

# Rhode Island Jewish HERALD

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## 'Better Than Waiting on Tables' — Today's Yiddish Theater

by Nahma Sandrow

Ten years ago, when she was just another cute kid living in New York and trying to break into show business, Eleanor Reissa answered a casting call in Backstage to audition for a place in the chorus of a Yiddish show. She got the part. Yiddish theater was not Broadway, but it was a job

and she decided "it was better than waiting on tables," which is where so many show biz careers start and end. Eleanor began in the chorus, rose to playing saucy soubrettes in other Yiddish productions, and several years later, when the star happened to leave her show, she was ready to step center stage. At the same time

that her "American" career kept making steady progress, the spotlight on the Yiddish stage was coming to feel like a comfortable place to stand.

All the same, last season, when she got a phone call offering her a starring role in the Yiddish musical "Songs of Paradise," she groaned. "Oh no, not again!" and made a rude face at the receiver.

Still, she didn't turn it down. "Songs of Paradise," a frisky and irreverent retelling of Bible stories, newly adapted from Yiddish poetry with a cast of young actors and fresh references to salsa, reggae, and disco, delighted the *New York Times* as well as the *Yiddish Daily Forward*. So did Eleanor. And this year finds her yet again belting out big numbers in a Yiddish revue, "Those Were the Days."

In her bemused, affectionate, edgy, ambivalent attitude toward the Yiddish theater, Eleanor is typical of most American Yiddish actors of the younger generation. ("Young" in today's Yiddish theater means roughly 20 to 45 years

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(Clockwise, beginning with top left): Rosaline Gerut, David Kener (middle), Avi Hoffman, Eleanor Reissa, Adrienne Cooper. The cast of "Songs of Paradise," now at the Public/ Shiva Theater. Photo Martha Swopce.

## Bar Mitzvah Made Easy with Computer

by Kathy Cohen  
Herald Assistant Editor

Teaching trop has been simplified through a new computer called Lev Software which helps students learn the Torah and Haftorah blessings in any tempo within a twelve-key range. It also will transliterate the Hebrew into either English or Russian.

The program was designed by Benjamin Levy and his wife, singer Shira Levy, in order to

facilitate the memorization of the blessings.

Two years ago, the couple worked together with Shira's father, Cantor Shimon Gewirtz, as well as other Israeli cantors in order to merge a musical program Benjamin designed, with a Hebrew computer language. They made it adaptable to IBM personal computers and Lev Software was born.

While it doesn't do every-

thing a cantor can, one advantage of the computer is that "it can help the cantor with the information: such as teaching the child to recognize Hebrew," says Temple Torat Yisrael's music teacher Stanley Freidman.

The system is considerably more advanced than listening to an audio recording of a cantor performing the blessings. With the computer, the child not only hears the pitches but can follow along with each word as the computer takes the child through each trop at their own voice range and at varied speeds as they sing along.

Temple Torat Yisrael will be the first school to implement the new computer program in Rhode Island, and within the next few months, others throughout the country are expected to follow.

The Levys began using the marketing strategies of an American firm in Chicago to market their new development to individuals in the United States and Canada. They also advertised in the *International Jerusalem Post*. Eventually they took on their own marketing in America and abroad.

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## A Woman Of The World



Lola SchafraNIK

by Michael Fink  
Special to the Herald

Those of us who have taken tea with Lola SchafraNIK form a small society. Now that Lola has left us we share our club with anyone willing to read our words.

Lola lived in a very elegant retirement building in East Greenwich. She played the continental hostess in a salon that held the tea things and tables she had somehow managed to bring over from her own and her parents' places in their native Vienna.

Compact and competent, she created her world in one room. The larger domain had cheated her of its spaces. A survivor of the ill-fated ship the *St. Louis*, she had been turned back from America. She found wartime refuge in England.

Herta Hoffman, a founder of Self-Help, the R.I. organization set up to receive German and Austrian Jewish refugees, drove me to meet Lola a few years ago. Lola had already reached her nineties. She moved about on her carpets, charged with vigor and stamina. I went back for a second rendezvous with a student named Becky Brenner, whose Polish Jewish parents had survived the Holocaust. We taped Lola's account of her time in Vienna. A neighborhood lad in a Hitler's Youth uniform had come by for tea and dessert. He was at a loss what to say or ask, not ready yet to let go of his respectful image of the refined lady in the fashionable suite of parcels who baked typical cookies and put them on exquisite china plates. Lola wore the classic Austrian Jewish image of pride, dignity, taste, and strength.

After the interview, Lola walked us out to my car. Becky found her bearing a bit haughty. Her feisty faith in herself appealed to me. Lola phoned me at home from time to time. I was honored to hear her voice. I saw in my mind the form of Lola, straight but small, offering me her cheek in the bleak parking lot at the old Post Road. Are we Jews permitted to believe that the dead eavesdrop on what we say or think about them? I want to address a word to Lola. "You lived a heroic life!" Lola liked to serve her tea to

(continued from page 16)

**DUE TO THE OBSERVANCE OF  
LABOR DAY, NEXT WEEK'S  
RHODE ISLAND JEWISH HERALD  
WILL BE PUBLISHED ON  
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7.**



Proud owners of Lev Software, Benjamin Levy and Shira Levy pose with Temple Torat Yisrael Cantor Shimon Gewirtz, who helped put the program together.

## Letter To The Editor

Your issue of August 23 had the usual interesting and efficiently reported column by Dorothea Snyder, this time titled Seniors Mull Middle East Crisis.

As a "senior citizen" oh boy, do I hate this world, I am almost or even clearly, at the age where but for the grace of God, I could, but am not at the facility we lovingly call "the Home."

I couldn't agree more with the good people interviewed by Mrs. Snyder. In these times of unprecedented crisis, the President goes electioneering for his party colleagues when he should, of course, be with the troops, our boys who had to leave the security of their homes to defend our country against the madness of Adolf, pardon me, Saddam Hussein.

So much for our priorities...

Hans L. Heimann

## Women Of Voice Concert

Earthcalls network in cooperation with Visions and Voices bookstore and the Sarah Doyle Women's Center presents the First Annual Women of Voice Concert on Saturday, September 15, at 7:30 p.m. in Brown University's Solomon Hall. The concert is a benefit for women with AIDS, (through the services of R.I. Project AIDS.)

Featured performers at the evening benefit include composer, author and teacher Kay Gardner, and singer, songwriter and recording artist Laura Berkson. Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased at Visions and Voices, 255 Harris Avenue, Providence (401) 273-9757. Tickets may also be obtained at the door or through the Earthcalls Network (401) 521-0767 or (401) 782-8625.

In addition to the concert, there will be a workshop given by Kay Gardner on Sunday, September 16, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. entitled "Sounding the Inner Landscape: Music & Healing." Participants will explore the ways in which sound and music affect not only our ears, but our entire bodies, minds and psyches. The workshop fee is \$20. Space is limited. For more information on registration and location of the workshop call (401) 521-0767.

Earthcalls is an alternative resource network dedicated to preserving the living body of the earth. The network brings money, resources and public awareness to socially and environmentally concerned groups. Earthcalls actively chooses to unify spirit and politics, and pursues a three-fold path in its work: to organize and co-sponsor fundraising events, retreats and workshops related to the spirit, the political and the creative; to support grass roots organizations and events with funding, people power and publicity; and to network with the busi-

ness and resources for community and ecological concerns. In the past year since its inception, Earthcalls has presented workshops with Starhawk, Luisa Teish, and Margot Adler.

Kay Gardner, composer, master of the flute, transformation artist, is at the forefront of composers creating lyrical, improvisational, holistic, entrancing and experimental music designed for meditation, relaxation and healing.

Laura Berkson is a singer, songwriter, recording artist and educator for whom music is a medium for personal growth, community empowerment, and world change. Laura has toured extensively throughout the United States and has performed with Ronnie Gilbert, Lucie Blue Tremblay, and Connie Kaldor, among others. Laura's songs reflect themes of peace, social justice, and the strength of the human spirit. Her song "To Be Strong," an anthemic tribute to community solidarity in the face of AIDS, is sung across the nation at healing services, rallies and gatherings. Laura's song "Marie" has been recorded by both Charlie King and Cathy Winter. In addition to her performance work, Laura teaches songwriting in R.I. schools, through the Arts in Education program of the R.I. State Council on the Arts. Laura is currently celebrating the release of her debut on compact disc.

## Visiting Professors Boost Brown

Brown University's Program in Judaic Studies will host several visiting professors during the next academic year, program chairman Ernest Frerichs announced last week.

Meanwhile, the program staff will be conducting a search for a professor to replace former co-chairman of the program, Jacob Neusner. Neusner took early retirement in July.

According to Frerichs, there is now somewhere between "300 to 400 programs, centers, institutes and committees of Jewish or Judaic studies," around the country. This is a substantial increase from the late 1920s when one professorship existed at Columbia.

The movement of Judaic studies out of the Yeshiva world and into a non-ethnic, academic setting occurred for a variety of reasons, Frerichs says. He cites the abundance of Jewish college students after World War II, and the realization by religious studies departments that they were not taking Jewish studies seriously as an academic discipline.

The program at Brown is multi-dimensional with concentrations in sociology and political science as well as history, Hebrew and textual study. "The Brown Program never presumed that Judaic studies was a form of ethnic studies," Frerichs said. "We never presumed that Judaic studies was

ish students. We have mixed faculty and a mixed student body.

Visiting professors this year will include: Joseph Dan, a professor of kabbalah at Hebrew University. He will be teaching courses in kabbalistic study, Jewish mysticism and messianism.

Michael Stone, also of Hebrew University will be teaching a course on Jewish sects and sectarianism in the Roman era.

Barbara Geller Nathanson, from the department of religious studies at Wellesley College, will teach an introductory course in Judaism as well as a course in the Holocaust.

Michael Stanislawski, an expert on Russian Jewish studies will be presenting a course on Eastern European studies.

Sylvia Fishman, of Brandeis University, will be teaching a class in the role of women in Judaism.

Herald staff report by John Chadwick  
**Elmgrove ORT**

The Elmgrove Chapter of Women's American ORT will be holding their first fundraiser of the year on Saturday, September 8 at 7 p.m.

A road rally ending with dinner at a mystery destination provides a fun-filled evening for all who attend. This has become an annual event. For more information call 723-3216.

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## Orthodox Shul Allows Women Greater Role

by **Harold M. Simansky**  
The Jewish Advocate

BOSTON (JTA) — Women reading the Torah, giving the Saturday sermon and participating in the Talmud class may not be news to most Reform and Conservative synagogues, but it certainly is a novelty in the Orthodox community. Nevertheless, that is exactly what is taking place at the Orthodox synagogue Shaarei-Tefillah of Newton, Mass.

"In no other Orthodox synagogue I have ever been involved with could women participate to the same extent," says Rochelle Isserow, a member and frequent participant.

Synagogue President Alan Feld is quick to point out, however, that "women participate fully within the framework of Orthodox halacha," meaning they do not lead services, nor read from the Torah during the regular service.

As in all other Orthodox congregations, men and women sit separately during services, but during lectures and classes there is mixed seating.

Women's participation at Congregation Shaarei-Tefillah has included giving Shabbat

morning and afternoon sermons, as well as on special occasions such as during the all-night study session that accompanies the holiday of Shavuot.

These sermons are always on religious issues and always gender neutral, "with no distinction in the subject matter," says Feld.

On the holiday of Simchat Torah and at a Bat Mitzvah, there are special women's services where women read from the Torah. While men are free to observe, and, as Isserow says, "shep nachas (experience joy)," they do not participate. Isserow, who was the first woman to give a Saturday morning sermon, sees the participation of women in the synagogue as a real benefit to the whole community.

"Our participation," she said, "provides credibility to women as serious thinkers on Torah." Isserow believes that women's participation makes them better role models, particularly to the young men of that community.

Feld explains that women's participation has been successful because of the high level of

education in the congregation. "Men and women in the community are yeshiva graduates," says Feld, "so we are starting with a group of people who are knowledgeable in religious matters."

Many of the women are also professionals, which makes them more willing to take a leadership position in the congregation. "There is a strong tradition of women learning in our community," Isserow said. Isserow explained that the purpose of the congregation is not simply to increase the participation of women, but "to increase all participation."

Feld concurred, saying that "our main goal is preserving as forcefully as we can the idea of men and women performing mitzot."

To do this, Shaarei-Tefillah has instituted democratic reforms to allow all members of the congregation to participate equally. This has included one vote per person rather than per family. What has resulted is an executive committee that is gender blind and currently includes a woman vice president.

Although the synagogue was formed only six years ago, it has grown considerably over that time and now includes 90 families.



Above: The dedication of an ambulance donated by the late Lola Schafmanik. Left to right: Hershel Smith, Esther Grolnick, Molly Charter, Herta Hoffman, Ruth Alperin, May Alperin, Bernard Bell.

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## Lippitt to Speak At Providence Hebrew Day School

Fred Lippitt, an independent candidate for mayor of Providence, will hold an open house on Monday, September 3, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Providence Hebrew Day School, 450 Elm Grove Avenue. Coffee and refreshments will be served. For further information, contact Thomas W. Pearlman at 726-6200.

Fred Lippitt was born in Washington, D.C. on December 29, 1916. He graduated from Yale University in 1939 and enlisted in the U.S. Infantry as a Private in 1941.

Lippitt is a World War II combat veteran and National Guard member. He received a Purple Heart and Bronze Star while serving with the 91st Infantry Division in Italy.

After the war, Lippitt returned to Yale and completed a law degree. He then spent 31 years as a lawyer at Edwards and Angell law firm in Providence.

A State Representative for 11 terms, he fought for tenants' rights, for public and private housing, affordable housing, environmental protection, improved child care, State Medicare for seniors, and stronger conflict of interest laws. He served as House Minority Leader and on the Labor, Cor-

poration and Judiciary Committees.

Lippitt has served the people directly, by getting involved in community organizations. He is active as Director of the Boys and Girls Club of Providence and a member of the College Hill and Mount Hope neighborhood associations. Fred is an advocate for minority and women's issues. He is the Chairman of the Board of Regents for Elementary and Secondary Education, former Chairman of the Minority Business Enterprise Commission, and an adviser to the Women's Political Caucus. Fred is a Trustee of the Fogarty Foundation for the Mentally Retarded and a Director of the R.I. Black Heritage Society.

### Corrections/Clearifications

In a business profile that appeared in the Herald's Women and Business issue on June 21, a representative from Diamonds by the Sammartino Sisters was inaccurately quoted as saying that the sisters' children were "under their skins." The quote should have read that the children, who are often with their parents at work, were "under their skirts." The Herald regrets the error.

In last week's education supplement, a photograph of two students from the Providence Hebrew Day School, which was submitted by the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association, should have been credited to the Providence Journal Bulletin.

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# From the Cold War To Shalom — Or New Crisis?

by Arthur Waskow

The world is facing its first post-Cold War crisis.

For the Shalom Center, this poses some crucial issues. For the past year, we have been exploring Jewish approaches to the world after the Cold War. We have been asking, what can Jewish tradition and historical experience contribute to moving from the Cold War toward One Earth?

What practical visions flow from the Jewish past into the world's future? And what actions can the Jewish community take to make those practical visions into realities?

So the present Iraq/Kuwait/Oil crisis raises for us a serious test: It is only for Jewish values and tradition, what should be the goals of U.S. policy?

First — the crisis is obviously rooted in issues of oil and economics. Jewish tradition cares deeply about *parosseh*, the making of an honorable livelihood. But intimately connected with *parosseh* is the protection of the earth from "over-work." That has been almost forgotten in this crisis.

Oil is crucial to modern industrial economies.

It is also the second most dangerous substance on the

planet — second only to the nuclear arsenals and the nuclear waste dumps that can destroy us in swift fire or ooze poison.

Oil is dangerous because the profligate burning of oil and gasoline contributes most to the carbon-dioxide build-up that is heating up our planet; and because the spills of oil and other petrochemicals are poisoning our ground water and our oceans.

Oil is at the same time our lifeblood and our heroin.

What single action would most weaken the power of Iraq or any other oil state to plunge the world into crisis?

Using less oil.

What single action would most reduce the danger of disastrous global warming?

Using less oil. What single action would most reduce the power of giant global corporations to control our economy and our political life?

Using less oil.

We are facing even more urgent questions: threats to life and freedom, the danger that hasty action by anyone — our side or theirs — might plunge wide areas of the Middle East, including Israel, into devastat-

ing war. Can we step away from the brink by creating a new context that appeals enough to legitimate values on all sides that no one wants to choose war?

Jewish tradition, of course, teaches that choosing life and pursuing peace are paramount values.

Jewish tradition also teaches that no human being, fully "owns" land or other resources. Thus the Torah requires that the produce from the "corners" of a family field be reserved for the poor and the foreigner.

And Jewish tradition and history teach that peoples should be free to govern themselves.

Applying these standards, the U.S. should be trying:

1. To prevent outright war that would kill many people on all sides and disrupt the world economy.

It is easy for governments on all sides to proclaim shrilly that a "way of life" is at stake and forget that for many people it is literally life itself that is at stake. Lost legs, mangled genitals, collapsed lungs, death — these are what not only soldiers of many nations face, but also many civilians: Westerners held captive by Iraq; possible

thousands of Israelis targeted by Saddam Hussein as external hostages and surrogate Westerners; Iraqis who have no voice in their own government.

2. To provide the people of Kuwait with the opportunity to choose their own government — freely.

That does not mean that the U.S. or the UN should reimpose on Kuwait its pre-crisis autocratic ruling family, any more than it means Iraq should impose its own dictatorship.

3. To encourage the oil-rich countries of the Gulf to share the "corners" of their "oil fields." To treat their oil not as the property of a few incredibly rich families but as the shared resources of four concentric circles:

a. Their own country — so that Kuwaiti oil belongs to the people of Kuwait, Saudi oil to the people of Saudi Arabia;

b. The Arab world — so that Kuwaiti or Saudi oil income is partly shared with the desperately poor of Egypt;

c. The human race throughout the world — so that Kuwaiti oil income goes in part to development projects in Africa, Asia, and Latin America and to meeting the needs of Japan, Europe, America;

d. The planet as a whole — which is being poisoned by the too-swift over-use of oil, and needs to measure out doses that will not destroy us in the process of "development."

4. To strengthen the post-Cold War renewal of the UN. This means that the U.S. should not be firing first and consulting the UN afterward, should not be projecting itself as the world's policeman and thus focusing suspicion and anger on itself and its close allies (including Israel) but should be seeking real UN decisions for real UN forces.

This may be slower, but the cost of acting in too great haste is repenting at too great length. In this case, if the U.S. government acts too hastily it may expose others who are more vulnerable — its own and other citizens in Iraq, Israel, cities, helpless Iraqis — to reprisals that over-hasty leaders will not suffer in their own flesh.

*Waskow is director of The Shalom Center, a network of North American Jews concerned with moving from the Cold War to one earth. Its headquarters are in Philadelphia.*

## Read My Lips

Talk is cheap. At least it used to be. That is, until the potentially expensive discussion over the last few months about "Read my lips, no new taxes."

It is nothing less than amazing and most certainly a demonstration of the Torah's

and our sages' Divine inspiration that we can study works written by our sages over one thousand years ago and still find lessons that apply to our lives in the '90's, even the political climate of this moment. In *Ethics of the Fathers*, the great sage Hillel said, "Do not say something

that (you are certain) cannot possibly be heard, because it will ultimately be heard."

In the book *Ethics from Sinai*, (Septh. 1964), Rabbi Irving Bunim, writes:

"Do not say something that (you are certain) cannot possibly be heeded." Feeling sure that people will not really pay

"He who has knowledge spares his words. Even a fool, when he holds his peace, is counted wise; and he who shuts his lips is esteemed a man of understanding." (Proverbs 17:27-28). On these insightful words, the great commentator Rashi writes, "If silence is good for a wise person, how much more so for a fool."

*Ethics of the Fathers* contains more wisdom concerning silence. "A fence for wisdom is silence." The chasidic Rebbe, Izel of Slonim, cautioned, "Silence is definitely a fence for wisdom. But it is not everything. From silence alone one doesn't become wise."

Rabbi Nachman of Breslav, grandson of the Baal Shem Tov, was probably best known for his parables. He said: "In our youth we learn to speak. As we mature we learn to be silent. One of the greatest faults of mankind is that we learn speech before we learn silence."

Let one think that Judaism encourages "vows of silence," consider, once more, the wisdom of King Solomon. "There is a reason for everything. . . a time to keep silent and a time to speak." (Ecclesiastes)

## Educating The Child

In the Torah we find the comparison of man to a tree " . . . for man is (as) the tree of the field . . ." To throw light on this interesting comparison we offer an excerpt of a letter written by the Lubavitcher Rebbe to a kindergarten class.

Dear Children: I was happy to receive your drawings together with the letter from your kindergarten teacher . . .

In your drawings I saw little boys and girls, and trees and

flowers . . . and I want to take this opportunity to tell you of the great love and affection that my father-in-law, the (previous) Rebbe, possessed towards all Jewish boys and girls, young and old — but especially towards the young. The Rebbe was concerned about their education and their well-being wherever they were, and in every boy and girl he saw a sapling that would one day grow to be a beautiful fruit tree with delicious fruits.

However, this growth all depends on whether the boy or girl wants it and works for it — just as we see with a tree: When you plant a seed or a tender sapling, you must protect it from weeds and from all kinds of damage, you have to water it, etc., until it grows and becomes a tree, bearing good fruits.

It is the same with every boy and girl; G-d has said (through one of His Prophets) that you are " . . . the branch of My planting, the work of My hands, in which I take pride."

The Creator has planted within you a holy *nesama*, a soul which is actually a part of G-d above. You must protect this G-dly "seed" from weeds and from damage, which means from bad influences. You must supply it with life-giving water, and the only water is the life-giving Torah and its mitzvot which bring life to those who observe them.

If you do this, dear children, G-d will give you His blessing over an over, so that you will succeed in becoming "trees" bearing good and praiseworthy fruits, bringing joy to your parents and teachers, and bringing pride and glory to our people, the people of the Children of Israel.

*Submitted by Rabbi Yehoshua Laufer.*

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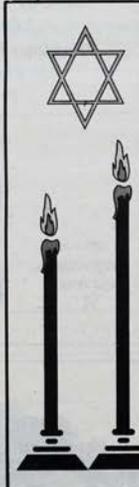
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Candlelighting

August 31, 1990

7:03 p.m.

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



attention to what you say or remember it later, you may consider it safe to say anything and everything that sounds good for the moment.

That is most unwise, "for ultimately it will be heeded." As Solomon says at the conclusion of *Ecclesiastes*, "The end of the matter is that everything is heard." People hear; people remember. Campaign speeches that a political candidate has made in the past, even years ago, will be trotted out by the opposition to embarrass him if he has deviated from his earlier views. Be cautious and prudent when you speak, and strive for consistency. It has been popularly said, "Let your words be soft and sweet, because some day you may have to eat them."

Proverbs wisely states: "He who guards his mouth and his tongue, guards his soul from trouble . . ."

As long as we're already on the subject of being careful and conscious of one's words, let's see what some Jewish sources have to say about speech and silence.

# Agency Head Blasts Government

by Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Jewish Agency Chairman Simcha Dinitz blasted the government recently for not doing its job with respect to immigrant absorption.

"After long months in which the waves of immigration get larger and the Jewish Agency fulfills its mission by bringing over immigrants and expanding the routes of aliyah, the government is still not prepared for absorption," Dinitz charged at the weekly meeting of the World Zionist Organization Executive, which he also chaired.

Dinitz said the government demonstrated its "failure in coping with immigration" by the fact that "until today, not one mobile home was imported, not one house was built."

"Plans adopted by the government have not been implemented, and this may affect the continuation of aliyah," he warned.

Housing Minister Ariel Sharon informed the Cabinet recently that the first 1,000 imported homes authorized by the government will arrive within two months and that

another 4,000 will be here by the end of the year.

The government also has authorized the construction of 45,000 apartments, mostly in Galilee and the Negev.

It has initially allocated \$500 million to build or import prefabricated housing.

Dinitz, who belongs to the opposition Labor Party, chided Cabinet members for appealing to world Jewry to contribute more for aliyah.

He was referring to Absorption Minister Yitzhak Peretz and Deputy Minister Geula Cohen, who claimed recently that the Jewish Agency was not doing enough to raise funds for aliyah and that therefore the government should take over the task.

The Jewish Agency is the chief beneficiary of funds raised in the United States by the United Jewish Appeal and elsewhere by Keren Hayesod.

"One cannot search for an alibi to cover the government's failure to cope with housing and employment for immigrants by finding fault with the contributions of the Jewish people," Dinitz said.

In fact, world Jewry increased its pledges for absorp-

tion by 300 percent this year, the Jewish Agency chairman said.

Dinitz expressed confidence that Diaspora Jewry would continue to expand its contributions as long as the Israeli government fulfills its own obligations and implements its immigrant absorption plans.

He said that about six months ago, visiting Jewish leaders were taken on a tour of construction sites.

"Podiums were erected with flags, choirs, speeches and even tractors, which were placed in the area as decorations," the Jewish Agency chairman recalled.

"Several months later," he said, "the Jewish leaders returned to those sites to see the new neighborhoods, only to find out that nothing was done."

"Even the tractors had disappeared," Dinitz said, adding, "This is not the way to recruit the Jewish people, nor Israeli society."

When you announce the birth of a child why not include a black and white photo?

# Groups Rush to Woo Soviet Jews

by Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM (JTA) — A former refusenik who immigrated to Israel in 1987 after serving three years in a Siberian labor camp has complained that ideological and political groups are trying to indoctrinate the Soviet olim who have arrived in recent months.

Yuli Edelstein, an English teacher who manages a camp for Soviet Jewish youth, charged that religious groups, including the Reform movement and the Chabad Hasidim, as well as such political movements as Labor and the socialist Hashomer Hatzair, pressure young immigrants to attend their summer camps and incite their ideology.

Edelstein insisted, however, that his camp, sponsored by the Soviet Jewish Zionist Forum, an umbrella organization, is apolitical.

When he arrived in Israel with his wife and daughter on July 12, 1987, Edelstein was greeted by a huge crowd at Ben-Gurion Airport, mainly Orthodox Jews.

It was noted even then that groups in Israel working on behalf of Soviet Jews had been virtually taken over by religious activists.

But 50 young Soviet olim, all high school students, attended a seminar on democracy in Jerusalem organized by the Golda Meir Educational Association, an affiliate of the secular Labor Party.

A spokesperson stressed that it was entirely non-political in content and that its sole purpose was to help acclimate Soviet Jewish youth to an open, democratic society they had never known.

"We discuss the general topics of democracy and human rights," said Hanna Kochavi, who is in charge of a camp affiliated with the Golda Meir Association.

The seminar was led by reserve Gen. Ephraim Sneh, former head of the civil administration in the West Bank and a close aide to Labor Party Chairman Shimon Peres.

Meanwhile, more than 3,000 people have showed up at the Israel Volunteer Center to offer to work with newly arrived immigrants.

But the turnout is far less than needed, according to Yossi Ben-Aharon, director general of the Prime Minister's Office, who visited the center. He said he hoped the number of volunteers would increase tenfold.

"We call on the people of Israel to volunteer whatever they can, to acquaint themselves with the specific problems of the immigrants," Ben-Aharon said. "They come from such a different culture that we not only need to teach them about ours, we also need to learn theirs," he said.

## An Alarming Experience

Sometimes we become so inured to incidents in our lives that they don't elicit the response for which they're meant. Take car alarms as a case in point.

Car alarms have become so prevalent that if we hear one, we often wonder not whose car is being stolen but how quickly the alarm will turn off. Too, some alarms are so sensitive that the slightest tap of the car sets the thing off.

Lots of things happen in our lives that are supposed to set off a little alarm inside us. But, often, we've become so accustomed to them that we don't notice them, or they don't trigger the appropriate response.

It's the middle of the night and you can't seem to fall back asleep and that car alarm on the next block is all you can focus on. Maybe that alarm is going off just so that you can't fall back asleep and you end up doing a bit of self-inspection in the wee hours of the night. The Baal Shem Tov taught that everything we see and hear can be a lesson for us in our spiritual service. Additionally, a chasidic master used to say that he would walk around with a piece of paper in both of his pockets. One said the verse, "I am but dust and ashes." The other states, "The whole world was created for me."

Look around at the mundane, the average, the everyday.

# Havurah Institute Explores Judaism

by Marilyn Silverstein  
Jewish Exponent

BRYN MAWR (JTA) — Part retreat, part family vacation, part quest for individual and collective Jewish renewal, this year's Summer Institute of the National Havurah Committee offered seven days of celebration of Jewish fellowship to havurah activists from across the country.

In the parking lot behind Harcum Junior College, where the institute was held, the variety of license plates testified to the diversity of the nearly 250 men, women and children who had come for informal Jewish worship and exploration.

One plate, from North Carolina, read "B.A. MENCH." Barbara Posnick, an employee-benefits consultant from Evanston, Ill., described the week as "a spiritual shot in the arm."

"There are a range of approaches, from traditional to experimental and alternative," she said. "It's Jewishly-based

experimentation, and that's important to me."

"I guess, in my Jewish experience, there's more head and less heart, and I want to have a more spiritual experience through Judaism," she added. "I think some vehicles for having that are here."

Indeed, the institute explored a diversity of ideas, new and old — from the recent Talmud translation of Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz, the mysticism of Maimonides, the sacrifice and song of ancient Israel, the spiritual world of Rabbi Nahman of Bratslav.

In one class, participants sat in small groups and discussed the concept of Jewish heresy. In another, institute-goers wrestled with the connection between their communal/political lives and their spirituality.

In still another, students learned a Jewish mantra based on the "13 Attributes of God's Mercy."

There were intense discus-

sions on sex and spirituality, Mideast priorities, Catholic-Jewish relations and the feminist transformation of Judaism. There were also discussions on the psalms, the "Evil Eye," Hasidic prayer, Jewish music, Jewish feminist theology, the Jewish family, havurah ideology, the language of the Kabbalah and the image of the Jew in films.

For Marjorie Feinson of Edison, N.J., the institute experience is a prelude to a year in Israel in which she will embark in October.

A long-time Conservative Jew, Feinson says she has recently been attending feminist minyanim and meditation sessions in a quest for spiritual healing.

"During the last couple of years, I've been on a spiritual journey — to grow up and be whole," she said.

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# World and National News

## The 1990 Elections: Israel Supporters Face Tough Challenges

WASHINGTON (JTA) — As fall approaches, many in the American Jewish community will be paying closer attention to coming elections for Congress, with an eye on the Senate in particular.

Although the Democrats control the Senate by a relatively wide 55-45 margin, Republicans see an opportunity to win control of the chamber, because never before have so many Democratic incumbents been vulnerable.

By happenstance, the Democratic incumbents believed to be facing the toughest reelection challenges are among the strongest supporters of Israel.

One Republican incumbent, Sen. Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, is also considered vulnerable, and he, too, is a strong supporter of Israel.

The vulnerable Democrats are Sens. Claiborne Pell of Rhode Island, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee; Paul Simon of Illinois; Tom Harkin of Iowa; Daniel Akaka of Hawaii; and Carl Levin of Michigan.

Levin is one of two Jewish senators up for re-election this year. There are a total of eight Jews in the Senate, five Democrats and three Republicans.

Sen. Rudy Boschwitz (R-Minn.), the other Jewish senator whose term expires this year, is expected to have little trouble getting elected to a third term, even though his Democratic opponent will not be selected until the September 11 Minnesota primary.

Two potentially strong opponents, former Vice President Walter Mondale and Hubert Humphrey III, son of the late former vice president, decided not to challenge Boschwitz.

But Levin, a member of the Armed Services Committee who is also seeking a third term, is expected to be in a close race, as was the case in both of his earlier campaigns.

His Republican opponent, Rep. Bill Schuette, who has a good record on Israel, defeated

a more conservative opponent in the GOP primary. Schuette is expected to make the liberal Levin's opposition to the death penalty a major issue in the campaign.

Pell, of Rhode Island, who has served 30 years in the Senate, is believed to be the most vulnerable incumbent senator. His opponent is Rep. Claudine Schneider, who, like Pell, has a good record of support for Israel and close ties with the Rhode Island Jewish community.

Pell's chairmanship of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee may not be a point in his favor, since by tradition voters concerned with domestic issues have defeated long-term senators after they became chairmen of the committee.

Examples during Pell's Senate career include J. William Fulbright (D-Ark.), Frank Church (D-Idaho) and Charles Percy (R-Ill.).

Schneider is one of three Republican congresswomen whom the Republican National Committee is placing its hopes on in its uphill effort to win control of the Senate.

The other two are Rep. Lynn Martin, who is challenging Simon in Illinois, and Rep. Pat Saiki, who is running against Akaka in Hawaii.

Martin has a mixed record on Israel since, like many conservatives, she does not support foreign aid.

Simon has a 100 percent record on Israel going back to his days in the House of Representatives. He won his Senate seat six years ago by defeating Percy, who was the main target of pro-Israel supporters that year.

In Hawaii, both Akaka and Saiki are considered solid friends of Israel. Akaka, a member of the House since 1977, was named to the Senate earlier this year after the death of Sen. Spark Matsunaga, a pro-Israel Democrat.

Saiki, who represents Honolulu, is given a chance to defeat

Akaka for the remaining four years of Matsunaga's term, because she is considered energetic and popular.

Harkin, a member of the Senate Appropriation subcommittee on foreign operations running for his second term, is another senator with a 100 percent record on Israel. His Republican opponent, Rep. Thomas Tauke, has a poor record on Israel.

The race is a traditional contest between a liberal and a conservative, with Harkin favoring abortion and Tauke opposed.

McConnell, of Kentucky, has strongly supported Israel as a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. But Kentucky is traditionally a Democratic state. When McConnell was elected to the Senate six years ago, it was the first time a Republican had won a statewide office since 1968.

His Democratic opponent is Jefferson County Judge Harvey Sloane, who is well-financed and known in Kentucky since he has run twice unsuccessfully for governor.

While there always can be surprises, strong supporters of Israel who are expected to win easily include: Max Baucus (D-Mont.), Joseph Biden (D-Dele.), Bill Bradley (D-N.J.), Dan Coats (R-Ind.), William Cohen (R-Maine), Albert Gore (D-Tenn.), Bill Gramm (R-Texas), Howell Heflin (D-Ala.), John Kerry (D-Mass.), Sam Nunn (D-Ga.), Larry Pressler (R-S.D.), David Pryor (D-Ark.), Jay Rockefeller (D-W.Va.) and Ted Stevens (R-Alaska).

The Jewish community is also particularly interested in two races in which the incumbents are expected to be re-elected to their fourth terms in the Senate.

One is in North Carolina, where Sen. Jesse Helms, the arch-conservative Republican, is being challenged for re-election to his fourth term by a black Democrat, Harvey Gantt.

Six years ago, Jews were almost solidly in opposition to Helms, who had an anti-Israel reputation.

But after winning re-election, Helms, while still against

(continued on page 14)

## Towering, Or Just Tall?



**BLESSING FOR THE PRESIDENT** - Rabbi David B. Kahane (right), spiritual leader of Sutton Place Synagogue in Manhattan, greets President George Bush after delivering the benediction at the "New York Salutes President George Bush Dinner" at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel. In his benediction, Rabbi Kahane hailed the President as the "towering leader of the free world."

The 1,500-member Sutton Place Synagogue sponsors the annual Jewish Town Hall forum, at which Rabbi Kahane interviews leading American political and cultural figures. This year's guests were Simon Wiesenthal, Leon Urin and Larry King.

## Reform Jewish Leader Tells Interfaith Meeting Children Should Not Be Used In Hostilities, War

PRINCETON, N.J. — An international meeting of religious leaders on the plight of children heard a dramatic appeal last week by a leader of Reform Judaism calling for a halt to the participation of children in military action.

In an obvious reference to the role of Palestinian children in the intifada, Norma Levitt of New York, honorary vice president of the World Union for Progressive Judaism, took a plenary session of the three-day conference at the Princeton Theological Seminary:

"Every adult, on whatever side of any conflict in the world today, should be unalterably opposed to the use of children in hostilities and war." Muslim religious leaders from Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and Yugoslavia were in the audience.

She cited a provision in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted last year, calling on countries "to ensure that persons who have not attained the age of 15 years do not take a direct part in hostilities" and are not in-

cluded into their armed forces.

Mrs. Levitt, who is also a trustee of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, added: "In many lands, young innocent lives are destroyed by war before they begin to flower. Many others are warped and crippled by the tragedy of bearing arms."

"They are trained to murder at an early age, their hearts hardened to the sacred value of life, at an age when they should be safe at home, learning to read and write. It is the responsibility of all religions to bend all efforts and all prayers to help create a world at peace," Mrs. Levitt said. "Only thus do we fulfill our covenant and the bonding of the generations."

Mrs. Levitt is an international president of the World Conference on Religion and Peace (WCRP), which organized and sponsored the three-day parley in cooperation with UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund. Some 150 leaders of a dozen Eastern and Western faiths in 40 countries on every continent took part in the three-day meeting.

### Why Rabbi Graetz Left Argentina

At another session of the WCRP meeting, Rabbi Roberto Graetz of Rio de Janeiro spoke of his years as a rabbi in Buenos Aires, and his hesitancy in granting parents permission to recite Kaddish for their missing children, kidnapped by government forces during the right-wing regime in Argentina in the late 1970's.

In one case, he recalled, he found enough "hard evidence" to convince him that one young person had been executed. "I made a call to the parents, told them what I had learned and concluded, 'The time has come to mourn. Let us say Kaddish,'" he said.



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Jeanne Stein

## Entrepreneur Steven Greenstein

It comes to reaching Jewish singles, individualizers like Steven L. Greenstein, of Brookline, are seen as increasingly more radical than conventional notions such as synagogues and communal engage-

ment. Greenstein, 34, recently put his marketing background to work in creating "United Jewish Singles," an organization that promotes a variety of social and engagement for Jewish people.

Greenstein has already attempted to reach Jews from other singles groups by featuring more than 100 rented barroom events. He has developed a "wealthy, affordable" series of events which, besides including sports, outings and comedy, includes social dances. "There's a lot of people who don't like dances," Greenstein said last week. "They feel awkward and they feel uncomfortable. We have our



Steven Greenstein

social dances, but we try other things as well."

His kick-off event this summer was a "Barbecue and Sports Day." He rented a park and organized softball, basketball and volleyball games for the whole day. One hundred people showed up.

Greenstein, a native of Milton, Mass., attended the Uni-

versity of Massachusetts at Amherst and has worked in marketing for a number of high tech engineering firms. His interest in the world of Jewish singles was sparked after going through a divorce. "I had married my high school sweetheart and had never really experienced the whole world of adult dating," he said. Realizing the

need for better programs and plans, he began researching the singles market. "I definitely felt there was room for more activity out there."

Other events in the near future include a party at Faneuil Hall and a trip to a Boston Red Sox game. There are no membership fees, no obligations and he has divided the participants into two major age groups 25 to 39 and 40 and over.

Asked about the type of people who are participating, he responds: "I wouldn't say everybody is a lawyer or a doctor, that's what everyone wants to hear. There are professional people who come and there are blue-collar people who come as well, I would say that probably there are more professional people."

One early problem has been a lack of participating men. Says Greenstein: "Guys are a lot less willing to try new things; typically men feel they should go out and cruise the

night clubs — they feel coming to a Jewish-type thing is where all the nerdy people go.

"We're trying to get away from the false stigma."

Although UJS is only three months old, Greenstein said he has seen nearly seven couples pair off and develop a relationship. "It really is a nice feeling doing what I'm doing and knowing it's for the good of the Jewish community."

Some UJS events coming up in the near future include:

Monday, September 4: A trip to Fenway Park for a Red Sox game, ages 25 to 39. Included is a full dinner at Haims Deli at 5:30 p.m. and roundtrip transportation to the game.

Sunday, September 9: Ages 40 + "2nd Sunday of September Party" at the Days Inn at 399 Grove Street, Newton (exit 22 off Route 128.)

Sunday, September 16, "Bust A Gut" Party at Boston's newest comedy club, Duck Soup, Ages 25 to 39.

For more information on United Jewish Singles, call (617) 232-4085.

## "Irma Vep" A Paragon of Parody

### Dorothea Snyder

What is that? A portrait of an Alley over a mantel or a barrage of grotesque images perched on columns by arched entrances?

Not her, it's a sure look, well, anyway, that dark-eyebrow-raised physique is an oil-painted portrait of the late Irma Vep starring to the audience as she opens at Theatre-By-The-Sea's production, "The Mystery of Irma Vep."

It's something eerie as... busts of bats, macabre music, and an assortment of characters under the tutelage of an English manor, est. The buxomy Dorothea Twisden, still loyal to her Mrs. Vep, is a servant who'd like to be at least, Mrs. Danvers, out of the pages of Du Maurier's Rebecca.

Reception party to this of formidable hasn't ended. The sly Nicodemus d, the falsetto theses of Lady Enid, forms now wife of titled me Lord Edgar Hill-Expedition to Egypt e guide Alcazar and Princess Pev Amri, from a long and ber."

story of Irma Vep," Charles Ludlam, is a comic spoof of Victorian and famous hor- ror-fluding a bona fide nd a vampire or n is founder and tor of The Ridicu- lous Company in here "Irma Vep" October, 1984.

c of Matunuck's ction is the quick- y engineered by who transform ctors into seven oughout three

ok and John ws brilliantly h character with t distinctive dif-



Pictured are versatile actors John Neville-Andrews and John Hickok in a scene from "The Mystery of Irma Vep." FourQuest Entertainment's current production at Theatre-By-The-Sea in Matunuck, on stage through September 9.

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ferences. They're masters at dialect, voice changes, inflections, body movement and attitude.

"Irma Vep" could never be carried off without the sleight-of-hand agility of dressers Jennifer Bacon-Blaine, Ron Glow, Rusty Riegelman, Dante Sciarra, and Gerard P. Vogt.

Winner of both the Obie and Drama Desk awards, "Irma Vep" was named by *Time Magazine* as one of the plays of 1984. It is skillfully directed at

Matunuck by Judith Swift, who chairs the University of Rhode Island's Theatre Department.

Jeff Modereger's set, Tom Sturge's lighting, and Sandor Margolin's sound waves marvelously mirror the mood of Mandacrest manorial haven. Modereger's set in The Valley of Bibal-El-Molook not only depicts Egyptian drawings and hieroglyphics, but could it be that Walt Disney and the Big

(continued on page 14)

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# Local News

**Friday, August 31** — Ten days in Elul. Candlelighting 7:01 p.m.

**Saturday, September 1** — Eleven days in Elul. The Torah reading is Parshas Ki Setzel. Morning services (Shacharis) 8:30 a.m., followed immediately by Kiddush, Minchah 7:15 p.m., with the Third Meal following. Ma'ariv 7:58 p.m. Havdalah 8:05 p.m. Shabbos ends at 8:02 p.m.

**Sunday, September 2** — Morning services at 7:45 a.m.

**Monday, September 3** — Labor Day morning services at 7:45 a.m.; also the period for blessing the Creator of the moon ends tonight. Morning services for Thursday are at 6:30 a.m. and for Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 6:45 a.m. Minchah for the week is at

7:20 p.m.

## Foreign Aid To Israel - How Israel Spends It

This year's foreign aid began with the approval by the House Foreign Operations Subcommittee of \$3 billion in aid to Israel as part of the FY 1991 Foreign Aid Appropriations bill.

In addition to \$1.2 billion in economic assistance and \$1.8 billion in military aid, the bill provides \$45 million for the resettlement of Soviet Jews in Israel and allows Israel to use \$475 million of its military aid in Israel.

The major controversy of the bill is related to a \$300 million cut from foreign military sales funding, and adding that money to Eastern Europe and Sub-Sahara Africa.

U.S. firms benefit from FMS to Israel. Taking purchase orders of \$100,000 or more, listed below for the last three years, firms have signed contracts worth nearly \$3.3 billion.

| 1987-1989 Israel Foreign Military Sales Orders | State | Amount        |
|--|-------|---------------|
| New York                                       |       | \$627,878,320 |
| Mississippi                                    |       | 367,487,021   |
| Ohio   |       | 331,239,884   |
| California                                     |       | 310,806,875   |
| Texas  |       | 234,988,396   |
| Massachusetts                                  |       | 223,117,982   |
| Florida  |       | 210,640,421   |
| New Jersey                                     |       | 194,939,231   |
| Pennsylvania                                   |       | 137,692,466   |
| Michigan                                       |       | 101,865,302   |
| Maryland                                       |       | 69,563,229    |
| Connecticut                                    |       | 62,377,767    |
| Illinois                                       |       | 47,153,489    |
| New Hamp.                                      |       | 42,582,055    |
| Indiana  |       | 41,315,603    |

|                |            |
|----------------|------------|
| Arizona        | 36,449,183 |
| Wisconsin      | 29,286,080 |
| Dist. of Col.  | 25,799,353 |
| Kansas         | 24,999,463 |
| Georgia        | 23,607,650 |
| Minnesota      | 22,091,747 |
| North Carolina | 20,532,495 |
| Virginia       | 16,804,650 |
| Kentucky       | 15,696,608 |
| Utah           | 14,520,560 |
| Iowa           | 9,682,474  |
| Washington     | 9,116,589  |
| Missouri       | 8,355,569  |
| Louisiana      | 4,556,437  |
| Tennessee      | 4,082,917  |
| South Carolina | 3,823,905  |
| Oregon         | 3,686,132  |
| Oklahoma       | 3,388,208  |
| Alabama        | 3,340,479  |
| Colorado       | 2,964,412  |
| Vermont        | 2,938,102  |
| New Mexico     | 1,999,540  |
| Delaware       | 1,843,605  |
| Nebraska       | 1,805,878  |

|               |           |
|---------------|-----------|
| Arkansas      | 1,406,157 |
| West Virginia | 762,405   |
| Rhode Island  | 682,488   |
| Maine         | 441,113   |

The importance of responding to anti-Israeli articles and broadcasts must be done in an accurate and timely manner. This cannot be overemphasized.

A proactive step is to identify events or themes that can generate positive responses. In this manner the press can be informed about possible distortions.

## SHALOM!

In just a few weeks, we will be celebrating the holiday of Purim. Continuing in our past tradition, we are, again, having our annual Purim Party and Raffle.

## Beth-El New Member Open House

For the third consecutive year, the Membership Committee of Temple Beth-El will host an Open House for prospective Temple members on Sunday morning, September 16 beginning at 10 a.m. The program will be hosted by Pat Cohen, former Temple Vice President, and Mark Patinkin, a member of the Temple's Board of Trustees.

The agenda will include a delicious brunch, courtesy of the Temple's Brotherhood, information provided by Rabbis Gutterman and Helbraun, an introduction to the Religious School by Director of Education Lisa Goldstein and

the showing of the outstanding 135th Anniversary Film premiered last May at the Temple's 135th Gala.

Child care will be provided. In addition, guest passes for High Holy Day services will be distributed at the close of the Open House to those individuals who have never attended High Holy Day services at Temple Beth-El.

Temple Beth-El is the largest Reform Synagogue in Rhode Island and the oldest congregation in the city of Providence. For more information about the Open House, call Executive Director Rob Goldberg at 331-6070.

## Women's Association Of The Jewish Home

The opening meeting of the Women's Association of the Jewish Home for the Aged of Rhode Island will take place Wednesday, September 5, in the Martin Chase Auditorium. Dessert will be served at 12:30 p.m. The meeting will begin at 1:15 p.m.

Stephanie Gurwitz, director of the Community Relations Council, will speak on "Know the Issues! Make Your Vote Count in November."

Miss Gurwitz is the first full-time director of the Community Relations Council since she came to R.I. in 1986. Her work deals with intergroup relations, Israel, Domestic Affairs, and International Jewry. The leadership development program she created has been used as a model nationally. She is a native of Baltimore, Maryland, where she earned



Stephanie Gurwitz

her Master of Arts degree in Modern Jewish History from the Baltimore Hebrew University, a certificate from the Baltimore Institute of Communal Service, and a Master of Social Work concentrating in administration and community organization from the Univer-

sity of Maryland. Early on she spent 6 months in Israel on a kibbutz. She has worked in Detroit, Michigan, where she founded the Michigan Jewish Network, a statewide network coordinating more than 20 Jewish communities. She was also responsible for expanding their Black/Jewish relations, establishing a program on understanding Arab neighbors and helped establish a Jewish Food Bank.

Much of her work here has been on local advocacy and legislation. The Community Relations Council works closely with elected officials at all levels.

Program Chairwoman for the meeting is Muriel Leach. Hospitality is in the charge of Anita Solomon.

Co-Presidents are Edith Bernstein and Tilda Kessler.

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## Temple Am David

Temple Am David will be conducting the congregation's annual Open House-Religious School Registration on Sunday, September 16, 1990, from 10 a.m.-12 noon at the Temple, 40 Gardiner St., Warwick 02888.

As a conservative Temple affiliated with the United Synagogue of America, the Am David Religious School program sponsors a six-hour per week program for students in elementary school grades 3 through 7. This curriculum focuses on the subjects of Holidays and Traditions, Bible study, Prayer, Hebrew language skills and history. Music, drama, arts and crafts along

with family holiday programs and Junior Congregation on Shabbat and Festivals are integral components of the religious school.

For children aged four, five, and six, the Eunice Zeldman Sunday School program introduces the concepts of holidays and traditions and Bible stories through arts and crafts, drama, music, games and stories. This program meets weekly on Sunday morning at the Temple from 10 a.m. to noon. Monthly, exciting Shabbat pre-school programs offer enrichment and introduction to ritual observances.

For children entering grade

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two in elementary school, Temple Am David offers a transition program: Mechina. The Mechina program meets on Sunday morning and on Thursday afternoon using a curriculum that begins to introduce Hebrew language skills, prayers for holidays and Jewish culture through song, dance, arts, and stories.

Children who are either in special education in elementary school or initially enrolling in the program after elementary school grade three, will be provided with individualized support as needed in consultation with the Bureau of Jewish Education.

Students who have completed the Am David Religious School program attend the Harry Elkin Midrasha. Am David teenagers voluntarily frequent Cantor Dress' Hug T'fillah, a workshop in ritual leadership.

Temple Am David is a partner in the Extension school that holds midweek classes in Warwick at the Cedar Hill School. Congregational membership is not required for families with students in the religious school preparatory programs. Membership is required for families of students in public school grades 3-7.

For further information contact Cantor Steven W. Dress, Temple Am David Religious School Director, at 463-7944.

# San Francisco Sends Aids-Consciousness To Israel

by Winston Pickett  
Northern California  
Jewish Bulletin

SAN FRANCISCO (JTA) — When San Francisco native Danny Kent immigrated to Israel in 1988, he knew his fight to bring AIDS awareness to the public would be difficult — and he was right.

Kent knew, for example, that most Israelis, like their American counterparts, do not want to face how easily the disease is transmitted. He also knew AIDS education in Israel lags far behind that of the United States.

In a country that seems to be reeling almost daily from some national or international political crisis, AIDS just isn't a national priority.

That is especially so, said Kent, because only a narrow segment of the population is deemed to be at risk.

"Some 90 Israelis are known to have full-blown cases of

AIDS," he said, "but statistically one person in every 1,000 is estimated to be infected with the AIDS virus. That's 5,000 walking time bombs."

Add to that a climate in which "most Israelis think AIDS is a Diaspora disease you can't get if you have sex with a law-abiding person"; where there is only one anonymous test site in the country; and where a governmental report revealed that 43 percent of Israeli 17-year-olds have engaged in sexual activity. Therein lie the makings of a potential crisis, said Kent.

In some cases, he said, even attempts to publicize how easily AIDS is passed among heterosexual and homosexual populations alike have been thwarted by fiscal constraints.

Last year, for example, the Ministry of Education and Culture commissioned a 46-page booklet on AIDS prevention for high schools, only to run

out of funds for distribution.

"It's extremely unfortunate," said the 31-year-old Tel Aviv resident, "because Israel is one of the most well-read, information-hungry countries in the world. What's needed is something to raise the average Israeli's AIDS-consciousness."

In an ambitious effort taking place in San Francisco and Tel Aviv, groups of local and Israeli supporters are seeking to raise more than \$30,000 to bring sections of the 11,000-panel, 13-ton, hand-sewn memorial quilt to the Jewish state later this year.

"Wherever the quilt has gone, it has proven to be a powerful, mass means of helping people get through the barriers of ignorance and stereotyping about the disease," said Kent, who is a member of the Israel AIDS Task Force and the San Francisco-based Friends of

the Names Project-Israel Tour.

Earlier this year, Kent and other members of the tour's organizing committee gave a private showing of several panels from the huge tapestry, which is embroidered with items of personal clothing and other memorabilia of friends or relatives who died of AIDS.

"We showed it to teen-agers, doctors, lay people, Arabs and Jews alike, and everyone got the message — that the disease is a killer and can infect anyone," said Kent.

In San Francisco, former Names Project educational outreach coordinator and tour committee member Nancy Katz reported that the effort, which has raised \$10,000 so far, has the backing of the American Jewish Congress and the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

## City Nights Presents "Chicago"

City Nights Dinner Theatre announces opening of its seventh season with the musical comedy "Chicago." It runs all Friday and Saturday evenings September 7 through September 30 with Thursday evenings September 20 and 27. Sunday matinees September 16, 23 and 30 and a Sunday 6:00 p.m. early dinner show on September 23.

The show is staged and directed by Ernest J. Medeiros. Musical direction is by G. Frank Meekins.

The show takes place in the Franking 20's "a time when late nights, loud music and leggy women were the passwords to the Windy City. It was an era of flamboyant youth and flappers, gangsters and gin, hiphunks and hilarity.

City Nights is located in the center of downtown Pawtucket at 27 Exchange Street, next to the Pawtucket Times Building with easy access from Route 95 by exit 29 (at the end of the exit ramp turn south onto Broadway, then at the next traffic light, turn right onto Exchange St. The theatre is at the intersection of Broad and Exchange on the left).

Reservations are also being taken for "Steel Magnolias" running October 12 through November 4. Tickets to City Nights are by reservation only. For reservations or other information, call the Box Office 723-6060.

## "Treasures In Your Attic: Old And Rare Books" - Topic To Be Discussed At Newport Library

Kenneth Gloss, proprietor of the nationally known Brattle Book Shop in Boston, will speak at 7 p.m., Monday, September 10, at the Newport Public Library, 300 Spring Street, Newport, R.I.

Mr. Gloss's talk is entitled, "Treasures in Your Attic: Old and Rare Books." "New England homes are treasure troves for old and rare books that have increased in value over the years," says Gloss, "and we're inviting those attending to bring any volumes they want to know about to the lecture for a free verbal appraisal."

The Brattle Book Shop is the successor to America's oldest continuously operating antiquarian book store. Kenneth Gloss succeeded his late father, George Gloss, a well-known figure both in Boston and in national antiquarian circles.

Kenneth Gloss had worked in the store since childhood and elected to go into the book business rather than pursue a doctorate in chemistry. He became the sole proprietor upon his father's death several years ago. "I found that books were in my blood and that I would never be really happy if I abandoned the business."

Kenneth Gloss is a member of the Antiquarian Booksellers Association of America, the New England Antiquarian Booksellers Association, the Boston Society and the Rhode Island Antiquarian Booksellers. He serves as a member of the advisory board of the U.S.S. Constitution Museum and is a member of the advisory committee of the Boston Public Library.

Recently Kenneth Gloss was presented with an award by the Historic Neighborhoods Foundation for making a definitive contribution to the design and social heritage of Boston.

The Brattle Book Shop is also proud to have been a contributor to the WGBH Annual Auction each and every year that the station has held its fund drive.

Gloss will bring to the lecture several examples of inter-



Kenneth Gloss, proprietor of Brattle Book Shop.

esting books, magazines and ephemera from the store's private collection, such as a 1912 World Series scorecard and examples of old Life Magazines. (He owns the complete set!)

Following the lecture and question-and-answer session Gloss will give free verbal appraisals of those books and items that people bring with them or will do so at anytime at his 9 West Street emporium in Boston.

For further information, please call Ms. Pat LaRose at (401) 847-8756.

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## YMCA Has Openings In Child Care Programs

The YMCA Parent Child Center's two child-care programs, Kid's World, for preschoolers, and School's Out, for school-aged children, have openings for Fall 1990.

Kid's World, a state licensed facility, is a year round child-care program for 3-5 year olds. The program includes a variety of fun learning activities to develop a young child's social, intellectual and physical skills.

School's Out, a school age (6-12) program, is held at Martin Luther King. Transportation is provided from various city schools. The program is available from school dismissal until 5:45 p.m.

Kid's World children and School's Out children have an opportunity for swim lessons once a week in the YMCA's heated pool taught by certified instructors.

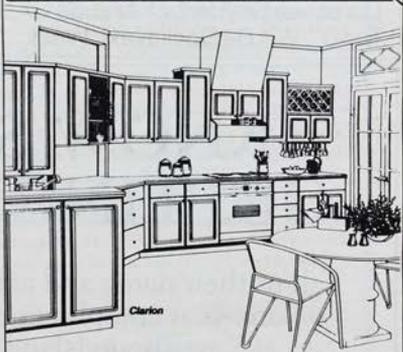
Some financial aid is available for these programs. To register and find out more about both these programs, stop by the YMCA Parent Child Center at 438 Hope Street in Providence, or call the Y at 521-0155.

## Support research.



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# The Sadwin Businesses — A Woonsocket Legacy

by Eleanor F. Horvitz  
Rhode Island Jewish  
Historical Association

A few specials for Saturday, October 13, are advertised at Sadwin's Dry Goods and Gents' Furnishing Store located at 139 South Main St. in Woonsocket. There are Ladies' boot silk hose in grey and navy at 29¢ a pair, children's flanellette sleeping garments at 35¢ each, and Ladies' Japanese silk quilted vests at a mere \$1.15 per vest. Before you start rushing off to take advantage of these bargains, you should be advised that these sale items appeared in an advertisement placed in the *Woonsocket Call* dated October 12, 1917.

The advertisement pertained to merchandise in the second store owned by Louis E. Sadwin. The front of his first, but smaller store, located just a few doors down from the second store, may be seen in the accompanying photograph. Mr. Sadwin is standing in front of his store with an unidentified man. He is the man who is hatless. Note the advertising on the window of the store is in two languages, French and

English, reflecting the large French population in Woonsocket.

Louis E. Sadwin first settled in Woonsocket around 1910. He came directly to Woonsocket from Lithuania, sponsored by his sister. A back-packer for a few years, he eventually opened a dry goods and clothing store around 1915. He married Edythe Feinstein of Fall River shortly after moving into his first store. They had five sons and one daughter. Dan Sadwin, his second son, noted in his information on his family that all the sons had served in World War II.

In the early 1920's Louis Sadwin left the retail business to become a handkerchief manufacturer. This handkerchief business became the Sadwin Curtain Manufacturing Company, Inc. which is presently operated by his grandson, Lawrence B. Sadwin, son of his third son, Sherwood.

Mrs. Louis E. Sadwin, it is interesting to note, entered the retail business by opening a small retail curtain shop in



1932. This later became a very successful home decorating store, well known throughout the area as Sadwin's Inc., according to her son, Dan.

The successful businesses

run by the Sadwin family are among many operated by the Jewish merchants of Woonsocket who contributed so much to that city's prosperity.

The Rhode Island Jewish

Historical Association is grateful to Dan Sadwin for the photograph and information on the Sadwin family.

## Arts Council Announces October First Grant Deadline

Individual artists and non-profit organizations can take advantage of a potential funding source by applying for a variety of grants from the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts by October 1, 1990.

Organizations can qualify for grants in the areas of arts programming, education, organizational development and access initiatives. Arts activities

must take place between December 1, 1990 through June 30, 1991.

Individual artists residing in Rhode Island are eligible to apply for Artist Projects and Professional Enhancement Grants as well as Folk Arts Apprenticeships. The Artist Projects category enables artists to create new work and/or complete a work in

progress. Professional Enhancement grants are intended to expand and enhance an artist's work and career centered on an impending out-of-state travel opportunity. Folk Arts Apprenticeships seek to preserve traditional artistic schools within a particular cultural heritage by sharing knowledge of a genre between an accomplished master and a dedicated apprentice.

All prospective applicants are encouraged to attend a special grants workshop schedule for Monday, September 10

from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. at the Council's offices. The session will offer complete and timely information on the application process for both individuals and organizations. Artists and organizations with specific questions about the procedure can schedule an appointment at the workshop.

Guidelines to all RISCA Grant Programs can be obtained at the following locations: South County Center for the Arts Annex, 782-1018; Kingston Free Library, 783-8254; Warwick Museum, 737-

0010; Providence Public Library/Main Branch, 455-8000; Newport Art Museum, 847-0179; Woonsocket/Harris Public Library, 769-9044; and RISCA Offices, 277-3880.

## Fall Southeastern New England Home Show

The first-ever fall event in Providence goes a step beyond the traditional home show, and offers consumers the products and information they need to get ready for "indoor" season.

Special features include the daily "how-to" demonstrations presented by Douglas Lumber and "Stroll Through The Park" - an outdoor garden display within the Civic Center. Furnishings, decorating, insulation, heating, tools for the home, and more.

Show hours are: Wednesday, September 12, 4-10 p.m.; Thursday, September 13, 1-10 p.m.; Friday, September 14, 1-10 p.m.; Saturday, September 15, 10 a.m.-10:30 p.m.; and Sunday, September 16, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Regular adult admission is \$6.00, \$2.00 for children 6-12, free for children under 6. Box office closes one hour before show closes daily. Discount coupons available at Rhode Island and nearby Massachusetts Stop & Shop Supermarkets. For more information call 1-800-525-7585 or (617) 536-8152.

Dorothea Snyder's "Around Town" Will Be Back Next Week

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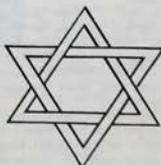


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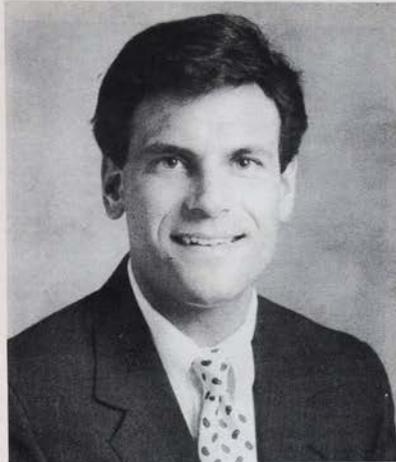
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## Goldman Opens Law Practice in Rhode Island



Attorney Howard S. Goldman

PROVIDENCE — Howard S. Goldman, a Boston attorney and Cranston native, announces the opening of his Rhode Island legal practice at 361 South Main St., Suite 1225, in Providence. He was recently admitted to practice in the Federal District Court of Rhode Island, in addition to state courts.

Attorney Goldman concentrates in business litigation, real estate matters, corporate counselling, personal injury, and estate planning.

Goldman initiated his own law practice in 1988 as part of an association of attorneys, at 50 Congress St., Boston, after having worked for two downtown Boston law firms. He also has previous experience with The Securities and Exchange Commission and the Federal

Reserve Bank.

Having graduated from Cornell University and Boston University School of Law with honors, he is a member of the Rhode Island and Massachusetts Bar Associations. He is actively involved in the business, real estate and litigation law sections of the Boston and Massachusetts Bars.

The son of Arnold and Selma Goldman of Cranston, Attorney Goldman married Amy Tayer of Brookline on August 5. She is a sales manager with the Four Seasons Hotel in Boston. Attorney Goldman welcomes inquiries regarding the nature of his practice and clients' legal needs. For more information, call (401) 942-4668 or (617) 227-0768.

### Open House at Temple Emanu-El

Temple Emanu-el welcomes all new and prospective members to our annual Open House on Sunday, September 16, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. The mornings activities will include a light breakfast and tours of the facilities.

The many organizations within the Temple community will have representatives on hand to discuss the year-round calendar of programs. For the children, there will be High

Holiday arts & crafts and a treasure hunt.

Temple Emanu-el, a Conservative synagogue, is a center for Jewish study, worship, social action and celebration.

Located in Providence at the corner of Sessions Street and Morris Avenue, we look forward to seeing you at the Open House. For further information, please call the Temple office at 331-1616.

### Cranston Senior Guild

The Cranston Senior Guild will hold its first meeting of the fall season on Wednesday, September 5, at Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Avenue, Cranston at 12:30 p.m. Come early and meet with the officers and board members.

Rabbi H. Scott White of Temple Am David, Warwick, will be our guest speaker.

With our successful and delightful summer behind us, we set our sights on our plans for fall and winter. These include:

September 26 - "Fiddler on the Roof" at the North Shore Music Theatre with a buffet lunch at Augustine's. Seating is still available. Call now! Janet Richman is chairperson, 461-7108. Last call - September 15.

### Congregation Ohave Shalom

The Young Israel of Pawtucket will have services this Friday evening at 7:10 p.m. Shabbat morning services are at 9 a.m. followed by a kiddush. Saturday afternoon the Rabbi will discuss the laws of Rosh Hashanah beginning at 6:15 p.m. Mincha will be at 7 p.m. followed by the Third

October 30, 31, November 1 - Beacon Resort Hotel, Lincoln, N.H. Three days, two nights. Leisure tour. If you enjoyed yourselves last year (and want to go again) or you missed going, here's your chance!! Only a few more spaces remain. Call Ida Woled at 861-2784. Deadline is September 30.

November 11 (Sunday matinee) - Show "Hollywood After Dark" with buffet lunch at Tremont House, Boston, Mass. Call chairperson Dorothy F. Fox at 272-2767.

December 12 - Annual Chanukah party at Venus de Milo, Swansea, Mass. Helen Forman once again chairs this outstanding day. Call her at 521-0455.

January 15, 1991 - Departure for our special holiday winter vacation at the Marco Polo Hotel in sunny Florida. It's never too early to plan! Come hear all about it!! You've tried the rest - now go with the best!! Chairman, Hy Jacobson at 274-9586.

We will also discuss plans for the Nevele Country Club in the beautiful Catskill Mountains. Leonard and Louise Lyons will once again chair this delightful trip. Circle the dates June 16 to June 21, 1991. Call them at 438-2634.

Refreshments and social hour will follow the meeting!! Be sure to attend this and all other meetings. A good time and place to meet old friends and make new ones!!

### Beth Shalom To Hold Meet The Rabbi Picnic

On Sunday, September 9, Congregation Beth Shalom-Sons of Zion will be holding its annual picnic. The whole Jewish community is invited to come out and meet the new Rabbi, Chaim Marder and his wife, Susan.

The picnic will be held at

fireplaces #4 and #5 at Colt State Park in Bristol, R.I. The picnic will begin at 10 a.m. with Glatt Kosher hot dogs, hamburgers and veggieburgers available for purchase at noon. Attendees are encouraged to bring sports equipment.

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## WHO FOR MAYOR?

No matter who is elected as the next Mayor, Providence needs a strong, active City Council. Bob Walsh, currently an Assistant Vice President at Fleet National Bank, has the financial background necessary to oversee a budget approaching \$250 million. A Director of Volunteers in Providence Schools and the Lippitt Hill Tutorial before that, he understands the pressing needs of our educational system. And in his service as Field Director of Scott Wolf's 1988 Congressional campaign, Bob Walsh has proven his political independence and commitment to ethics in government. He has the ability to work with a good mayor, and the courage to stand up to a bad one. Please give him a chance to put his energy, commitment, and ideals to work for you.

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# Milestones

## Dressler-Fownes



The marriage of Jodi Lynn Dressler to Ian Douglas Fownes took place July 29 at Quinnesett Country Club.

Beth Dressler, sister of the bride, was maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Carol Fownes, sister of the groom, and Robyn Lifshultz.

Charles Dressler, brother of the bride, was best man. Ronald Schwartz was an usher.

Jodi is the daughter of Max and Rona Dressler of Warwick, R.I. and Palm Beach, Florida.

Ian is the son of Joan and Douglas Fownes of Tipton, England. Jodi is the granddaughter of Mollie Snyder of Pompano Beach, Florida.

Ian is the grandson of Sarah Fownes of Wittenbach, England, and Caroline Thorpe of Tipton, England.

The bride graduated magna cum laude from Boston University and is a teacher in Wrentham, Mass.

The groom graduated from Portsmouth Poly Tech and Bulmer College of Higher Education, Reading, England.

The couple will reside in Warwick.

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## Noah Temkin Receives Award

Noah Temkin of North Providence, R.I., was recently honored in St. Petersburg, Fla., at the national convention of Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity with the presentation of the A. Edward Scherer Outstanding Advisor Award for that chapter advisor whose work has been outstanding and above and beyond the call of duty. Mr. Temkin is the chapter advisor at the University of Rhode Island.

Mr. Temkin is the former president of the Providence Alumni Club of Alpha Epsilon Pi, former president of the Hebrew Free Loan Association, former president of the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, former president of the Rhode Island Chapter of the International Association of Health Underwriters, former president of the Bridge Club of Rhode Island and remains active on many board of directors in the Rhode Island community.

Mr. Temkin is president of Health Underwriters, Inc. and is general agent for Massachusetts Casualty Insurance Company.

## Silverman Graduates

Susan D. Silverman, daughter of Gerald and Joan Silverman of New London, Conn., and granddaughter of Max Silverman and the late Esther Shlonsky Silverman, graduated with a Master's Degree in Social Services from Smith College in North Hampton, Mass., on Saturday, August 18.

## Bardfield-Dickens

Dorothy R. Bardfield of West Warwick, and Joseph Dickens of Warwick are pleased to announce their marriage on August 23, 1990. The ceremony was performed by Rabbi David B. Rosen in his study at Temple Torat Yisrael in Cranston, R.I.

After a trip to Washington, D.C. the couple will reside in West Warwick, R.I.

## Ringers Announce Birth

Mr. and Mrs. Yoram Ringor of 23 Elmway St., Providence, announce the birth of their daughter, Talia Lily, on July 31, 1990.

Maternal grandparents are Morton Kosch and the late Lillian Kosch of Portsmouth. Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Pinhas Ringor of Ashkelon, Israel.

## Salk — Pianin



Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Salk, Bradford, Mass., announce the engagement of their daughter, Ronni Susan Salk, to Jerrold Mark Pianin of Arlington, Mass., son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Pianin of West Hartford, Conn.

Ms. Salk graduated cum laude from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, with a B.S. in Human Nutrition and received her M.S. in Nutrition Communications from Boston University, Sargent College. She is a registered dietician for the Evans Medical Group, Boston, Mass.

Her fiancé received a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, N.Y. He is an engineer at Bolt, Beranek and Newman, Cambridge, Mass.

Ms. Salk is the granddaughter of Reuben Salk and the late Stella Salk of Providence.

An October wedding is planned.

## Pickars Celebrate 50th



On Saturday, August 25, 1978 from The New York Lace Store, formerly located in Pawtucket, with over 40 years of service.

Their children held a surprise fiftieth anniversary party for them on Friday, August 24, at the Ramada Inn in Seekonk, Massachusetts.

## Flamers Announce Birth

Marc and Lori Flamer of Lake Worth, Fla. happily announce the arrival of Kyle Joseph on June 22. Kyle is the brother of Ryan Scott.

Paternal grandparents are Kayla and Howard Flamer of Pawtucket. Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Russell Long of Stuart, Fla. and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Baumgart of Waterford, Wis.

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## Season At JCCRI

### Registration

at time of year again to for Fall Classes which of week of September 9 Jewish Community Cen Rhode Island, 401 Elm Avenue in Providence. stration in the Main Wednesday, September n noon to 7 p.m. (full ers only). Thursday, nber 6 from 8:30 a.m. to 1. (full and supporting ers).

Registration: If register- mail, it is suggested that be mailed prior to Sep- 5.

more registration details, c Vivian Weisman, Assis- sive Director at 861-

ior/Cadette Girl Scouts registration for Junior/

Cadette Girl Scouts will be held on Thursday, September 6 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, 401 Elm Grove Avenue in Providence. Girls ages 9-14 can take advantage of the opportunity to learn skills while working on achievement badges. Weekly meetings include leadership development, games, songs and projects. Camping week-ends, special interest outings and community service highlight the program. Fee of \$26.50 includes \$4 national dues, \$7.50 R.I. Council Parent Partnership Contribution and \$15 troop dues. Regular meetings will be held weekly on Thursdays from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Scout Den.

## Alexander Muss High School in Israel

It's business as usual for the September session of the Alexander Muss High School in Israel. AMHSI has maintained its current enrollment for its September and November session and plans to operate its regularly scheduled eight-week program during those months. The school just completed its second largest summer session in its 18-year history, by sending 238 students on the program. The September session leaves for Israel on September 9, 1990.

Several parents have called AMHSI to check if the program has been postponed. The Administration of the program is confident that the students' safety will not be in jeopardy.

Unless a travel advisory is issued by the State Department discouraging travel to Israel, AMHSI plans to remain open and send students to Israel throughout the gulf crisis.

## ORT Membership Tea

Get rid of the end of summer blues! Come meet new friends! Please join us for a membership tea for the Providence Chapter of Women's American ORT. It will be held on Thursday, August 30, at 8 p.m. at a member's home in East Greenwich.

Women's American Organization for Rehabilitation Through Training (ORT) maintains a network of schools with major programs in Israel, France, Italy, South America and in the United States. These schools enable us to help educate over 200,000 young people and adults in Jewish communities worldwide.

Our organization actively participates in Project Literacy U.S. and assists in the resettle-

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## What B.B.G. Means To Me

by Elizabeth Blitz

Over the past year and a half, I have had the most rewarding experience in B'nai B'rith. B.B.G. has given me the opportunity to be with Jewish people my age and to learn more about myself as a young Jewish woman. I have learned many valuable lifelong lessons about Jewish stereotypes, anti-Semitism, and Jewish customs and traditions. I have also made the closest friends that I have ever had, through regional events and conventions.

The diversity of B.B.G. and B.B.Y.O. is what makes it stand out as opposed to other Jewish youth groups. In B.B.G., everyone is different, and everyone is special in their own way, yet they all share a common bond. In B.B.G., I have learned to feel proud of my heritage and I wear my B.B.G. pin with pride. At events people are outgoing and want to meet you and this makes for a very comfortable atmosphere. B.B.G. has given me more than I would have ever dreamed possible. B.B.G. means the world to me and I wouldn't trade it for anything! For Me, B.B.G. is a means of escape from a public school life, where I as a Jew am a minority, into a world where I am given so many chances and opportunities. These are just a few of the many reasons why I am so committed to B.B.G.!

Elizabeth Blitz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Blitz has been a member of B'nai B'rith Girls for three years.

ment of Soviet and Iranian Jews through the ORT Technical Institutes in New York and Los Angeles. We also promote equal rights for women and provide our members with opportunities to learn skills and develop leadership qualities.

For further information about the Providence Chapter of Women's American ORT or for directions to the membership tea on Thursday, please call 885-2387.

## DEA To Process Identification Cards

The R.I. Department of Elderly Affairs (DEA) processes identification cards for persons 60 and older every Friday from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at 160 Pine Street in Providence.

Persons must present proof of age, such as a birth certificate, driver's license, or Blue Cross Plan 65 card. The DEA identification cards contain their owners' photograph, date

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of birth, Social Security number, address, and signature. DEA identification cards may NOT be used for free transportation on RIPTA buses. A \$2 donation per ID card is requested.

State law requires financial institutions to honor the DEA identification as valid for the purpose of cashing municipal, state and federal checks under \$750.

In addition, the DEA mobile ID unit will be at the following locations in September:

Wednesday, September 5 from 1-3 p.m. at Woodland Manor II, Nooseneck Hill Road, Coventry; and Wednesday, September 12 from 1-3 p.m. at Cranston Senior Services, 1070 Cranston Street.

Senior housing units, senior centers, and other agencies interested in hosting the DEA mobile ID card unit at their site should contact Carmen Albert at 277-2880.

## To Sponsor Candidates Night

An opportunity to become acquainted with political candidates and issues prior to September primary. "Candidates Night for the Primary" will be featured on Wednesday, September 5 from 6:30-8 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, 401 Elm Grove Avenue in Providence, co-sponsored by the Center and the Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island. A audience is invited to stay the Center to watch the scheduled Governor's debate on the JCC video followed by a discussion. Invited candidates to be

present are for the offices of U.S. Senate, U.S. House Districts 1 and 2, Governor, Lt. Governor, Mayor of Providence, R.I. Senate Districts 2 and 3 and Providence Council Ward 2 and 3. On Thursday, October 18 from 7 to 9 p.m., "Candidates Night II" will be held at the Center featuring candidates in the November general election. The moderator for the events will be Jeffrey Brier.

These informative meetings are free and open to the community. For more details, call 861-8800 and ask for Lisa Yanku.

## ocial Seniors Of Warwick

the Social Seniors of Warwick will go Sunday, September 9, to Daniel Webster Inn for lunch at Heritage Plantation. Wednesday, September 12, meeting will be held at 1 p.m. Temple Am David. Entertainers will be "Cranston

Sunny Seniors." Refreshments will be served.

October 24 members will be going to Amesbury Dinner Playhouse, Amesbury, Mass. For more information contact Sally Goldman.

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# Obituaries

**HENRY MARKOFF**  
**CRANSTON** — Henry E. Markoff, 87, of 28 Mozart St., owner of the Honorbuilt Clothing Store, Providence, which he started in the 1920s, until retiring in 1988, died Sunday, August 26, 1990, at home. He was the husband of Janis (McKernan) Markoff.

Born in Providence, a son of the late Edward and Sophie (Ginsburg) Markoff, he moved to Cranston 10 years ago.

Mr. Markoff was a member of Temple Emanu-El and its Men's Club. He was a member of the Touro Fraternal Association, Roosevelt Lodge 42, F & AM, the Palestine Temple B'nai B'rith and the Scottish Rite, Valley of Providence.

His wife is his immediate survivor.

The funeral service was held Tuesday, August 28, at the Sugarman-Smith Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Provi-

dence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

## MAX RUNSTEIN

**PROVIDENCE** — Max Runstein, 78, of the Jewish Home for the Aged, 99 Hillside Ave., founder and first president of Formost Rubber Co., a rubber mold manufacturing company, died Wednesday, August 22, 1990, at the home after a long illness. He was the husband of Ethel (Gordon) Runstein.

Born in Argentina, a son of the late Louis and Anna Runstein, he had lived in Providence over 40 years, previously residing in Chelsea, Mass.

Mr. Runstein had attended Boston University. He was an Army veteran of World War II, serving in the European Theater. He was a member of Temple Emanu-El.

Besides his wife he leaves a brother, Joseph Rustin of Pelham, N.Y.

The funeral service was held Sunday, August 26, in Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

## FRANK SWARTZ

**PROVIDENCE** — Frank Swartz, 85, of the Jewish Home for the Aged, 99 Hillside Ave., a general agent for the United Life & Accident Insurance Co., Concord, N.H., for 40 years before retiring in 1975, died Sunday, August 26, 1990, at the home. He was the husband of the late Elsie (Kornstein) Swartz.

Born in Jacksonville, Fla., he was a son of the late Charles and Frances Schwartz.

Mr. Swartz was a member of the Jewish Home for the Aged. He was a past president of the Sons of Zion Congregation, had served for 37 years, and was the first chairman of its cemetery committee. He was an honorary board member of Temple Beth Shalom. He was a vice president of B'nai B'rith, and an advisory for the A.Z.A. Organization. He was a member of Temple Emanu-El. He was a 32nd-degree Mason, and a past master of Barney Merry Lodge AF & AM. He was a member of the Palestine Temple of Shriners, the Grotto, and

the Hope Link Chapter of the Eastern Star. He was a past president of the Chased Schel Amess Association.

He was a past member of the Crestwood Country Club, and the Ledgemont Country Club. He was a member of the Republican Party in Rhode Island, and was a candidate for the City Council in Providence.

Mr. Swartz leaves two daughters, Avis Young of North Providence and Lori Schwaber of Youngstown, Ohio; five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

The funeral service was held Tuesday, August 28, at the Sugarman-Smith Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

## The 1990 Elections

(continued from page 6)

foreign aid, began speaking out in support of Israel. He backed Israel's control of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, urged the U.S. Embassy be moved to Jerusalem and criticized the U.S. dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The other race of special interest is in Louisiana, where a non-partisan primary will be held Oct. 6. Sen. J. Bennett Johnston, a Democrat and supporter of Israel, is expected to get the more than 50 percent of the vote needed to eliminate the need for a general election in November.

But there is some concern that if that does not happen, Johnston will be forced into a head-to-head race with the

leading Republican candidate, state Rep. David Duke, a neo-Nazi populist and former clunker wizard of the Ku Klux Klan.

Duke has been disowned by the Republican National Committee, which is supporting state Sen. Ben Bagert. But the polls say Bagert is far behind Duke. If Johnston is denied a clearcut victory in the primary then no one is certain he can defeat Duke in the general election.

Three Republican senators who have mixed records on Israel are retiring: Bill Armstrong of Colorado, Gordon Humphrey of New Hampshire and James McClure of Idaho.

## A Paragon of Parody

(continued from page 9)

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"Irma Vep" continues through September 9. Performances are Tuesday through Friday evenings at 8:30 p.m.; Saturday at 5 p.m. and 9 p.m.; Sunday at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.; and Wednesday matinee at 2 p.m. To charge by phone, call 401-782-TKTS, or from out of state 1-800-782-TKTS.

## Unveiling

An unveiling will be held in memory of Florence E. Kolb (Mrs. William Kolb) on Sunday, September 9, 1990, in Sharon Memorial Park, Sharon, MA. A meeting will take place at the administration building at 12:30 p.m. (prior to 1 p.m. ceremony). Family and friends are welcome to attend.

## Unveiling

An unveiling will be held in memory of the late Lena Leviten on Sunday, September 2, 1990 at 11 a.m. in Lincoln Park Cemetery.

## Unveiling

An unveiling will be held in memory of the late Harry Mendelson on Sunday, September 9, 1990, at 11:00 a.m. in Lincoln Park Cemetery. Relatives and friends are welcome to attend.

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## Yiddish Theater

(continued from page 1)

old). She is more comfortable in English than in Yiddish. She was born here and is American in acting style and personal style. She is Jewish but not all religious. Finally, unlike Yiddish actors of the past, she feels no permanent commitment to Yiddish theater. This above all is what Leon Leibgold, a grand old man of the Yiddish stage, really means when he comments flatly that, "There are no young Yiddish actors any more; there are only young actors who play in Yiddish."

Like the larger Yiddish culture of which it remains a resonant part, the Yiddish theater continues to shrink painfully with age. Yiddish actors and playwrights, like Yiddish journalists and poets, are remnants. There is no longer a range of Yiddish newspapers to publish theater reviews, argumentative critiques and columns of backstage gossip. Gone is the nightlife associated with Yiddish theater going, the sociable sidewalks and crowded cafes. Most of the splendid artists and their devoted fans are dead. The old Yiddish quip sharpens its bite: "An old Jew just died; move another seat out of the theater."

Nevertheless, in the hundred years since the great Eastern European Jewish immigration, New York City has never gone a season without Yiddish theater. The older actors gallantly carry the flame, scratch together the productions, and preserve a theater as much as possible in their own image. The audiences still get themselves there, even if the nursing home has to charter a bus. They love to hear the language, they love the link with their youth, and besides the shows are sometimes terrific. There are also community institutions such as the Workmen's circle which chip in subsidies, for the culture still feels strongly about its theater, values it, and even measures itself by it.

On the fringe of this world, a pool of several dozen younger actors like Eleanor Reissa perform on the Yiddish stage. They perform mostly in New York City or in New-York-based companies that tour Miami and elsewhere.

Like Eleanor, most of them are outsiders to the world that created Yiddish theater. They missed the high moment. Because their connection with Yiddish culture tends to be fragmentary, so is their connection with Yiddish theater, though their Yiddish theater

experiences often draw them closer to Yiddishkeit as a whole. Since their attitudes toward Yiddish theater reflect their individual attitudes toward their own Yiddish heritage and Jewish identities, they may be seen as a sketchy cross-section of their generation in American life.

Eleanor is typical of the pros, for whom Yiddish theater means, above all, a job. It even brings her some professional benefits beyond Equity minimum pay since it's so much smaller a world than the mainstream, she has already had opportunities to choreograph and direct. But for an ambitious American actor Yiddish theater can be dangerous.

Eleanor looks Jewish. She has dark curly hair, dark sloe eyes, a Jewish nose, vivid gestures, a Brooklyn accent. "The whole package," she presents herself with an impudent shrug and a newsboy grin, "is already bad enough." If word got around that she worked in Yiddish theater, she would be typecast in "ethnic" roles, very possibly limiting her career forever. Until recently, she never even told her agent. Agrees Avi Hoffman, another serious professional with a lot of future to lose, "Agents say Yiddish theater is a graveyard for your career. Who are they to tell me to be ashamed of my culture? But still..."

Another of the four experienced the expansion of his Jewish consciousness more violently. "For me to be doing Yiddish theater," reflects David Kener, dizzy with reversal, "is as weird as it gets." An actor in his twenties, with "ethnically" dark, tough-guy looks, David grew up in Brooklyn, hostile to Jewish authority and culture. When his father sent him to yeshiva, he fought back by becoming a fresh-mouth cut-up who drove the teachers crazy and played hookey as much as possible. He emerged with a halting knowledge of Yiddish, mostly punchlines, and so angry at all Jewish institutions that the first time he was offered a Yiddish role, he wheeled at the last minute and actually bolted. "Those old guys, that whole atmosphere — I couldn't take it." It took the personal prestige of Joseph Papp, who produced "Songs of Paradise," at the Public Theatre, to lure him back, years later. (In fact, the Backstage casting call for "Songs of Paradise" for actors "who speak Yiddish or have access to the language" drew

four hundred auditioners.) and poised for a jailbreak out of the Yiddish world, theater has allowed him reconciliation without defeat. He is still hungry for mainstream success but astonished to find himself also working on his Yiddish articulation and marrying a Jewish girl.

Richard Carlow represents the current youth movement toward cultural revival. Like his contemporaries who are collecting Yiddish books and learning to read them, listening to Yiddish folk tunes and learning to fiddle them, Richard came searching for Yiddishkeit and discovered Yiddish theater. "I always meant to learn Yiddish. My parents spoke it to my grandparents, but I didn't understand. Five years ago I finally got around to signing up for a beginners' course at the Workmen's Circle." A full semester passed before his teacher happened to mention that such a thing as Yiddish theater existed, and by coincidence the semi-professional

Folkbiene Theatre was holding auditions. "I got the part. I felt the show I was in. I didn't know if I could act in Yiddish." He pauses, shyly. He doesn't mean to sound swashbuckling. "I took a chance." Since then Richard has kept studying the language. Now he feels comfortable speaking it onstage, and he has progressed to sweet, earnest tall and slightly awkward leading men. This year at the Folkbiene he actually got the girl! His living comes partly from acting and partly from other kinds of jobs, but Yiddish theater is where he has found his roots, as well as the satisfaction of helping to preserve those roots for the community.

If all these attitudes toward Yiddish theater can be imagined as spectrum of a generation, Moishe Rosenfeld is at the extreme end. Moishe may well be the last person actually to set out to make a professional career in Yiddish theater. His commitment began in childhood. Moishe had a serious Yiddishist education at home

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## A Woman Of The World

(continued from page 1)

invited guests. But she also shared her generosity and power with the community at large. She wanted to be acknowledged as a person. But she wanted to give, too — to the Historical Association, The Holocaust Museum. She lived a long, if lonely, life. She especially chose to invest in human health.

This report deals not only with Lola but with her two staunch allies, Herta Hoffman, and Bernie Bell. They were together as a family. They helped her keep meaning in her years and days. Herta wrote me, Lola lived completely for her son Erich. His sudden untimely death was her hardest blow. She spent the war years in England under very difficult circumstances. She worked to support her sick husband until his death there. She came here and built her existence around her son. She saved every penny for his future. Erich was an engineer and consultant but she still put aside for him, a left over from the times she had lost so much in Europe. Neither Lola nor Erich would go to bed without calling each other to say good night. Lola spent seven years in East Greenwich, since she had lost 11 of her nearest relatives to cancer, she left the bulk of her estate for cancer research. She kept telling me, "Some of my money will help find a cure."

Bernie also sent a message to me in Narragansett. My first thoughts of Lola go back to the late forties and fifties. She visited my parents. In the 60's and 70's I saw her scurry through Wayland Square as I drove by. During the early 80's I became re-acquainted through my wife Claire's Hadassah. Lola gave jewelry and silver. We began to have tea with her in East Greenwich, on Tuesday afternoons. One day she asked if I would serve as co-executor of her will. She was aware of my anti-cancer activities. She said to be sure the money went 'against cancer.'

Lola ended up by herself, but she took charge and met that challenge. We all wish to live long and well and die with style. Lola held on with honor and went out with class, a grand Austrian Jewish lady and a gallant American lady. A woman of the world in one room.

## Yiddish Theater

(continued from page 15)

and school, with classes in Yiddish as well as Hebrew, English, and — because this was Montreal — French. Yiddish theater has always attracted to itself the communal strong feelings about the culture as a whole. So twenty years ago, when Moishe was a long-haired idealistic college kid, he determined to be a Yiddish actor.

"Then I got a call from a well-known manager. The legendary Polish Yiddish star Ida Kaminska had arrived in New York. First they were going to create a huge national tour. Then they were going to organize and ensemble to do repertory. He said I would be a welcome member." Moishe talks about love behind a particularly matter-of-fact voice. "So I went." Between one class and the next he caught a Greyhound bus south. When the border guards discovered he had only 40 Canadian dollars in his jeans pocket, not even enough for a return ticket, they turned him around and sent him home to Montreal. But it didn't occur to him to give up his big change. Three months later a lift with a respectable-looking uncle got him across the border — still without enough cash for a ticket back.

The huge national tour folded, and the welcome member earned not quite enough to live on, but Moishe took an extra job as Yiddish newscaster at Radio WEVD, the Station That Speaks Your Language, and made Yiddish theater his home. He worked with the older actors. He watched them from the wings. He sat in their dressing rooms and listened to their stories of trouping on six continents. They were his glamorous, witty, demanding, brave, temperamental zeydes and bubbes; he was their gentle dreamy grandson. "Those were pretty amazing years, because at that time the end of when all those actors were alive. You could still have the

atmosphere. Madame Kaminska, for instance — her bearing was still that of an aristocrat. You always felt honored to be in her presence, drawn to her. She was a magnet. I was privileged. I am the last link in the golden key, the golden chain."

Meanwhile, very few of the young actors really know fluent Yiddish. Some know no Yiddish at all and must memorize their lines phonetically. Sandy Levitt, who began with a better Yiddish background

than many and has made progress since, explains how it still feels to him: "You're trying to approach your role as an actor, and here you are burdened with this language." Even Bruce Adler, for whom "Yiddish is not a foreign language, it's my second language," is thinking in English while he's speaking and singing in Yiddish. The actors' difficulties in turn further limit the producers' choice of repertory. And while people do create new adaptations of old plays, new dramatizations of old Yiddish novels, and new Yiddish translations of Israeli comedies, it has been many years since a young playwright wrote a new Yiddish play.

When Yiddish theater was a healthy institution in its prime, such creative "new connections" arose naturally from the interaction of all its practitioners, young and old. There were experimentation and tradition, new plays which "legitimized where the artists started from," as well as revivals of the ambitious literary classics which have now been almost forgotten. In our day, however, demographic and financial realities mortally squeeze the theater, and the disparities between the generations generate tensions and interfere with creativity.

Still young and old, in their own ways and for their own reasons, keep on trouping. The same refusal to give up that animates the old actors animates the theater as a whole and, in fact, all of Yiddish culture. Says the rebellious yeshiva boy, David Kener, "I've been clicking into the tradition of Yiddish theater. If someone like me is actually here, there must be hope for Yiddish theater after all." Says Avi Hoffman, raised on Yiddish litera-

ture, "I thought dozens of times of leaving Yiddish theater and going back to rock and roll." But then he adds, "I'm glad I stuck around."

*Nahma Sandrow is a writer living in New York.*

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## Bar Mitzvah

(continued from page 1)

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