "two Jews, three shuls" maxim, nor to foster ill-will among Jews. All Jews who identify themselves as Jews are obviously dedicated to Judaism, and, as such, are essential. We Orthodox Jews just feel the urgent responsibility to remind Jews everywhere that there is such a thing as Jewish law, and that it is, as it always was, the very lifeblood of all Jews, whether they can choose it for their own personal lives or not.

The contribution of women in Judaism is not arguable; it is real and it is vital. But it is not now, nor was it ever, to be found in the superficiality of the pulpit. Ask any of the many intelligent, sensitive, determined and world-changing women who have chosen lives observant of *halacha*.

Rabbi Ave Shafran lives and writes in Providence.

Hadassah Summer Institute At Brandeis

"Jewish Ethics — Medical, Political and Interpersonal" is the topic of the Hadassah Summer Institute to be held July 14-18, 1985 on the campus of Brandeis University, according to an announcement from Sue Mizrahi, Hadassah National Jewish Chairperson.

The Institute, open to Jewish Education Chairpeople in Hadassah's Regions and Big Chapters nationwide, will explore the bases of Jewish ethics and the ethical questions raised by contemporary issues in health care, national and international politics and individual interaction, Mrs. Mizrahi said.

The Institute program includes discussions of the philosophical roots of Jewish ethics and their application to specific issues such as "The Jewish Mandate to Heal," and "War and Peace in Jewish Law." Institute participants also will explore Jewish ethical thought in *The Fifth Son*, the latest novel by author Elie Wiesel, and *Mirele Efros*, a film about family and business relationships.

The Institute faculty features — in addition to Dr. Woocher and Dr. Lowin — Dr. David M. Feldman, Rabbi of the Teaneck, New Jersey Jewish Center and author of the forthcoming book "The Health and Medicine in the Jewish Tradition," and Professor Saul J. Berman, spiritual leader of the Lincoln Square Synagogue in New York City and Associate Professor of Jewish Studies at Yeshiva University's Stern College. Also, Richard J. Israel, Director of Central Services and Judaica at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Boston, Dr. Joseph Reimer, Assistant Professor of Education at Boston University, and Dr. Alfred Ivry, Professor of Near East and Judaic Studies at Brandeis, will participate in the Institute.

Deadline for registration for the Institute is June 15 and space is limited. Details on costs, accommodations, and related information are available from the Hadassah National Jewish Education Department at 212/303-8132.

Klezmer Band To Perform In Amherst, Mass.

The Boston-based Klezmer Conservatory Band will be featured entertainers at the National Yiddish Book Center's Fifth Anniversary Celebration, Sunday, June 9, at the Center's annex, 100 Lyman St., Holyoke, Mass. The 1 to 5 p.m. event is free and open to the public.

"There's bound to be plenty of spirited dancing with this group playing," said Yiddish Book Center executive director, Aaron Lansky, who announced that the 13-piece orchestra's appearance was being subsidized in part by a grant from the Woody Guthrie Foundation of New York.

The Klezmer Conservatory Band, whose rollicking music has been described as "Jewish Jazz," tours nationally and has released two record albums.

In addition to the music, the afternoon long program will feature rare book and photo exhibits, manuscripts, Eastern European Yiddish artifacts, and a tour of the Center's massive book collection. Since its founding in 1980, the Center has rescued 350,000 priceless Yiddish volumes, the largest collection ever assembled.

Candlelighting

May 31, 1985

7:55 p.m.

RHODE ISLAND HERALD

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

EDITOR: *ROBERT ISRAEL*

ASSOCIATE EDITOR: *SUSAN HIGGINS*

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR: *KATHI WNEK*

Mailing Address: Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 02940
Telephone: (401) 724-0200
PLANT: Herald Way, off Webster St., Pawt., R.I. 02861
OFFICE: 172 Taunton Ave., East Providence, R.I. 02914

Second class postage paid at Providence, Rhode Island. Postmaster send address changes to The R.I. Herald, P.O. Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 02940-6063.

Subscription Rates: Thirty Cents the copy. By mail $10.00 per annum, outside R.I. and southeastern Mass. $14.00 per annum. Bulk rates on request. The Herald assumes subscriptions are continuous unless notified to the contrary in writing.

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The Herald is a member of the New England Press Association and the American Jewish Press Association, and a subscriber to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency and the Jewish Student Press Service.

FRIDAY, MAY 31, 1985

Understanding Shavuoth

by Irving Greenberg

In the prayers, Shavuot is called the Festival of the Giving of the Torah. As Passover celebrates the exodus from slavery to freedom of the Hebrew people, so Shavuot celebrates the covenant entered into at Sinai which constituted the erstwhile slaves into the free people, the Children of Israel.

Yet, it is noteworthy that in the five books of Moses, the Torah itself says not a word directly linking Shavuot and the Revelation. The name, Shavuot, means holiday of Weeks, so-called because of the number of weeks by which it follows Passover. (See Leviticus 23, verses 15-16.) The Torah focuses on the agricultural character of the holiday, describing it as the day of the first fruits of the wheat harvest (Exodus 34, verse 22) and as the holiday which culminates the initial grain waving in the Temple with the bringing "of an offering of the new grain before the Lord" on the fiftieth day. (Leviticus 23, verse 16)

In Leviticus (chapter 23, v. 15, 16, 23), the Torah says, "You shall count off from the day after the Sabbath — from the day on which you bring the sheaf (of grain) of wave offering — seven complete weeks. Count until the day after the seventh week — fifty days; then bring an offering of new grain to the Lord . . . On that same day, you shall hold a celebration; it shall be a sacred occasion for you. . ." This, then, is the holiday of Shavuot.

Before the Destruction of the Temple in the first century, the Sadducees, the sect which included many of the leading nobles and priests in its membership, taught that the words "the day after the Sabbath" meant, literally, Sunday, the day after Saturday — Shabbat. In the Sadducee calendar, Shavuot always occurred on a Sunday. Since Passover itself could start on any day of the week, the Shavuot holiday could occur anywhere from fifty to fifty-six days after the Passover holiday. (If the first day of Passover was on a Sunday, then the first day after the Sabbath would come seven days later.)

According to rabbinic teaching, the Holy Scriptures, the Written Torah, and the Torah Sheh B'Al Peh (Oral Torah), the authoritative interpretation of the Written Torah, are handed down through parallel books and channels. The parallel channel is gathered in the Talmud and the rabbinic midrashim (commentaries) on the Torah. The most accurate title of this teaching would be The-Chain-of-Tradition Torah. The Rabbis, the masters of the Torah Sheh B'Al Peh, established Shavuot as the time of the giving of the Torah.

The Rabbis, the leaders of the Pharisees, taught with the authority of the Torah Sheh B'Al Peh that the term "the day after Shabbat" meant not Sunday (the day after Saturday) but the day after the holiday, Passover, starts. Thus, the countdown for Shavuot invariably started on the sixteenth of Nisan, the day after the Exodus anniversary which is the fifteenth of Nisan. Shavuot always came out fifty days later.

To the Sadducees, apparently Shavuot was not necessarily the day of Sinai. It was related to Passover on a purely agricultural basis. By contrast, the Pharisees insisted that the central connection of Passover and Shavuot was the march from Egypt to Sinai, the movement from political liberation to spiritual dedication to freedom and religious living. The Rabbis' triumph is mirrored in the dominance of the understanding of Shavuot as the holiday of revelation.

Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik has made the brilliant point that through totally obscuring the direct connection between Shavuot's date and the giving of the Torah, the supremacy of the Torah Sheh B'Al Peh (the oral law/the chain of tradition Torah) is established. It is the definitive source that Shavuot is the anniversary of Sinai. To understand the meaning of the holiday of Revelation, one must turn to the Torah of tradition.

Soloveitchik's insight means that on Shavuot we celebrate not only God's word, the Revelation received passively by the people, but also the Torah of tradition, the one received and unfolded by the Rabbis and the people.

The term "unfolding" is deliberately used. Like some diamond with many brilliant facets and lights which is carved out of an unshaped stone, so the unfolding of the Word of God brings out dimensions and layers of meaning that are not apparent or even understood initially. The oral tradition highlights and shapes the Torah so that its different levels of meaning speak at different times to different people with different cultural models and capacities. This is over and beyond any process of development, addition, or subtraction.

We can get some of the flavor of this unfolding when we view the Falashas' religion in Israel. The Beta Israel were separated from the Jewish people before the development of the Talmud. They have preserved the ... Biblical commandments and traditions; but seeing them in action makes one realize the different levels of meaning.

The very conceptual categories and the personal and cultural receptors of commandment are of a different nature. On the Shabbat, the Beta Israel have no light or cooked food at all. Their observance of ritual immersion in the mikveh is preceded by women going into a separate tent and being almost completely outside of the community during menstruation. Both observances bear the unmistakable tone of taboo. There is much to admire in the Falashas' faithfulness and dedication to Judaism, but there is much less joy, warmth, creativity, and humor in their experience of commandment.

Mediated by the models of their culture, the Torah's commandments come through as taboo, as inscrutable decree, almost as a physiological brush with arbitrary divine limits; there is considerably less of the historical direction which gives inner emotional and spiritual power to the rabbinic tradition. Human dignity and human partnership are far more central in the rabbinic tradition.

Rabbi Soloveitchik's understanding makes us realize how much false consciousness there is in the modern debate over Jewish religion. Stifled by the blanket nature of rabbinic tradition, the modernists sought to go back to the 'pristine' Biblical pattern. They glorified the written scripture and argued that the rabbinic adumbrations are petty and legalistic, lacking in spiritual depth. From the Falasha record, we can see that, on the contrary the fundamental contribution of the Rabbis and of the oral law is the deepening, personalizing, and the enhancement of the spiritual depth of the Jewish way of life.

A similar false consciousness permeates those fundamentalist Jews who portray God as doing it all, with the people and the rabbi as mere receivers. Even if one accepted the fundamentalist claim that nothing is ever added or changed, absorbing the Commandments into categories of purpose, personal meaning, spiritual relationship to God, is in itself a major human contribution.

In Rabbi Soloveitchik's brilliant articulation, the humans are partners in the Torah Shel B'Al Peh, the oral law. Tradition is not a passive category. Its dynamic includes human participation in the creation of Torah as well as absorbing the ancient traditions through the cultural tools and fundamental understanding of each era and time. Tradition is the application of the received, and the shaping of every century and every life experience by the categories of the Torah.

Unfolding brings new understanding and new experiences within the framework of Jewish religion; it constantly uncovers facets of meaning and directional guides which make the Torah a living experience in every generation. "These words which I command you today" (Deuteronomy 6, verse 6) means that every day the Torah is new and renewed — "not like some antiquated ordinance, e.g. . . . the commandment of a king that comes in a letter" (Rashi, Deuteronomy 6, 6).

The final implication, then, is that in fact the Torah is not finished. There is a continuing and further revelation in our lifetime which should properly be absorbed through the Torah Shel B'Al Peh. The task of this generation is to incorporate such experiences as the Holocaust and the rebirth of Israel into the religious understanding of the Jewish way and the Jewish faith. Thus, Shavuot will properly be called the holiday of the Continuous Giving of the Torah, the holiday which celebrates "What God — and Humans — Have Wrought."

Irving Greenberg is President of the National Jewish Resource Center.

From The ADL Files

by Gerald Baumgarten

Chick Publications, with a post office box number in Chino, California, and administrative offices in Cucamonga, is an evangelical group that publishes fundamentalist Christian tracts produced by Jack T. Chick. The basic message: "Accept Jesus Christ as your own personal Lord and Savior and you will reign with Him throughout eternity."

The widely-distributed proselytizing tracts bear such titles as "Support Your Local Jew," "The Passover Plot?", "The Beast," "King of the East," "Creator or Liar?"

It was "Support Your Local Jew," found in public places, which brought complaints and requests for information to the Anti-Defamation League. The tract concludes by stating that "If you're a Jew . . . Jesus wants to be your Lord and Messiah . . . Don't die in your sins . . . Become a Messianic Jew." "The Passover Plot?" tract concludes by saying that "Those who reject Him (Jesus Christ) . . . will be cast into the Lake of Fire."

Jack Chick, who "dreamed up these comics for Christ," as one New York newspaper article said, is a former illustrator for an aircraft company, who is said to have "experienced rebirth through Jesus Christ at age 24" and to have developed "the ministry of Chick Publications as time passed."

One Chick publication, "Alberto," has been described by a Catholic weekly as "a blatantly anti-Catholic comic book, denouncing the Catholic Church as an anti-Christian religion, (which) is being circulated in Christian bookstores throughout the United States."

Since 1981, a number of articles about Chick Publications and the defamatory nature of its proselytizing booklets and comic books have appeared in the general circulation press, as well as in the Catholic press. "Comic books defaming the beliefs of Catholics, Jews, Mormons and adherents of Eastern religions — among others — are being sold by the thousands in evangelical Christian bookstores across the United States" reported the *Los Angeles Times* in a 1981 article.

The March 13, 1981 issue of *Christianity Today* published an article headlined "Jack Chick's Anti-Catholic Alberto Comic Book is Exposed as a Fraud." Other newspapers around the country have printed similar exposes.

In October, 1981, the *Los Angeles Times* reported that Canada's Customs and Excise Department banned two Chick "comic books" — "Double Cross" and "The Big Betrayal" — because of their anti-Catholic content. The action marked the first time Canadians used a customs law usually directed against pornography to ban material offensive to religious views.

In 1982, Jack Chick resigned from the Christian Booksellers Association after a delegation from the association visited him to discuss complaints they'd received. In a subsequent letter to bookstores, Chick said he was resigning because "the whore of Revelation 17 and 18 (a reference to the Catholic church) has quietly moved into the CBA and will quietly seduce you and your power will be gone."

In 1983, Chick Publications began circulating a tract entitled "Are Roman Catholics Christians?" It declared: "The Bible never mentions nuns, monks or popes . . . It was all cooked up by the Roman Catholic institution to razzle-dazzle their followers, along with the statues, candles and religious costumes . . . The people love it. Only their leaders really understand the religious double talk and psychology used to control their 700,000,000 members." The tract went on to state: "This monster (the Roman Catholic Church) is still passing itself off as a 'Christian' organization."

In 1984, a widely circulated tract entitled "Holocaust" charged that "The inquisition (the Holocaust) in Europe was masterminded by the Jesuits . . . Only this time instead of Dominican monks wearing robes, the Vatican used the Gestapo wearing Nazi uniforms." It added: "It is a documented fact that the Gestapo was run by the Jesuits, and that Hitler was a faithful Roman Catholic simply following the laws set forth in the Council of Trent."

In a *Los Angeles Times* article on Chick Publications, Jack Chick's secretary was quoted as saying, "We have no ministers on our staff at all . . . He (Chick) is strictly an artist and publisher. He's never been to a seminary or had Bible training, but he wanted to be a missionary years ago."

Gerald Baumgarten is assistant director of the Anti-Defamation League's Research Department.

Wendy Billig Honored At Torat Yisrael

Friends, former students, parents and teachers will join to honor Wendy Billig on Friday evening, June 7 at 7:30, at Temple Torat Yisrael.

Wendy has given over eighteen years of devoted service as a music teacher, play director, and classroom teacher to the Cranston Synagogue. She has interacted with hundreds of students and is remembered by each one of them. Her enthusiasm and love for the children and her musical abilities are remembered by one and all.

The public is cordially invited to share in this tribute to Wendy.

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Social Events

Shofar Award Bestowed On Three

1985 recipients of Shofar Award — from left to right: Dr. Robert Krasner, Sidney Shepiro, Dr. Norman Kahn.

On Friday evening, May 17, 1985, the Jewish Committee on Scouting of the Narragansett Council Boy Scouts of America conferred the Shofar Award to 3 recipients in recognition of their contribution to Jewish Scouting within the Boy Scouts of America.

Robert Krasner, Ph.D., a resident of Rehoboth, MA and a Professor of Biology at Providence College has had a long and outstanding association with the scouting program beginning in 1942. He is an Eagle Scout and his leadership experiences include Scoutmaster in the Norumbega Council, Newton, MA, and Scoutmaster of an American Troop in Japan, Far East Council, while serving as a 1st Lt. in the U.S. Army. He was Program Director at Camp Motosu, B.S.A., Japan during the summers of 1957 and 1958. He also served as Director at Camp Kunatah, Ten Mile River Scouts Camps, Greater New York Council; Camp Director at Camp Three Point, Yawgoog Scout Reservation from 1969 to 1974 and was Chairman at the Cranston District Committee in 1969 and 1969.

Sidney Shepiro now resides in Warwick, RI, but most of his scouting activities were through his association with Troop 66 Garden City, while he was a resident of Cranston. He served on the Troop Committee for 12 years and as the Troop Committee Chairman for 6 years beginning in 1974. He is an active member of the Jewish Committee on Scouting and played a significant part in the building of the new chapel for Jewish Scouts at Camp Yawgoog, completed in 1984. Sidney has also been active in B'nai B'rith as a member for over 12 years, as Treasurer for 6 years and in 1984 was recognized as B'nai B'rith Man of the Year.

Dr. Norman Kahn is a Providence resident and has recently retired after 35 years in the practice of Optometry. 53 years ago Dr. Kahn joined Troop 20 Providence, located at Temple Emanu-El, as a boy scout. 35 years later he returned as a leader in Pack 20, and then moved on as scoutmaster in Troop 20. Under his leadership Troop 20 produced an enviable record averaging 3 Eagle Scouts a year, and an unprecedented number of Neu Tamud Award recipients (Jewish Scouting Award). In 1970 Dr. Kahn's son passed away and in his memory Dr. Kahn created the Robert Alan Kahn Memorial Award, which provided a 1 week campership award to a deserving scout in Troop 20 every year until the Troop was finally disbounded a few years ago. Even though Dr. Kahn has recently experienced serious health problems, he now spends 3 mornings a week as a volunteer tutor at Nathan Bishop Middle School, and next September he will expand that to 5 days each week.

Debra Covinsky To Wed Theodore Elias

Gloria and Irwin Covinsky of Narragansett announce the engagement of their daughter, Debra Lynn, of Millburn, New Jersey to Theodore Elias of Clifton, New Jersey. The bride-elect graduated from the University of Rhode Island. The bridegroom-elect graduated from William Patterson College. Debra and Ted are both employed by PEOPLExpress Airline. They plan to wed August 25, 1985.

Miss Covinsky is the granddaughter of Rose and Louis Covinsky of Cranston and the late Flora and Harry Shatz.

Shalom Singles Swing Into Summer

Celebrate the summer season with a fabulous "Swing Into Summer" Dance on Saturday, June 22, 9:00 p.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center. Shalom Singles (40-55) of the South Area Jewish Community Center and the Singles Group (45 plus) of the LSJCC are co-sponsoring the dance to be held at 333 Nahanton Street, Newton Center. There will be a fantastic DJ, cash bar and delicious refreshments. The cost is $5 for members and $7.50 for non-members.

For more information, please call Liz at the SAJCC, 821-0030 or Judith at LSJCC, 965-7410, Ext. 163.

Nursing School Made Possible By Foundation

OIC is pleased to announce that the Rockefeller Foundation has approved a Licensed Practical Nurse Course for the Women's Opportunities Unlimited program of OIC. Class will start in August. Admission to the class will be based on CCRI's usual admission criteria. The usual CCRI-LPN class will be increased by 10 to admit 10 WOU students through the OIC/Rockefeller contract. No tuition will be charged — this is covered by the contract. Fees and other costs will be assumed by the students in whole or in part. All referrals should be directly to the WOU intake staff — Joyce O'Connor and Didi Rua, as enrollment in the WOU program is the first criteria for admissions. For details call 272-4400.

Personal Development Program For Women

The *Managing with Influence* (MWI) seminar was introduced at the Simmons College Graduate School of Management as a pilot program a year ago. Since then, there have been five of these 6-day residential management development sessions, and each has been an unqualified success. MWI is a personal development program for women: applied to participants' own work environments, videotape intensive, exclusive in size, mutually supportive, and conductive to limit-testing, risk-taking, and confidence buiding. A session has been added this Spring, from Sunday, June 9 through Saturday, June 15. For details call Priscilla Glidden at 617-536-8380.

Newport County Women's Resource Center

Newport County Women's Resource Center will be holding a Training Session in June. There will be 5 sessions: Mon., June 3 and Wednesday, June 5, 6:30-9:30; Saturday, June 8, 9:30-2 p.m.; and Monday, June 10 and Wednesday, June 12, 6:30-9:30. The sessions will cover the legal aspects of domestic violence, community resources, and will include skills needed to be an effective advocate of the Center. If interested, call 846-5263 for an interview. The Center is having a raffle to help pay for the new shelter building. 200 tickets at $100-each will be sold; prize is a J22 sailboat. Drawing will be at the Ida Lewis Yacht Club, Newport, June 30.

R.I. Rape Crisis Center Plans Fundraiser

The R.I. Rape Crisis Center presents "From Berlin to Broadway" for their June fundraising event. The musical comedy will be performed by the Barker Players, on Tuesday, June 18, at 8 p.m., at the Barker Playhouse, 400 Benefit St., Providence. Refreshments will be made available during intermission and following the performance. Tickets are $10.00 each and are available at the Rape Crisis Center, 1660 Broad St., Providence, 02905, 941-2400, or at the door. However, seating is limited, so purchase your tickets early. All funds benefit the R.I. Rape Crisis Center.

Non-Traditional Career Workshops For Women

Women interested in pursuing a "non-traditional" career in chemical technology, electronics, engineering, electronic engineering technology, mechanical engineering technology, instrumentation technology, machine design and machine processes will have the opportunity to find out more about these professions on June 24, 25 and 26 at a free seminar at Community College of Rhode Island's Knight Campus in Warwick.

CCRI's New Careers for Women program will hold a three-day workshop which will enable participants to meet with representatives from these fields, gather information on areas they may wish to pursue and find out how they can train for a technical career at CCRI. The workshop will include actual hands-on lessons, tours of the laboratories and demonstrations under the supervision of CCRI faculty. Women who enroll in any of these programs at the college receive special assistance and support and, upon completion of required courses, are eligible for an Associate in Applied Science or an Associate in Science degree.

The New Careers for Women program is made possible through a grant from the Rhode Island Department of Education, Bureau of Vocational Technical Education.

For more information, contact Lisa DeMaria, New Careers for Women project coordinator, at 825-2300.

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Vice-Chancellor David C. Kogen presents Rhode Island resident, Evelyn F. Brier, with her diploma at The Jewish Theological Seminary of America's 91st commencement exercises.

Genealogy Center Has Jewish Families On Computer

The Jewish Genealogy Center will be inaugurated at Beth Hatefutsoth, the Nahum Goldmann Museum of the Jewish Diaspora, on June 4, 1985. During the ensuing running-in period, the public will be invited to view an explanatory film and to purchase the materials required to submit a family tree for recording the computerized genealogy program developed especially for the Center.

Since its opening in 1978, one of the most popular attractions at Beth Hatefutsoth, the Nahum Goldmann Museum of the Jewish Diaspora, has been the information retrieval programs contained within the Museum's Study Areas. From computer terminals, Museum visitors can retrieve information on the history of Jewish communities throughout the world and on the origins of Jewish family names.

As an extension of these programs, the Jewish Genealogy Center has been established at Beth Hatefutsoth. Here, Jewish families are invited to record and trace their family histories using one of the most advanced and unique computerized genealogy programs in the world to date. By participating in the program, people may ensure that their descendants will be able to experience history at a personal level.

The program answers the needs of a growing number of people, who wish to know more about their "roots" as they embark upon the difficult — though not impossible — task of tracing their family histories in order to discover how they are woven into the fabric of the Jewish People.

Any family tree with at least five generations and fifty family members may now be submitted for recording at the Jewish Genealogy Center.

Computer terminals, capable of generating colored graphics, will display information in two formats: a biographical summary on each family member and three-generation colored graphic charts. Each chart will center around one person and show his or her relationship to immediate relatives: parents, siblings, spouse and children. Printouts may be ordered of biographical information screens, the three-generational charts and printouts of family tree in part or in its entirety.

A fee will be charged for certain aspects of the entry and viewing process, including the initial recording of genealogical data and later updates, computer terminal use and printouts.

Associations of Friends of Beth Hatefutsoth in the United States and in Israel have generously supported the Genealogy Program, not least by facilitating the acquisition of an historically valuable collection of Jewish family trees which dates to the 12th century.

Realization of this project was due to the devotion and generosity of Dr. Douglas Goldman. Dr. Goldman is a friend of Beth Hatefutsoth from San Francisco, who has been actively involved in the field of genealogy for over 20 years. His own family tree spans eight generations and includes such personalities as Levi Strauss, creator of Levi's blue jeans, and Katherine Meyer Graham, editor and publisher of the *Washington Post* newspaper. Dr. Goldman and his family will attend the inauguration of the Center.

Computer programming was developed by 2001, the computer software company located at Beth Hatefutsoth, which is responsible for the development of all the interactive computer programs already operating in the Museum.

Amy Goodblatt Receives Law Degree

Amy Goodblatt, daughter of Sherwin and Phyllis Goodblatt, Sharon, MA, and granddaughter of Alex and Sarah Goodblatt, Providence, and Leon and Dorothy Croll, Newington, CT, recently received her law degree from Emory University Law School, Atlanta, GA. At her law school graduation, she received an award for excellence in oral and written advocacy as a member of the Moot Court Society. Amy is also a 1982 graduate of Brown University.

Jewish Home

(Continued from page 1)

Currently, the Jewish Home for the Aged, is the only facility in the state participating in this experience. This most likely will change as the obvious advantages become known. The medical residents appreciate the opportunity to become more aware of the needs of their geriatric patients. The residents of the Home are thrilled with the easy accessibility of medical attention. In fact, this program seems to have produced smiling faces on all involved.

William Novak At Am David

(Continued from page 1)

Novak's lecture was finished, no one, it seems, was spared ridicule. Novak told stories about Orthodox, Conservative and Reform Jews, rabbis, cantors, Federations, synagogues, *schnorers*, Jewish princes and princesses, morons, Israelis, Chassidic Jews and on and on. Novak also told several off-color jokes, best categorized under the heading of *petsle* jokes.

"I was first introduced to Jewish humor through a wonderful book called the "Treasury of Jewish Folklore," Novak said. "And growing up, I thought it was a wonderful way into Jewish life and traditions. When I was doing the research for *The Big Book of Jewish Humor*, which took me two years to finish, I wanted to do a similar book that would bring Jewish humor up to date. There is an old saying that Jewish humor is laughter through the tears, that it was developed as a defense weapon. Jewish humor is the ability to laugh instead of crying. It is a weapon against violence, against anti-Semitism."

Novak discussed how Jewish humor has entered the repertoires of many American entertainers.

"The other night I heard Johnny Carson refer to his tax consultant as 'H & R Goniff,'" Novak said. "The list of entertainers is long, starting with Steve Allen, Woody Allen and going down the list. Jewish humor has definitely influenced 20th century American life. You all know the light bulb jokes. What about this one: How many Jewish mothers does it take to change a light bulb? The answer: none. 'It's okay, I'll just sit in the dark.'"

"Many jokes are sad," Novak continued, "and we respond to these with a sigh of acquiescence. Other jokes are sick jokes. The jokes about other Jews are interesting. We like to think we are one. This event was sponsored by the Federation synagogue relations committee. Everyone knows that relations between the Federation and synagogues are fine, in times of crisis, but all other times, not really. We really are not one. There's the story about the Jew who points to one synagogue and says, 'I'm a member of that shul,' and then points to the neighboring synagogue and says, 'But that one I wouldn't be caught dead in.'"

A peripatetic speaker, Novak covered much ground, quipping his way through his travelogue of Jewish humor. The audience was quite delighted with his presentation and at the lecture's end swapped jokes with him. This is how he was able to anthologize much of his material, he confessed, by "stealing it from other books and listening to other storytellers." He invited the audience to participate in that exchange further at the social hour that followed.

Frederic Greenman, New V.P.

Frederic E. Greenman has been elected vice president of New England Electric System and was appointed general counsel by the company's board of directors.

Greenman, 48, joined New England Electric in 1969 as an attorney. He was appointed assistant general counsel in 1973 and associate general counsel in 1978. In 1979, Greenman was elected vice president of New England Electric's subsidiary, New England Power Company. In 1984, he was elected a director of Granite State Electric Company, another New England Electric subsidiary, and also appointed corporate secretary of the System. He has been acting general counsel since 1984.

Prior to joining New England Electric, Greenman served as assistant attorney general for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and Chief of the Division of Health, Education and Welfare within the department of attorney general.

Greenman is a graduate of Amherst College and Columbia Law School. He is a member of the Massachusetts Bar Association and is a trustee of the Franklin N. Flaschner Foundation.

Greenman, his wife Jocelyn and their daughters, Jennifer and Laurel, live in Wellesley, Massachusetts.

New England Electric System is a public utility holding company headquartered in Westborough, Mass. System subsidiaries include Massachusetts Electric Company, The Narragansett Electric Company in Rhode Island and Granite State Electric Company in New Hampshire. Other subsidiaries include a wholesale generating company, New England Power Company; a fuels exploration and development company, New England Energy Incorporated; a transmission company, New England Electric Transmission Corporation; a conservation service company, NEES Energy; and a service company, New England Power Service Company.

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Around Town

by Dorothea Snyder

Guarantors Of The Torah

"A miracle!" exclaimed Rabbi Yehoshua Laufer under a very blue and sunny sky.

The director of the Chabad Lubavitch of Southeastern New England was joyous that rain did not prevent the Post-Lag B'Omer Pre-Shavuos Carnival program from being held outdoors.

Decisions changed hourly as to whether the Grand Carnival should be held inside at Chabad House instead.

One hour before the Carnival began at 1:30 p.m. on May 19, the sun's strength chased away the rain clouds and the program could be officially held outdoors.

Rabbi Laufer said that the program "was planned to prepare everyone, especially the children, for the giving of the Torah and the Ten Commandmen The children are the guarantors of Torah."

He stressed that children need Juda programming outside of school and in t summer. The Carnival introduced n families to Gan-Israel Day Cam summer program.

"The great time we are having today the Carnival," he added, "is indicative the varied and fun program we have Gan-Israel Day Camp during t summer."

Rabbi Laufer encouraged interest families to call him at 273-7238 for mo information.

Holding the Yiddish Kite are from left, Shifra Jakubowicz, Yocheved Jakubowicz, Esther Nadin. (Photos by Dorothea Snyder).

The Balloon "Upsherenish" booth ran by Yossi Dubovick, center. Covered with shaving cream, the balloons are about to be shaved by Gershon Laufer, left, and Brocha Perl at right.

Rabbi Yehoshua Laufer leads the children in the reading of twelve Torah passages which are said on many special Lubavitch gatherings. Participating at left are Benjamin Dworman and Gabriel Strauss.

Shloimke The Clown, also known as Michael Bresler, entertained the youngsters throughout the carnival time. With Shloimke are Dov Winkelman, at left, an unidentified boy at right, and Dina Dubovick.

Maggie Delong is the face painting artist at left who designed the faces of Jessica Cohen and Judith Massouda standing from left. Seated is Caroline Perl.

Ari Nadin, right, challenges the hand-steadiness test at the "Jewish Connection" booth. Intently watching is Yonah Sears who was in charge. The idea, as the sign warns, is "Don't Buzz."

Arts & Entertainment

Puppet Workshop Presents Beauty And The Beast

The Puppet Workshop has announced the final show to be offered in this year's winter/spring subscription series being held at Lincoln School in Providence. *Beauty and the Beast* will premiere June 1 to complete the series, which included three other shows from PW's repertoire.

Conceived and designed by Erminio Pinque, this new adaptation of the beloved fairytale will stress the idea that Love has the power to transform. It will feature a modern approach with highly original, large moving-mouth puppets and exciting special effects and music. Beauty, a modern teenager, offers to take the place of her problem-plagued father as prisoner of the enchanted Beast. She alone is able to see that the Beast is good in spite of his appearance. Beauty earns her own reward as she learns to see beyond superficial appearances and frees the Beast from his ugliness.

As in any Puppet Workshop performance, all this cannot take place without a great deal of help and interaction from the audience. The new show will be performed at 10:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on June 1, at Lincoln School, 301 Butler Avenue, Providence. Shows are held in the auditorium of the Lower School building on East Orchard Avenue, off Butler.

Admissions cost $3.00 and are available at the door. Reservations are strongly recommended for those without subscriptions and may be made by calling 521-4250.

Wachusett Mountain Alive With Music

Wachusett Mountain ski area in Princeton, Massachusetts, announces a new summer music series to begin at the area this June. The series, sponsored by Coors beer and titled "The Coors Mountain Music Series at Wachusett," will feature several evenings of live music and entertainment. The lodge restaurant at Wachusett will offer a specially prepared menu for each event to be enjoyed inside the lodge or outside on the deck.

"Jazz under the Stars" on Saturday, June 1, is the first evening planned in the music series. The new Black Eagle jazz band, widely acknowledged as one of the best traditional jazz groups now performing, will entertain outdoors from 6 to 10 p.m. Chef Owen Reilley of the Lodge Restaurant will present a delicious variety of foods on the deck from 4 until 8 p.m. There will be an admission charge of $5.00 per person to the area. Menu prices are a la carte. Reservations for tables on the outside decks are suggested. In case of inclement weather, the event will be held inside the lodge.

"Puttin' on the Ritz" will bring their vocal swing-jazz act from Boston to Wachusett on Thursday, June 13. An elegant, six-course dinner will be served in the lodge before the 8 p.m. performance.

June 27 will feature Craig Ball and the White Heat Swing Band at the lodge for an evening of fine food, good music and lively dancing.

Wachusett Mountain ski area is conveniently located off Route 140 in Princeton and easily accessible from all directions. For further information about the music series and other upcoming events at Wachusett Mountain, please call 617-464-5101. For reservations call 617-464-2300.

Fiber Arts Classes At Slater Mill

The Summer session of textile classes begins soon at Slater Mill. The courses include: Ikat Dyeing, which begins Saturday, June 8, runs for 4 Saturdays from 10 a.m.-12 noon, costs $50 for members, $60 for non-members, and is taught by Mary Troeger; Knitting, which begins Monday, June 10, runs for 8 Mondays from 7-9 p.m., costs $40 for members, $50 for non-members, and is taught by Judy Davis; Beginning/Intermediate Weaving, offered is two sections: Section 1, which begins Saturday, June 8, runs for 5 Saturdays from 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., costs $60 for members, $70 for non-members, and is taught by Peggy Hart; Section 2 begins Tuesday, July 9, runs for 4 weeks, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., costs $60 for members, $70 for non-members, and is taught Peggy Hart; and Tapestry Weaving, which begins Wednesday, July 17, runs for 6 Wednesdays from 7-9:30 p.m., costs $50 for members, $60 for non-members, and is taught by Jan Austin.

Call 725-8638 to register for a course or to receive a catalog.

Summer Tours At Slater Mill

A five-acre park along the falls of the Blackstone River is the setting for the Slater Mill Historic Site, the birthplace of the American Industrial Revolution. A living museum of craft and industry, here an eight-ton water wheel operates machinery in the *Wilkinson Machine Shop* (1810). Expert tour guides also take you through the *Sylvanus Brown House* (1758) for demonstrations of handspinning, carding, and weaving, providing a picture of 18th-century family life. The *Old Slater Mill* (1793) exhibits functioning textile machinery; many are the only ones of their kind in operation world-wide.

The museum's summer hours begin June 1 and continue through Labor Day. Hours are Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday 1-5 p.m. Advance reservations are suggested for groups over 10. Admission is $2.50 for adults (group rate is $1.50) and $1.00 for children 6-14 years. Call 725-8638 for more information.

Music Festival Of R.I. Has Style

The Music Festival of Rhode Island will launch its thirteenth season on Tuesday, June 4, with a performance by Richard Goode, pianist, at Roberts Auditorium, Rhode Island College. Goode, winner of the 1982 Grammy Award, has had major recitals at New York's Lincoln Center, the Kennedy Center in Washington, and in Montreal, Philadelphia, Boston, London, Vienna, Los Angeles, Toronto, Stuttgart, Florence, Milan and Rome; he has also been soloist with many of the world's leading orchestras. His forthcoming concert marks his second appearance with the Music Festival. One of the leading interpreters of Beethoven's piano music, he will play the *Sonata No. 24 in F-sharp*, Opus 78 and *Sonata No. 32 in C-minor*, Opus 111; his program will also include Brahms *Four Piano Pieces*, Opus 119 and Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*, a work rarely performed in this area.

Tuesday evenings in June, will continue on June 11 with a performance by the New Black Eagle Jazz Band, one of the country's leading traditional jazz bands, at Rhode Island College. A Massachusetts-based group of seven musicians, they are well known for their interpretations of King Oliver, Scott Joplin, Jelly Roll Morton, Louis Armstrong, Sidney Bechet and Duke Ellington.

On June 18, Lisa Lancaster, a former Rhode Island resident, a former principal cellist with the Brown University Orchestra, a founding member of the Providence New Music Ensemble, a member of the R.I. Philharmonic and of the R.I. Music Festival String Quartet, will return to Providence for a performance with Judith Mendenhall, flutist, and Richard McDonald, pianist, at Sayles Hall, Brown University. Each member of the group has toured nationally with Music from Marlboro. A member of Alexander Schneider's Brandenburg Ensemble, Ms. Lancaster has appeared as featured soloist at Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall and Symphony Hall in Boston. Ms. Mendenhall, a first prize winner of the 1978 Walter Naumburg Chamber Music Competition, made her New York solo debut last year at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Winner of the Gold Medal at the 1983 Busoni International Piano Competition in Bolzano, Italy, Mr. McDonald spends his summers as Director of Keyboard Activities at the Taos School of Music and the Chamber Music Festival in New Mexico. Ms. Lancaster and Ms. Mendenhall will perform the world premiere of a cello and flute composition, *Two-Part Dissensions*, written for them by Paul Epstein, co-director of the Urban Symphonette.

On June 25, the Beacon Brass quintet from Boston will perform at Rhode Island School of Design Auditorium. The first brass ensemble ever to win the concert Artists Guild Award, they made their Carnegie Hall debut in 1983. The Beacon Brass Quintet is dedicated to expanding the brass chamber music repertoire and has commissioned several major new works, performing six world premieres in the past two years. Their program will include short works by Albinoni, Bach, Debussy, Farnaby, Grieg, Heiden, Scheidt and Strauss. Their performance is partially funded by a grant from the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts, through the New England Foundation for the Arts.

For tickets and further information, call Barbara Levine, Executive Director, 751-0058.

Pawtucket Arts Council Announces Display

During the month of June, the Pawtucket Arts Council will have an exhibit of oil paintings and drawings by students of Pawtucket's Advanced Art Class. The display will be on exhibit from June 3 to June 28.

The instructor of this class is Edmund Hines. Mr. Hines is a native of Pawtucket and a member of the Pawtucket Arts Council. His students include Joanne Pell, Gertrude Raimbeau, George Quaranta, Carol Maxwell, Sister Giselle Gagne, Dorothy Fox, Mary Huber, and Harriet Arnold.

Regular gallery hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Call 725-1151 for more information.

Trinity Summer Rep Announces Productions

Trinity Square Repertory Company has announced its two productions for the summer of 1985. Trinity Summer Rep will present *Baby*, a delightful musical, and *Not By Bed Alone*, a wildly funny farce. Both productions will be in Trinity Rep's air-conditioned downstairs theatre, 201 Washington Street, Providence, R.I.

Baby — with book by Sybille Pearson, music by David Shire, and lyrics by Richard Maltby, Jr. — is a spirited musical that celebrates the joy, the uncertainty, and the humor of becoming a parent. Three couples of different generations face parenthood, and as they move from first exhilaration to final panic, we see how the promise of childbirth delivers both tenderness and comedy. With endearing characters, wonderful lyrics, and irresistible music, *Baby* is an entertaining labor of love. Director and cast will be announced soon.

Baby begins June 28 and runs through July 28.

Not By Bed Alone, by Georges Feydeau, the master of French farce, is an uproarious comedy about a well-known nightclub singer and her reluctant lover, who is looking for a way to make a more advantageous match. With a gallery of extraordinary characters and every farcical trick in his book — from unexpected plot twists to mistaken intentions — Feydeau creates a gloriously madcap world that spins at a wild and hysterical pace. Trinity Rep has a special way with Feydeau; past productions of his plays have been tremendously popular. Director and cast will be announced.

Not By Bed Alone begins August 9 and runs through September 8.

Trinity Summer Rep performs Tuesday through Friday at 8:00 p.m.; Saturday at 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.; Sunday at 7:00 p.m.; and selected Wednesday and Sunday matinees at 2:00 p.m. Please note the **new time for Sunday evening performances — 7:00 p.m.** There are special prices for Senior Citizens and for Student Rush. Single-ticket prices range from $15 to $21.

Ticket buyers have two ways to save this summer. Subscribers to the 1985-86 season get Early Bird bonus coupons that enable them to purchase two regular-price tickets for the price of one to any summer performance. The deadline is June 17. And with the Summer Package Special, you can buy one play at the regular price and get the second play at half price. (Offer expires July 28; good except Saturdays, 9:00 p.m.; both shows must be purchased at same time.) For reservations call (401) 351-4242. Visa/MasterCard accepted.

Events And Exhibitions At R.I.S.D.

Wednesday, June 5 at 6:30 p.m. *Continuing Education Open House.* Preview of course offerings in drawing, landscaping and watercolor, and others. Lisle House, 4365 Post Road, Warwick, R.I. Call (401) 331-3511, Ext. 282 for details.

Museum of Art, 224 Benefit Street, Providence

*The Museum is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday from 12 to 8 p.m.; and Sunday from 2 to 5 p.m.

Through June 29 — **Rhode Island Collects Asian Art.** An exhibition highlighting the riches of Rhode Island's private collections.

June 7-September 15 — **The Modern Impulse: Abstracted and Abstract Painting and Sculpture Across Two Continents.** An exhibition of the work of a variety of European and American artists from the past century who have worked in the spirit of modernism.

*NOTE: Summer hours, commencing June 16 through August 31 will be Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Woods-Gerry Gallery, 62 Prospect Street, Providence.

June 12-30 — **Swedish photographers.** An exhibition of Swedish photographers currently showing through the U.S., arranged through the Swedish Consulate.

The Gallery is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Sunday from 2 to 5 p.m.

Obituaries

LOUIS STRASHNICK

PROVIDENCE — Louis Strashnick, 92, of the Jewish Home for the Aged, 99 Hillside Ave., owner of the Met Cafe for 40 years before retiring two years ago, died Sunday, May 26 at Miriam Hospital. He was the husband of the late Mollie (Luckniansky) Strashnick.

Born in Russia, a son of the late Abraham and Gussie Strashnick, he lived in Providence most of his life.

Mr. Strashnick was a member of the Touro Fraternal Organization, the former Beth David Synagogue, a past president of the Rhode Island Liquor Dealers Association, and a past vice president of the eastern division of the National Liquor Dealers Association.

He leaves a son, Jack Strashnick of Narragansett; a daughter, Mrs. Janice Colitz of Pawtucket; two sisters, Mrs. Frances Polack and Mrs. Sara Wein, both of Brookline, Mass.; five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

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

LAWRENCE SINGER

BROOKLINE, Mass. — Lawrence Singer, 94, of 131 Sewall Ave., a clothing salesman for many years before retiring, died Friday, May 23 at Beth Israel Hospital, Boston. He was the husband of Celia (Goldenberg) Singer. He was the husband of the late Rose (Karp) Singer.

Born in Russia, a son of the late Jacob and Taube Singer, he came to this country many years ago.

Besides his wife he leaves three sons, Ernest Singer of Chestnut Hill, Robert Singer of Barrington and Herbert Singer of Warwick.

A funeral service was held at Congregation Kehillath Israel, Harvard Street. Burial was in Sharon Memorial Park, Sharon.

LEO ZIMMERMAN

PAWTUCKET — Leo Zimmerman, 85, of 172 Cleveland St., a former furrier in New York City, died Thursday, May 16 at Roger Williams General Hospital. He was the husband of Frances (Coppersmith) Zimmerman.

Mr. Zimmerman and his wife formerly owned a millinery shop in Wayland Square, Providence, and a retail dress shop on Warwick Avenue. He moved to Pawtucket in 1954.

Besides his wife he leaves three sons, Dr. Daniel Zimmerman of Las Vegas, Murray Zimmerman in California and Stanley Zimmerman of Orlando, Fla.; a brother, Morris Zimmerman of Providence; nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

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

ABRAHAM GUY

CRANSTON — Abraham Guy, 81, of 315 Park Ave., a self-employed household goods salesman for 40 years before retiring in 1970, died Sunday, May 26 at the Jewish Home for the Aged, Hillside Avenue, Providence. He was the husband of Betty (Gladstone) Guy.

Born in Fall River, a son of the late Nathan M. and Hinda (Silver) Guy, he lived in Cranston for 15 years. He previously lived in Providence.

Mr. Guy was a 32nd-degree Mason, and a member of Roosevelt Lodge, AF & AM, the Palestine Shrine, the Providence Fraternal Association and Temple Torat Yisrael.

Besides his wife he leaves a daughter, Rhoda Feldman of Cranston; four brothers, Bernard Guy of Providence, Leonard Guy of Cranston, Edward Guy in Florida and Irving Guy of New York; two sisters, Anna Chertoff and Ethel Guy, both of Providence; six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

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

EDWARD WEINER

CRANSTON — Edward Weiner, 58, of 33 Dixwell Ave., a self-employed furniture consultant, died Sunday, May 19 at Rhode Island Hospital. He was the husband of Estelle (Mandell) Weiner.

Born in Providence, a son of Gussie Weiner of Cranston, and the late Samuel Weiner, he lived in Cranston for 30 years.

Mr. Weiner was a World War II Navy veteran. He was a member of the Knights of Pythias, Harmony Lodge, F & AM, and Temple Torat Yisrael.

Besides his wife and mother he leaves a daughter, Mrs. Joyce Lustbader of Bayside, N.Y.; two sons, Bruce and Scott Weiner, both of Cranston; a sister, Mrs. Lillian Katz of Miami, Fla., and a granddaughter.

Funeral services were held at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

IDA BLACKMAN

CRANSTON — Ida Blackman of 425 Meshanticut Valley Pkwy., died Tuesday, May 28 at Miriam Hospital. She retired in 1980 as office manager of Blackman & Blackman, former certified public accountants in Providence.

Miss Blackman was born in Syosset, N.Y., a daughter of the late Samuel and Lena (Sherman) Blackman.

She leaves a sister, Rose Cohen of Providence.

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

MAX I. MILLMAN

EAST PROVIDENCE — Max I. Millman, 74, of 25 Arthur Ave., a teacher in the Providence school system for many years, and a principal of Mount Pleasant High School until retiring in 1977, died Thursday, May 23, at his summer home, 95 Mohawk Drive, Coventry. He was the husband of Mollie (Kiven) Millman.

Born in Providence, a son of the late Samuel and Etta (Pollack) Millman, he lived in East Providence since 1978.

Mr. Millman also was principal of the Oliver Hazard Perry Junior High School, and the Nathan Bishop Junior High School.

He was a 1932 Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Brown University where he received a bachelor of arts degree, and a master's degree.

Mr. Millman was a member of Temple Beth El and its Brotherhood, and was a religion teacher at the temple for 40 years. He was a member of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, and a past co-chairman of the retired executives division. He was a member of the Jewish Home for the Aged, the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association, the Bureau of Jewish Education, the Israel Bonds Committee, the Rhode Island Association of School Principals, and the Brown University Alumni Fund.

Besides his wife he leaves two daughters, Roberta Shine-Davis of Providence and Carol S. Franklin of Sudbury, Mass.; three sisters, Rose Freedman and Esther Rothberg, both of Warwick, Beatrice Fishbein of Providence, and six grandchildren.

A funeral service was held at Temple Beth El, Orchard Avenue. Burial was in Sons of Israel and David Cemetery. Arrangements were by the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

ELIOT M. SOLOMON

PAWTUCKET — Eliot M. Solomon, 56, of 93 Cambria Court, co-owner with his wife, Anita (Kestenman) Solomon, of Lloyd's Restaurant, Hope Street, Providence, for the past 25 years, died Sunday, May 26 at home after a six-year illness.

Born in Providence, a son of the late John A. and Eva (Robbins) Solomon, he lived in Pawtucket for 24 years.

Mr. Solomon was an Army veteran of the Korean War. He was a member of Temple Beth-El and its Brotherhood, Plantations Lodge, B'nai B'rith, Roosevelt Lodge, F & AM, and the Touro Fraternal Association.

Besides his wife he leaves three daughters, Gail Weinberg, Jamie Goldstein, Judi Grant, all of Providence, and two sisters, Fredda Heyman of Lincoln and Edna Dashoff of Fall River.

A funeral service was held at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Congregation Sons of Israel and David Cemetery, Providence.

IRVING I. KATZ

SWAMPSCOTT, Mass. — Irving Katz, 67, of 1000 Paradise Rd., a form furniture dealer, died Monday, May 27 Beth Israel Hospital, Boston. He was t husband of Irene E. (Quint) Katz.

Born in Providence, he formerly lived Winthrop and Marblehead.

Mr. Katz owned the Quint Furnitu Co., Malden, from 1948 until retiring 1982. He was a World War II Arn veteran, and a member of the Disabl American Veterans. He was a Mason a a member of Mount Scopus Lodge. He w a member of the Jewish Center, and a pa member of Temple Tisereth Isra Winthrop. He built Fishermen's Crossi in Swampscott.

Besides his wife he leaves two son Ronnie Amar and Stephen J. Katz, bot of Swampscott; a daughter, Sherry Lises of Agoura, Calif.; a brother, Morton Ka of Cranston; two sisters, Sylvia Krasner Cranston, Phyllis Dworman Bloomfield, Conn., and five grandchildre

A funeral service was held at th Stanatsky-Hymanson Memorial Chape 10 Vinnin St., Salem. Burial was i Sharon Memorial Park, Sharon.

Health Fair Offers Free Screenings

More than a dozen preventative healt screenings will be offered to the public fre of charge June 5, 6, and 7 during th fourth annual Health Check Fair, which i a community service project of WJAR-T 10 and sponsored by Fram and Hasbro.

The Health Check Fair will be held a the Warwick Mall from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m The Warwick Rotary and the Warwick Mall are co-site co-ordinators for the event, which will involve twenty different health care organizations. More than 350 volunteers and health care professionals will provide free health screenings and counseling to an anticipated 2,000 people during the three-day event.

Blood pressure, height, weight, anemia and vision tests will be administered free of charge and two optional blood chemistry analysis will be available for a fee of $10 or $15.

A variety of cancer screenings and information will be offered, as well as a "Brown Bag" program which will allow participants to bring in their medications and hold discussions with pharmacists, sponsored by the Rhode Island Pharmacists Association.

A computerized "Wellness Check" will be offered as well as a computerized nutritional screening. The following health screenings will be available: glaucoma, hearing, foot disorders, posture screenings, blood typing and stress coping.

The Health Fair will also feature educational exhibits aimed at helping the public understand the importance of early detection and treatment of diseases.

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David Wyman To Speak At Holocaust Program In Connecticut

The inaugural lecturer of the University Hartford's six-part symposium on "The olocaust in Historical Perspective" will Dr. David S. Wyman of the University Massachusetts at Amherst, author of widely-hailed book *The Abandonment the Jews.*

The book is the definitive account of w America failed to respond to the geno- al program launched against European vry by the Nazis in the course of the cond World War.

Wyman's lecture, also entitled "The andonment of the Jews," will be held Millard Auditorium of the University rtt School of Music on Tuesday, ne 11.

The six-part symposium he will inaugu- e with this lecture represents one por- n of a major summer program devoted the Holocaust.

Other parts include:

"Image and Reality: Jewish Life in rezin," an exhibition that will appear in University's Joseloff Gallery from June hrough July 29. The exhibition consists artwork and artifacts created by the n, women and children imprisoned in Terezin concentration camp in echoslovakia. Also included are pho- raphs and artifacts that document life he camp and informational panels pre- ed by the B'nai B'rith Klutznick Mu- m in Washington. It will complement a ultaneous exhibition, "The Precious gacy," at the Wadsworth Atheneum.

A special University Convocation on esday, June 4, commemorating those o died at Terezin or after deportation m there to the death camps. This con- ation, to be held in the University's coln Theater, will be addressed by Mr. e Wiesel, the well-known writer on the locaust and a professor at Boston Uni- sity.

A course on the Holocaust that will be ered as part of the University's Sum- rterm, as well as other courses on re- d topics.

Film and musical programs that are ng jointly planned by the University l such Greater Hartford organizations he Hartford Jewish Community Center l the Wadsworth Atheneum.

The appearance of Dr. Wyman on June s an event of special significance given fact that his book, published at the end 984, has received such widespread crit- acclaim.

Wyman, who comes from a Methodist kground, was born in Weymouth, ss., in 1929, the grandson of two minis- . He holds degrees from Boston Uni- ity, Plymouth (N.H.) State College Harvard University. He has taught at University of Massachusetts since 3 as a professor of history and has twice n chairman of the school's Judaic Stud- program.

Wyman's previous scholarship includes *er Walls: America and the Refugee is 1938-1941,* a book that appeared in 3, and an important article, "Why chwitz Was Never Bombed," that was published by *Commentary* magazine in 1978.

When the full extent of the Nazis' genocidal program became known in 1942, Wyman recently wrote in a brief description of this book, there ensued a "struggle by Jewish groups, with some non-Jewish help, to persuade the Roosevelt Administration and Congress to take steps toward rescue. This 14-month effort was hurt by obstruction from the State Department, the indifference of President Roosevelt, inadequate press coverage, little help from Christian Americans, and fighting among American Jewish organizations."

When Roosevelt, in January 1944, finally created the War Refugee Board, Wyman wrote, "it was handicapped by the lateness of the hour and the small commitment given it by the President and the rest of his Administration."

Wyman observed that "while tha Nazis placed high priority on killing the Jews, the Roosevelt Administration pushed the problem far into the background.

Most American non-Jews were unaware or unconcerned. The widespread anti-Semitism of the era made others quite callous. And even American Jews failed to develop the unquenchable sense of urgency that the crisis demanded."

Wyman's conclusion: "The United States could not have solved the entire problem; but without compromising the war effort, it could have saved scores of thousands, probably hundreds of thousands, more than it did."

The six-part series that Wyman will launch on June 11 consists of two groups of symposia, organized as follows:

The Holocaust: A Look Backward and Forward — June 11, "The Abandonment of the Jews;" June 25, "The Challenge to Religious Faith;" July 9, "Star Wars: The Fear of a Future Genocide."

Image and Reality: A Search for Continuity — June 18, "Sign Symbol and Identity;" July 2, "Art, Catastrophe and Survival;" July 16, "Permanence, Beauty and the Everlasting."

Speakers for the symposia are still in the process of being chosen. All six symposia will be held in Millard Auditorium starting at 8 p.m. for more information call Arlene Neiditz at (203) 243-4963.

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e City of Peace Award of the Israel Bond Organization was presented to 'in G. Alperin for his outstanding leadership and service in behalf of his nunity, the Jewish people and the State of Israel. The occasion was a State rael Tribute Dinner in his honor held at Ledgemont Country Club under the ices of the Rhode Island Committee, State of Israel Bonds. Participating in ward presentation ceremony were, left to right, Melvin S. Frank, Tribute mittee chairman; Mrs. Melvin G. Alperin and guest of honor Melvin G. rin, Robert A. Riesman, Bruce R. Ruttenberg, general chairman of the le Island Committee, State of Israel Bonds; and Major General Leonard nd.

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Tina Turner

Tina Turner's "Private Dancer Tour '85" will be making a mid-summer stop at the Providence Civic Center on Thursday, July 25 at 8 p.m.

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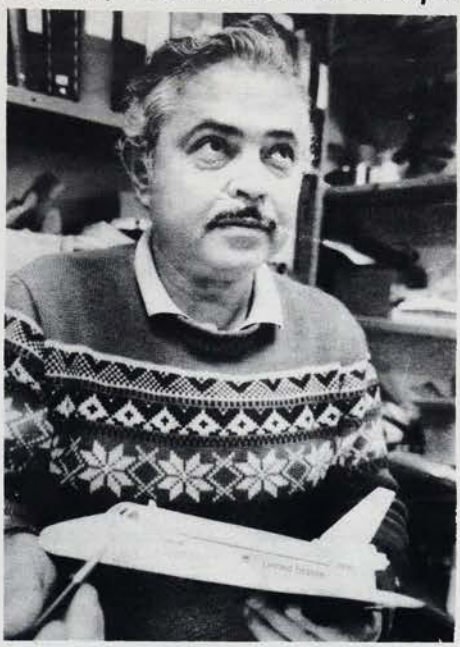

Tel Aviv University Professor Jacob Ishay shows where the hornets will be installed on the space shuttle.

When 180 Oriental hornets are rocketed into Earth's orbit during the summer of 1986, Tel Aviv University Professor Jacob Ishay is convinced, there is no chance that they will escape inside the space shuttle.

No, they will not sting the astronauts with their poisonous venom. No, they will not create a space nightmare worthy of Hollywood scriptwriters inside the tight confines of the orbitng space vehicle.

The hornets, says Ishay, their caretaker, will be contained securely inside a metal locker.

The hornets will be sent into space for a study of how they adapt to near-weightless conditions — an environment in which gravity is a thousandth or less of that on Earth. By studying the insects' behavior, Ishay hopes to learn how humans can cope better with space sickness, an unusual malady that has caused more than one-third of the astronauts to suffer from headaches, nausea and weakness.

Ishay, a professor of entomology at Tel Aviv University, met with University of Pennsylvania biologists recently to discuss his research.

During an interview, he said Oriental hornets were being used because of their unusual ability — not found in humans or other mammals — to detect tiny amounts of gravitation and react to them.

Among the questions Ishay hopes to answer as a result of his hornet mission are these:

- Will the hornets build combs, similar to a bee's honeycomb, in the same manner they do on earth? Or will these combs be larger, smaller or built at a different angle?
- Will space travel affect the hornets' unusual capability to convert sunlight into electricity? On Earth, this capability provides power for their natural air-conditioning units, which help them survive in the 110-degree heat found near the Dead Sea.
- Will the hornets work together, as they do on Earth, or will they become disoriented and abandon their cooperative instincts?
- Will the hornet's unhatched young, or pupae, still emit a "hunger signal" — a rhythmic beat emerging from the comb when they are hungry — in space?

Ishay, 54, said the hornets were expected to be sent up sometime between July and October 1986. His shuttle project will mark the first time that the Israel Space Agency and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) have collaborated on a space mission.

Ishay said the hornets would be enclosed in a box about the size of a large typewriter case that will be stationed on the middeck, near the front of the space shuttle.

He said 10 hornets would be enclosed in each of 18 compartments inside the metal locker. The temperature will be kept at about 84 degrees — a condition the hornets are used to in their natural habitat of the Middle East, East Africa and India.

"We are using Oriental hornets because they are the only species of hornets that builds a comb in laboratory conditions and without a queen," he said. "Within four to six days after they are sent up, we expect them to have built a comb."

Oriental hornets normally attach their comb to the roof of a small chamber in the ground and then build downward, toward the center of gravity. In laboratory experiments, they have been able to detect as little as a thousandth of Earth's gravity, Ishay said.

Ishay believes that the insects will build their combs in a similar fashion in the space shuttle. He will test his hypothesis in a number of ways.

Some of the hornets will be housed in darkness and others will be bathed in light to see whether light affects the way they build.

The hornets also will be placed inside three different-shaped containers — box-shaped, egg-shaped and domed-shaped — to see where they attach their combs.

Ishay said he was not worried that the hornets would die in space, because of their unusual abilities to adapt. In laboratory experiments, they have survived up to 500 times the gravity found on Earth, he said.

Contrary to the case on some past shuttle flights, NASA officials are not requiring the Tel Aviv University professor to remove the hornets' stingers — even though the venom of 40 to 50 Oriental hornets is potent enough to kill a person.

"Oriental hornets are one of the most dangerous types of hornets," Ishay said. "But don't worry. There is no chance that they will be able to escape."

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