

# Rhode Island Jewish HERALD

**Jewish  
Community**

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## Whose Wall Is It, Anyway?

*Progressive Jews, Women at the Wall and the Ultra-Orthodox Battle for Judaism's Holiest Site*  
by Yosef I. Abramowitz

"Jerusalem was destroyed because justice was perverted... people insisted upon the fulfillment of the exact law and never sought compromise." — Talmud (Baba Batra 30b)

Orthodox feminist Blu Greenberg approached the Torah resting on the rickety table, three feet from the Kotel, the Western Wall of the ancient Jewish temple. She took the cloth used to wrap the scroll, touched it to the Hebrew words, and then kissed it gently. "Blessed are You, King of the Universe, who selected us from all the people and gave us His Torah..." she chanted in Hebrew.

When women create their own congregations, the shechina (G-d's presence) is not present and their prayers are not heard... instead of kedusha (holiness) we have kedeshah (prostitutes).

Rabbi Menashe Klein

"As I began the blessing, I heard yelling from the other side," said the author of *How to Run a Traditional Jewish Household*. "It came as a real surprise to me. I couldn't understand. What was wrong with people coming to pray together at the Kotel? I had no idea this would blow up into a major political issue."

Greenberg's aliyah at the Kotel was the first by a woman, and was undertaken by an Orthodox-leaning group that later became known as Women of the Wall (WOW).

Eight years later the right of women to pray collectively at the Western Wall is one of the most volatile and unresolved political and religious issues facing world Jewry. With the Orthodox religious parties marshaling a record 23 Knesset seats in the latest Israeli elections — and their recapturing control of the Ministry of Religious Affairs — Orthodox feminists and progressive Jews face a new world where demands for equality and recent advances in pluralism are

likely to be undermined or set back.

"I think people underestimate what are the full implications of the Israeli elections," warned Rabbi Jerome Davidson, executive vice president of the congregational wing of the Conservative movement. "It will create a chasm in Israel and a schism with the diaspora."

Adds Miriam Benson, legal liaison for the International Committee for Women of the Wall: "Since Jerusalem is the eternal capital of the entire Jewish people, then the Kotel does not only belong to the Charedim (ultra-Orthodox). If we let the forces of injustice win in Israel, we will all lose."

The on-going struggle of Women of the Wall to conduct services at Judaism's holiest site is a microcosm of the dynamics in Israeli society that have spearheaded coercive Orthodox legislation and prevented the legitimization of Reform and Conservative Judaism.

Failure by this small halachically constituted group — with thousands of supporters worldwide — to secure prayer rights is also a litmus test of diaspora interest in influencing the Jewish character of Israel. It also exposes some fundamental and disturbing weaknesses in American progressive Judaism.

Efforts by Women at the Wall to pray as a group within the bounds of Jewish law have been met with violence, ridicule and political contempt. After months of tension in 1988-89, the Israeli Supreme Court ruled that the women can pray at the Kotel silently, without a Torah and without their prayer shawls until a political solution is found.

The previous Labor Government finally made a recommendation this past April: If women wanted to pray with a Torah, they can do it in Moslem East Jerusalem, outside the Old City.

The Supreme Court has recently given the Israeli government until July 29, 1996 — five days after Tisha B'Av, the day commemorating the destructions of the Temples — to recommend how to secure the rights of all Jewish worshippers at the Kotel. If Binyamin Netanyahu's government response is anything similar to that of the previous administration's, he will seek an extension and delay ruling on the issue, predicts Benson. "It's simply too hot."

Rabbinical students from the Conservative movement's Jewish Theological Seminary often

study in Israel for a year. This past Shavuot, the holiday marking the giving of the Torah by G-d to the Jewish people, a group of students gathered under the starry Jerusalem sky at the Kotel plaza for an egalitarian prayer service.

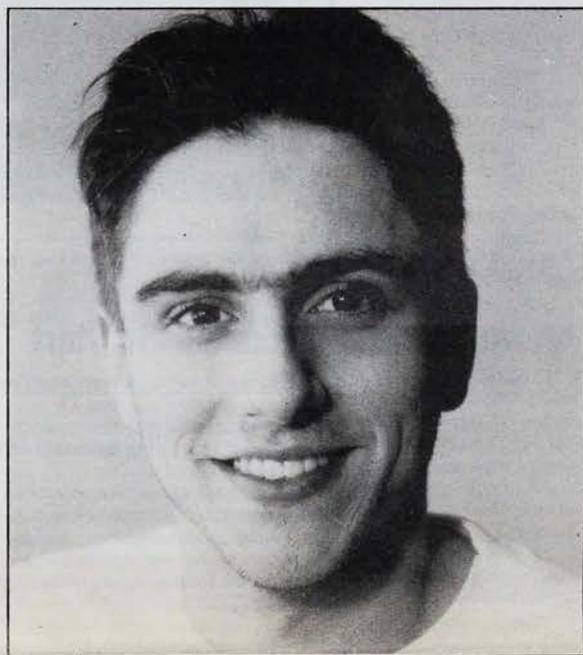
"They wanted to pray with men and women together," said Rabbi Robert Golub, executive director of Mercaz, the Zionist arm of the Conservative movement, "so they stood all the way in back, far from the Kotel and the mechitza separating men and women."

The mechitza, the partition, was erected in 1967 after a group of Reform rabbis from the United States tried to conduct an egalitarian service at the newly liberated site. The ultra-Orthodox community, encouraged by Rabbi Yehuda Getz, protested, and prevented the American rabbis from conducting their service. Getz was subsequently named by the Ministry of Religion the administrator of the Kotel and held the position until his death last year.

As with any major holiday, the Kotel plaza two months ago was filled with tens of thousands of worshippers, mostly ultra-Orthodox who stream in on foot from nearby neighborhoods. As the American students prayed, they were harassed and verbally abused by some ultra-Orthodox men. "Asur. It is forbidden," they shouted at the rabbinical students, and interrupted their prayers. A line of police officers surrounding the students prevented any physical attacks.

"As American Judaism in the past 30 years embraced the participation and empowerment of women, ultra-Orthodoxy became more extreme and exclusive," said Jonathan Sarna, Braun Professor of American Jewish History at Brandeis University.

(Continued on Page 15)



JOSEPH SUBOTNIK, SUPER-ACHIEVER, will be spending five weeks in Israel this summer at the Weizmann Institute of Science.

## Subotnik Heads for Weizmann

Joseph Subotnik, of Providence, joins 17 other high school graduates this summer at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot, Israel.

He will spend a month studying at one of the world's foremost research centers and participate in an exclusive program of science lectures and laboratory work.

Now in its 28th year, the Dr. Bessie F. Lawrence International Summer Science Institute brings together an international group of talented future scientists. These 71 teen-agers from 18 countries (including China, Singapore, Yugoslavia, Colombia, and Uruguay) will meet with the scientists in hopes to do research in fields of their individual interest. Also included

in the five-week program are trips to Israel's most modern science-based industries and desert field trips.

Subotnik is the son of Dan and Rose Subotnik. He was a semi-finalist in the Westinghouse Science Talent Search and was a recipient of chemistry and math awards. He was also chosen as a National Merit finalist. A recent graduate of Classical High School, he will attend Harvard University in the fall, concentrating his studies in physics and chemistry. While at the Weizmann Institute, he plans to study particle physics.

The Weizmann Institute is one of the world's foremost centers of scientific research and graduate study.

## Reform Leaders Accuse Rabbi of Inciting Violence

by Debra Nussbaum Cohen  
NEW YORK (JTA) — Israel's Sephardi chief rabbi made remarks this week that have been interpreted as calling for the murder of Reform Jews, sparking a sharp response from the leaders of the Reform movement.

They are concerned, said Rabbi Lennard Thal, vice president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, that the chief rabbi's sermon could be viewed by someone as license

to kill Reform Jews much the same way the convicted assassin of Yitzhak Rabin cited justification in Jewish law for his violent act.

The head of Shvil Hazahav, an organization which represents Orthodox Jews who support the peace process, expressed similar concerns.

"If what was reported to have been said by the rabbi is true, it could be viewed as incitement similar to those words which were reported to have precipi-

tated the action by an extremist 'religious' Jew last November," said Rabbi Shmuel Goldin, chair of Shvil Hazahav, or The Golden Path.

In a sermon recently at Jerusalem's Tifereth Yerushalayim synagogue, Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi Doron compared the biblical figure Zimri to Reform Jews, and praised Pinchas, the man who murdered Zimri for having sexual relations with a non-Jewish woman.

(Continued on Page 15)

# INSIDE THE OCEAN STATE

## He's One of the 'They'

Books on the Square has scheduled an evening with Sam Beard, one of the people newscasters mean when they say, "They say the economy will..." Internationally renowned economist, founder and chairman of the National Development Council, he has been an advisor to presidents Nixon, Ford, Carter, and Reagan.

Beard will discuss and sign copies of his new book, *Restoring Hope in America: The Social Security Solution*. He has painstakingly developed a program he hopes will solve Social Security shortfalls threatening the system's solvency. He envisions a quasi-public system which offers individuals greater control and incentives to save than the current system does. Beard will speak on July 25 at 7:30 p.m. at Books on the Square, 471 Angell St. in Wayland Square, Providence (331-9097). This pro-



Sam Beard

gram is free and open to the public.

## MicroBusiness Workshops to Start

Greater Elmwood Neighborhood Services will sponsor a series of free MicroBusiness Training and Peer Lending sessions for persons who are currently operating or are planning to start their own home-based business.

The series begins July 22, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Also, a series of MicroBusiness Workshops will be offered on the same days from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. All classes are held at 903 Broad St., Providence,

and will continue every Monday evening through Aug. 19.

A certification ceremony for those completing the course will be held on Aug. 26.

The program offers free business training in marketing, business plan, budgeting, support from other entrepreneurs, and access to small loans from \$300 to \$3,000.

For more information, call Ken or Isabel at 461-4111.

## Nature Conservancy Hits 10,000 Acres Mark

The Nature Conservancy purchased a 22.45-acre piece of property in Richmond on June 28. The property, which is located off Route 138, is an addition to the conservancy's Grass Pond Preserve, which now totals 125 acres. This most recent land acquisition puts The Nature Conservancy over the "10,000 acres protected" mark.

The property is composed of a large boggy wetland and surrounding wooded upland buffer. The wetland contains an open bog and areas of healthy Atlantic white cedar swamp. Cranberry growing in the sedge meadow supports a huge population of Bog Copper butterfly, while the Atlantic white cedar provides larval food for the Hessel's Hairstreak butterfly.

In addition to being a home to the state-endangered butterflies, the Grass Pond Preserve also provides a habitat for the Little Bluebell, the Inundated

Horned Rush, and one of the rarest dragonflies, the Banded Bog Skimmer, a candidate for the endangered species list, with its best populations in the world right here in Rhode Island.

Just as significant is the fact that this addition to the Grass Pond Preserve may help provide an ecological link between the 2,300-acre Carolina Management Area and the 1,800-acre de Coppet Estate which is being held in trust for the State of Rhode Island. The new preserve not only is significant in its own right, but helps ensure the long-term viability of the whole area by linking these larger tracts.

Additionally, the new preserve may be a good opportunity to provide a link for the state's North-South Trail, which is in search of a connector in this area.

For more information on the conservancy, call 331-7110.

## M.S. Society Seeks Air Conditioners

The Rhode Island Chapter National Multiple Sclerosis Society is hoping to have new air conditioners, or used air conditioners in good working condition, donated to the chapter to be distributed to individuals with multiple sclerosis who may be confined to their homes.

Summer heat can often aggravate this condition, making symptoms such as muscle weakness, fatigue, blurred vision and slurred speech more severe than in the less humid weather.

Anyone interested in making a donation should contact Melba Lochmandy at 738-8383.

## Romance is Alive and Well

Books on the Square will host an event of special interest to readers and writers of romance novels: Gail Eastwood, author of *An Unlikely Hero* (Penguin, \$4.99), will read from her book, sign copies, and talk about her newest work in progress.

Eastwood has won several national awards for best Regency Romance novels, and is a native Rhode Islander.

The program will take place on July 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the store, 471 Angell St. in Wayland Square, Providence (331-9097).

## Homemade Ice Cream Here

The Historical Society of Smithfield will hold its annual ice cream social on July 21 from 1 to 4 p.m. on the grounds of the Smith-Appleby House, 220 Stillwater Road in Smithfield.

Homemade ice cream with a variety of homemade toppings and beverage will be served for

Reservations are not necessary. Call 231-7363 for more information.

## Fund-Raiser Scheduled for Meeting Street

Meeting Street By The Bay, a fund-raiser for Meeting Street Center/Easter Seal Society of Rhode Island, will be held Sept. 6 at 7 p.m. at Linden Place in Bristol.

The event will feature Maxwell May's new painting "Happiness," which was created as a tribute to children of Meeting Street School.

Patron tickets at \$250 per couple include a signed limited edition numbered print of "Happiness," an entry into a drawing for the original painting (\$5,000 value), and listing in the event program.

Tickets at \$100 per person or \$50 per couple include a limited edition signed print of "Happiness," and an entry into a drawing for the original painting.

Tickets at \$50 per person include a poster of "Happiness."

Guests will also be treated to entertainment, a meeting with Mays, hors d'oeuvres and desserts.

Mays, a Rhode Island native and graduate of Rhode Island School of Design, began painting 50 years ago.

He lives and paints in a Rhode Island farmhouse built in 1737 that has been carefully restored. His association with *Yankee, the New England Magazine*, has brought his work to the public through a series of cover pictures, adding to his status as a "collectable artist."

Mays completed "Happiness" in 1996 as a tribute to the abilities and joys of children with disabilities at Meeting Street School. Like all of his paintings, all of his paintings, "Happiness" tells a story — that of children enjoying a beautiful day of boating on Narragansett Bay. Understanding that people with disabilities are far more than their challenges, the young people are not shown in wheelchairs or with crutches; they are all smiling happily and waving on the decks of the steamboat.

For more information or reservations, call Maureen Krasnow at 438-9500, ext. 234.

## Searching for Foster Homes

The Hope for Animals Sanctuary of Rhode Island, Inc., a non-profit, all-volunteer organization dedicated to saving animals, is searching for a large group of individuals/families who would like to be foster care providers for cats, kittens, dogs, or puppies — short-term or long-term.

The organization is working hard to raise enough money to build and operate a no-kill sanctuary for homeless animals in Rhode Island. Meanwhile, hundreds of homeless pets are being put down because of lack of space at area shelters and other humane societies.

Anyone who is interested in obtaining more information and obtaining official foster care applications should contact Marjorie Chase, president, at 766-6012 or Kate Jackson, foster care coordinator, at 769-6653.

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# THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Decline In Kashrut Bad for Butchers

by Emily Torgan

Jewish Community Reporter

The aromas of fresh meat and pickling spices have filled kosher butcher Marty Weissman's Cranston shop for about 35 years, but such shops and their traditional offerings may not exist in Rhode Island much longer.

"I'm the last one in line," Weissman said on July 12.

A 71-year-old Holocaust survivor, Weissman wiped his hands on his apron and stared at his jars of borscht and soup mixes.

"The new generation does not want this," he said.

Some local supermarkets have recently been selling fresh kosher meat, competing with the state's only two kosher butcher shops for a dwindling market.

Due to fierce competition, the kosher butcher shop, once a vital part of Jewish community life in Rhode Island, may soon become part of the community's history.

"There used to be a much bigger market," Weissman said. "People aren't keeping kosher anymore, and a lot of the older people go to mealsites. And people are eating a lot less meat."

Bernard Spigel, proprietor of Fred Spigel's Kosher Meat & Deli-Tizer, agreed with Weissman on July 15.

"There were about 28 kosher butchers in Rhode Island when my dad opened this shop in the '40s," Spigel said. "Now, there

are only two of us left, and supermarkets can sell kosher meat on Saturday, which really isn't right."

Members of the state's religious establishment are deeply concerned about the waning buyership.

"We have no authority over the supermarkets," said Rabbi Mitchell Levine of Congregation Beth Shalom and head of the Va'ad Hakashruth of Rhode Island. "They are not under our supervision."

Jay Rosenstein, lay president of the Va'ad, explained that fresh meat sold by such establishments as East Side Marketplace and Shop & Save are prepared in Boston, then brought to Rhode Island.

According to Levine, the increased availability of kosher food is positive.

"I am an American, and I believe in economic competition," Levine said. "We appreciate the increased availability of kosher food. But I feel responsible to be an advocate for the butchers too. If we rabbis made kashrut a priority with our congregations, there would be plenty of customers."

But the number of customers has declined steadily. When the Va'ad was founded in 1920, it exercised authority over about 28 kosher butcher shops. By 1960, Spigel remembered about 23 kosher butcher shops. In 1975, *The Providence Journal Bulletin Magazine* reported only 7 ko-

sher butcher shops in the state.

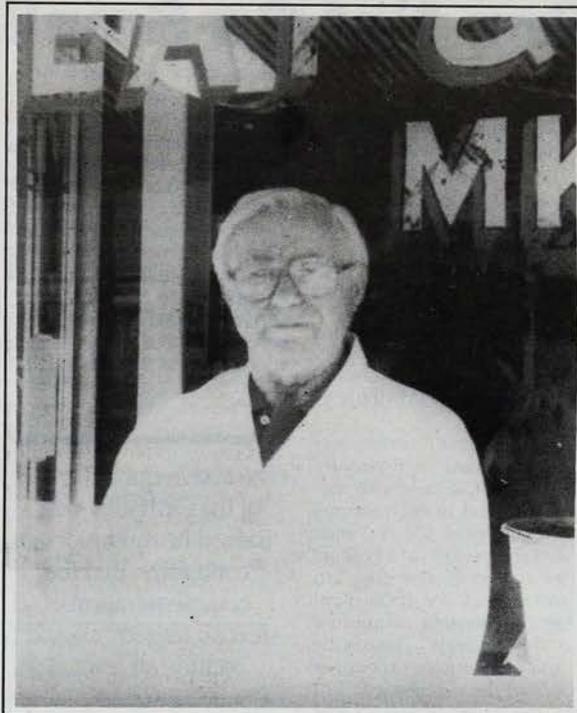
"I remember when there were 5 or 6 butcher shops within 100 yards of each other," remembered Syd Cohen as Weissman wrapped his purchases in butcher's paper on July 12. "There were shops all over Broad Street, Hope Street, Ohms Street and Willard Avenue. On Saturday night, most of the Jews would go up there to the meat markets. There were also five or six bakeries, a barbershop and a fish market. That made a community."

Both Levine and Rosenstein think kosher butchers are vital to Rhode Island if the Jewish community hopes to expand.

"American Jews are highly mobile," explained Levine. "They are capable of relocating to where the environment is good. If we want to attract people to Providence, we must be able to sustain a level of Jewish identity here. We have two Jewish day schools, and a kosher butcher is something people will look for. It will help if they are choosing between Providence and New Haven and Brookline."

Additionally, Rosensteinsaid he was concerned that the supermarkets might drop their kosher goods at any time.

"If the (kosher meat) is not profitable, the supermarkets will not continue to sell it, and people will not be able to get it," Rosenstein said. "The kosher butcher and baker are much more



Kosher butcher Marty Weissman in front of his Cranston shop.

Herald photo by Emily Torgan

dedicated to the community."

But there are not many community members in Spigel's shop towards the end of a Monday afternoon. Although Spigel says he is busy, he explains that many of his customers are gentiles who buy kosher meat because they know it is better quality.

"I still have this stuff," Spigel

said, glancing at briny vats of pickled tomatoes and stacks of halvah. "The other stores finished doing their business, and nobody replaced them."

Spigel sips his soda thoughtfully when asked if he thinks anyone will eventually replace him.

"Actually, I don't know," he said.

## Rabbi Levine Talks About His First Ten Months

by Emily Torgan

Jewish Community Reporter

Though he says he is not good with dates, Rabbi Mitchell Levine of Temple Beth Shalom in Providence says he will never forget the year he graduated from Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio.

"It was 1984, and every graduation speaker said something about that," said Levine, a 34-year-old who was born in New York and raised in Raleigh, South Carolina.

And the years that have ensued since that famous date have

led Levine towards marriage, fatherhood and a geographically diverse trek towards his Orthodox Providence pulpit.

Shortly after Levine earned a B.A. in philosophy, he knew he wanted to become a rabbi. He spent a year at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill studying, then went to the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Philadelphia. After two years there, Levine continued at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Israel. He then went to Pardeis Institute for a year, and decided he

wanted to pay more attention to the study of Jewish texts.

"I decided I would not feel comfortable calling myself a rabbi without giving the text a lot more attention," Levine said.

He then went to Darche Noam, a yeshiva in Jerusalem.

In 1992, Levine was ordained by the chief rabbinate of the state of Israel. He had also met his future wife, Alison, in Israel. Soon, the two again crossed the Atlantic. The Levines married in the United States, and Levine took a three-year pulpit in Holyoke, Mass., at Congregation Rod Phey Shalom. Soon, the Levines had their young son, Ilan, who turned 3 in March.

Now, Levine is glad to be in Providence, where he thinks the community has great potential.

"We run a full palate of services, and on typical weekdays there are 15 or more worship-

pers in their 20s and 30s," Levine said. "Also, we have a lot of participation from teen-agers."

Levine said he is proud of his synagogue's offerings.

"We cater to families willing to make an enormous commitment to Jewish identity and continuity," Levine said.

Levine, who was raised Conservative, thinks his Southern background helped prepare him for his Orthodox practice.

"Raleigh is part of the bible belt," Levine said. "The dominant culture is fundamentalist Christian, and religion is respected and taken seriously."

As Levine identified Jews as a

tiny minority, he learned to explain Judaism to others very early.

"I do not feel that I or my family experienced overt anti-Semitism, but there was a lot of ignorance about Judaism," Levine said. "The South is not as colorfully ethnic as the North."

Now, Levine is happy to worship with his religious congregation.

"We are very happy here, both professionally and socially," Levine said of his family. "There is a lot of room for growth, and this community is ambitious. They want to see Jewish culture happening."



Rabbi Mitchell Levine  
Herald photo by Emily Torgan

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# EDITORIAL

## One Not-So-Small Step Toward Jewish Unity

Thoughts About Tisha B'Av  
by Rabbi Avi Shafran  
Director of Public Affairs  
Agudath Israel of America

Though it is months gone and its return months away, Yom HaShoah is a timely topic for our thoughts these days. Indeed, perhaps some distance from the date of the annual commemoration of the Holocaust is precisely what we all need to reflect constructively on what has become, sadly, a source of some tension, and even ill-will, within the Jewish community.

This past year's commemoration produced an especially noisy note of intra-Jewish discord, sounded in such forums as the *Baltimore Jewish Times*. One of the periodical's readers noted a "gradual decline" in attendance at the local Yom HaShoah gathering, attributing it to "the 'old ones'... just dying off and the younger generation seem[ingly] less interested." But then, the writer reports, "I was struck with a sudden thought. Where are the members of the very 'frum' community? I looked in vain for the black hat."

Calling the absence of such headgear at the gathering "a shondeh" [disgrace], the writer went on to ask, "Are these people so isolated, so insular, that they won't join their fellow Jews in an act of remembrance?" — and to remark, "They lost relatives, too. The least they could do is join in a public act of tribute."

The air was particularly thick with tension this year in New York City, where, in order to hold costs down, the annual Holocaust remembrance observance was held in a Reform

temple. As a result, some Orthodox Jews who in the past may have attended the ceremony at a neutral site but who regarded a non-Orthodox place of worship as an inappropriate place for such a gathering stayed away. As reported in the *New York Jewish Week*, a vice-president of the New York Board of Rabbis, Rabbi Marc Schneier, said he was offended that "some people would use their halachic arrogance" to not attend the event.

The above-quoted critics of the Orthodox may indeed be right in their contention that the commemoration of Jewish tragedy should include all Jews...

Concurring with Schneier was the president-elect (now president) of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, Rabbi Eric Yoffie, who, in a letter to the same periodical, called Orthodox refusals to participate in the remembrance "hypocritical" and "an affront to the memory of those who perished."

There was a certain irony in the fact that many of those who perished in the Holocaust would never themselves have considered entering a house of worship identified with a movement like the modern Reform one. But the angered were not intrigued by ironies.

Venting the umbrage in a different direction, yet another writer to the paper noted that "Hitler did not differentiate among Reform, Conservative and Orthodox Jews" and averred, "neither should we" as if the Nazis wholesale slaughter of Jews regardless of their beliefs somehow renders all beliefs legitimately Jewish.

The larger issue, though, lies back in the Baltimore writer's letter. His observation — that Yom HaShoah ceremony attendance, even when held in neutral locations and even among the non-Orthodox, has lapsed of late — is invaluable. For confronting and understanding that fact may well be the key to recapturing true Jewish unity — not only in the realm of Holocaust-consciousness but far beyond.

For, sadly, there have been other national tragedies in our history, tragedies whose commemoration Yoffie's movement long ago let lapse. Observant Jews still maintain the memory of those terrible events — prime among them the destruction of the holy Jewish temples in Jerusalem and the resultant Jewish exiles — with the full force of any religious obligation, on Tisha B'Av, the Jewish calendar's fast-day that has, since antiquity, focused us Jews on our national tragedies. This year, it falls on July 25, beginning with sundown the previous day.

That commemorations of subsequent tragedies — the fall of Betar and the expulsion of Jews from various European countries in the Middle Ages, for instances — were incorporated within Tisha B'Av's nucleus in later years does any-

thing but diminish the power of those later catastrophes. Quite the contrary, the memory of those sad events is empowered by their connection to the earliest roots of Jewish national anguish — roots, our sages teach us, that stretch back to when our ancestors wandered in the Sinai desert.

Let us begin to recapture unity by joining together in the solemn observance of the millennia-old day of national Jewish mourning.

Which is precisely why so many Orthodox communities and individuals — regardless of their attitude toward Yom HaShoah — set their Holocaust focus, too, on Tisha B'Av, in many places with special poetic dirges composed in the wake of the European Jewish cataclysm. The sheer scope and depth of the tragedy of a mere half-century ago understandably and trenchantly link it to the lamentably longer chain of the Jewish people's suffering.

And participation in Tisha B'Av commemoration is waxing, not waning, as more Jews become more observant and children of observant families come of age.

The above-quoted critics of the Orthodox may indeed be right in their contention that the commemoration of Jewish tragedy should include all Jews (hats

or none, lost relatives or none), and perhaps even right in their suggestion that the key to Jewish unity lies in that precise direction.

Are they willing, though — are we all willing — to face the deep implication of that fact, especially in light of Yom HaShoah's reported fading, the rise of Holocaust revisionism and the deep yearning in countless Jewish souls for something more than the popular modernist Jewish expressions offer?

The implication: Tisha B'Av observance beckons us all.

The time has come for all Jews to reconnect to the mother-lode of Jewish tragedy commemoration — and, through it, to the entirety of Jewish history. Let us begin to recapture unity by joining together in the solemn observance of the millennia-old day of national Jewish mourning. Let each of us find a shul or yeshiva where Jews spend Tisha B'Av eve sitting on the floor and mourning, where images and feelings of Jewish tragedies, both distant and near are called up and bemoaned. Let each of us set aside the day to fast, to pray, to reflect on our collective pain. And let us all, thereby, be joined by our fasting and praying — to one another, but also to our fellow Jews throughout the ages, whose tragic experiences are no less a part of our collective Jewish legacy than the events of a generation ago.

For that way may indeed lie not only meaningful commemoration of the Holocaust but the beginning of the path to ultimate Jewish unity and redemption. May they arrive b'mheira b'yameinu, quickly, in our days.

### RHODE ISLAND JEWISH HERALD

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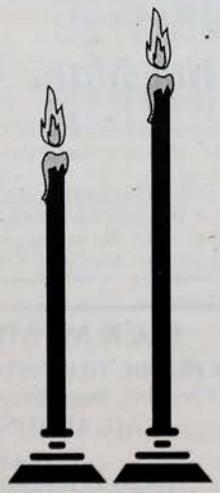
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Candlelighting  
July 19, 1996  
7:58 p.m.



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

## Transforming the Material Into the Spiritual

This week's Torah portion begins the fifth book of the Torah, Devarim (Deuteronomy). The Book of Devarim is also called Mishneh Torah, meaning "Repetition of the Torah"; Moses began to repeat the Torah to the Jewish people on the first day of the Hebrew month Shevat.

The timing of the Repetition of the Torah was especially significant for the Jewish people in that it served to prepare them for their entry into the Promised Land. During their years of wandering in the desert, all their needs — food, water, clothing and shelter — were miraculously provided for them by G-d.

Now the Jews were on the verge of leaving this place where for years they had had no material cares. They were about to settle in a land and a way of life which necessitated tilling, sowing, repairing and all the other mundane preoccupations of life.

It was now that they were exposed to the repetition of the Torah, for they needed an additional and special measure of

spiritual re-invigoration and inspiration, so that they would not become materialistic and debased in the material world that lay ahead.

On the contrary, the whole purpose of their coming into the land was to instill holiness, to elevate and make more spiritual

them into spiritual. "G-d grants the Jew his livelihood and he, in turn, utilizes the money for mitzvot in general and for the support of Torah-study in particular. In this way, one truly converts the material (money and worldly possessions) into the spiritual.

Transformation of the material to the spiritual can be achieved by

other means, also. One can elevate and refine one's professional environment by setting a personal example of Torah-guided honesty and good conduct.

In all matters of sanctity, one must go from strength to strength, constantly increasing in holiness. In this way, the blessing of "prosperity through charity" becomes realized, with G-d giving material blessings in a growing measure, enabling us to create more, and still more, spirituality, at a reciprocal pace.

Adapted from the works of the Lubavitcher Rebbe. Submitted by Rabbi Yehoshua Laufer of Chabad House.

### TORAH TODAY

the material aspects of daily life — thereby transforming the material into the spiritual. This would be accomplished through the study of the Torah, worship of G-d, performance of His divine precepts, giving charity, and doing acts of loving kindness.

The divine purpose of our entry into the Holy Land — to elevate the environment and transform the material into the spiritual — is the very same purpose that every individual Jew has in his performance of day-to-day activities. Rabbi Shneur Zalman, founder of Chabad Chasidut, explained: "The material things of Jews are spiritual; G-d gives us material things, that we may transform

## Once Again, A Day to Mourn

by Rabbi Jerome M. Epstein  
Tisha B'Av is a different holiday every year. Granted, it is always a day of mourning — although the intensity we are able to muster for this task varies for each individual from year to year. Still, whatever else we do, or think about, on that day, we continue to recall with sadness the destruction of the First and Second Temples as well as the expulsion of the Jews from Spain and other tragic events in the life of our people.

This being said, we have nevertheless had the luxury, in recent peaceful years, of being able to divert some of our attention on this day to other matters. In the absence of physical destruction, we have been spared the agony of adding additional outrages to the list of events commemorated on this occasion. Indeed, we have used this time to reflect and to tackle challenges of a different kind, such as those of rampant assimilation and the weakening of our young people's attachment to Judaism.

This year, however, our hearts are heavy once again and we feel compelled to spend the day mourning and paying tribute. Over the past year, we lived through senseless acts of terror that robbed us of many precious lives and threatened to sap our spirit. Even more, we saw the clear resurgence of hatred expressed openly, shamelessly and violently.

While these events did not take place on Tisha B'Av itself, the day provides us with an opportunity to remember those who perished and to reflect on the implications of these tragedies.

The assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in November left the world — and the Jewish community in particular — both numb and uncomprehending. This hor-

rible event raised a red flag in the Jewish community, one which demands attention even now.

The rabbis teach that the Second Temple was destroyed partly as a result of causeless hatred, *sinat hinam*, among the Jews. This lack of civility — ranging from character assassination to calls for the literal assassination of opponents, as in the case of Rabin — clearly violates Jewish teachings and threatens the fabric of the entire community.

Unfortunately, even after the collective shock suffered by the Jewish community in the aftermath of Rabin's assassination, the incivility continues — with name-calling and mutual suspicion among diverse groups threatening the continuation of civilized discourse.

Tisha B'Av provides us with a unique opportunity to remember our shock and sadness at the terrible time. Perhaps refreshing our own memories will remind us of the terrible cost of extremism and instill in us a recommitment to civility and mutual respect.

Extremism takes many forms. Several months after the Prime Minister's assassination, scores of men, women, and children in Israel lost their lives in suicide bombings perpetrated by terrorist groups determined to derail the Middle East peace process. During one of these bombings, we lost two young American Jews whose commitment to Judaism and to *tikun olam* would have enriched the world, had they been permitted to live and to fulfill their potential.

The reverberations of those bombings will be felt for many years to come, as the world struggles to comprehend the dimensions of such barbarism. Perhaps Tisha B'Av will provide us with an opportunity to defeat this terror by reaffirming

our own commitment to peace, so valued in Jewish tradition.

The suffering of other communities might well be added to our Tisha B'Av list, not only because of Judaism's unique concern for the sanctity of every individual life but because the spread of violence engenders more violence — and the entire human community suffers when the forces of evil are unleashed. Thus, we must remember with sadness the victims of the Oklahoma City bombing, whose first "anniversary" was marked this year by a grieving nation. We also look with both sadness and outrage at the widespread burning of black churches in the southern United States over the past several years.

It is time to re-legitimize the notion that we are all responsible for one another and that another group's loss should be treated as our own. On Tisha B'Av, we can mourn the victims of these tragedies and reflect on the meaning of mutual responsibility. We can also begin to model in our own lives the kind of behavior that demonstrates respect for our fellows, and call upon our synagogues and other Jewish institutions to do the same.

In recent years, some have questioned the relevance of Tisha B'Av, mourning, as it does, "past" tragedies. Whatever the appropriate response to that position, it is clear that this year Tisha B'Av must fulfill its traditional role — eliciting from us an outpouring of grief and remorse and forcing us to confront the continued existence of unreasoning hatred in our world. If solutions to this problem arise, so much the better. If they don't, we will try again next year.

*The author is the executive vice president of The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.*

## How Much Do Children Owe Their Parents?

by Rabbi Moshe Ulmer  
Tifereth Israel Congregation  
This article appeared in the temple's June/July bulletin.

Our congregation has recently had the good fortune of celebrating the *b'nai mitzvah* of many of our children as well as a wonderful confirmation service of 11 young and women.

These events raise the questions of what are the obligations of children toward their parents and what should Jewish parents realistically expect from their children.

Our tradition holds that G-d is concerned that children must be taught to follow the paths of goodness and righteousness and for this work G-d has called upon parents.

However, the question is raised as to how much do Jewish children owe their parents. How many can fulfill, in word and in spirit, the commandment, "Honor thy father and mother?"

Gluckel of Hameln, a saintly woman who lived in Germany in the latter half of the 17th century, offered some advice to parents.

As the mother of 14 boys and girls, she was certainly qualified. Through the medium of a charming fable she tells us how much

repayment parents should expect from their children.

The story appears in a classic volume entitled, *The Memoirs of Gluckel of Hameln*.

A bird once set out to cross a wide stormy sea with its three little ones. The winds blew viciously and the father bird was compelled to carry his fledglings across, one by one.

When he was mid way across, with the first young bird firmly clasped in his strong claws, he turned to the fledgling and shouted above the noisy wind: "My child, look how I struggle and risk my life for you. When you are grown up will you do as much for me? Will you provide for me in my old age?"

The frightened fledgling answered: "Yes, father. Only bring me to safety and I will do everything you ask of me."

Thereupon the father bird dropped his child into the raging sea, shouting after, it "so shall it be with a liar such as you!"

The father returned to the shore and picked up the second fledgling. Halfway across he stopped in mid-air and asked the same question of the second bird.

"Just bring me to safety," the young fledgling whimpered,

"and I promise to look after you all my life."

Thereupon the father bird dropped him into the stormy sea, and shouted, "You, too, are a liar!"

Finally, the father bird set out with the third fledgling.

Once again, he put the same question to his offspring and the young bird replied: "My dear father it is true that you are struggling and risking your life for my sake. I would be an ingrate not to repay you when you are old for all your kindness and sacrifice. But I cannot promise."

"This, however, I can promise you: when I am grown and have children of my own, I shall do as much for them as you have done for me."

The father bird smiled and said: "Well spoken, my son. Your life I will spare, for you have spoken wisely. I will carry you to shore in safety."

Wise parents, mothers and fathers, expect nothing from their children for all that was given to them.

Wise parents hope only that the good lessons of life that were taught to their children will be transmitted intact to the next generation.

## And Then There Was Just One

by Alison Smith  
Herald Editor

Once there was a small village in the Himalayas where the people were remarkably content. There was a sheep dealer, who could supply a herder with a very nice lamb, ewe or ram if given three month's notice. There was a yurt builder, whose yurts were the pride of the valley...easy to take down, easy to put back up, and immovable in the face of stormy winds.

There was a prayer bowl maker — a man of great importance in the village. When you entered his shop he would sit down with you, and talk of the weather, and your family, and when the snows would come again, and by the time you admitted that you really had come to buy a new prayer bowl, he already knew exactly which prayer bowl would be right for you, under these circumstances. Maybe you needed a big prayer bowl, with deep resonance, to deal with the troubles in your yurt, or maybe you should get a small, silvery toned one with which to pray prayers of gratitude and blessing.

Then, struggling up the mountain one spring, came a long pack train of merchants and llamas, and they took over the biggest meadow in the valley and set up a long row of stores in tents. They sold everything anyone could want, and what's more, they sold it for less.

Pretty soon, the prayer bowl seller had to go to work for the new merchants, but when he tried to delve into just which bowl would be best for each customer, he fell behind...

## You Dig?

We all know the amazing tales of how the desert has put forth forests and vegetation in Israel. Trees growing on a cup of water a year. Watermelons emerging from the sand. You may have accepted this information as some modern miracle of scientific genius and high-tech agronomy. But the truth is that it's mostly sweat... and faith.

Let's take the watermelons. There was no miracle creating wells in the middle of the Negev. The water is there. It's just down deeper than we normally look for it. And it's saline. So to grow any heavily aqueous fruit, you have to dig, and then process. Sometimes miracles require a lot of hard work.

This week's portion, *Matot/Masei*, describes the 40-year journey of the Children of Israel through the desert before they entered the Promised Land. Along the way, the snakes and scorpions were destroyed, water from Miriam's well followed them everywhere, manna was provided, and somehow, in the most unwelcoming land on earth, the tribes grew and thrived to reach their goal.

*Masei* means "journeys," but it also means "encampments." It delineates 42 stages of the trek from Egypt to Eretz Yisrael, stages that are considered to be an analogy of our own stages through life. Just as the tribes encamped, then marched, then encamped again, we typically

everyone had merchandising quotas to fill. Finally he got laid off and went to live with his daughter in India who dwelt in a town where they knew from prayer bowls.

The sheep dealer, disillusioned with life in general and with retail sales in particular, decided to live a hermit's life on the mountain top.

The yurt maker packed up and went to computer school.

Now whenever someone in the village needed something, they had to go to the meadow and buy whatever those merchants had in stock. And, after a while, those merchants weren't selling things so cheaply. And people found that while they had asked for a ewe, the delivery man left a ram, and when the winter winds blustered around the new yurts, the yurts fell down, and the prayer bowls never seemed to satisfy.

They gathered in small, unhappy groups and talked about the good old days when you could really relate to the man who sold you your yurt, and move in with him for the duration if the yurt he sold you blew down in a blizzard. They longed for the days of hand-made quality and personal service, but it was too late.

Most of our advertisers operate on a small scale, and pride themselves on giving their customers good advice and high quality products. Support them now, while they're still with us. If we don't support them with our dollars, and they close up and go to the mountain top or computer school, we'll miss them. But it will be too late.

go from active stages to plateaus. We never stop progressing, but major changes are often followed by periods of relative rest.

Yet, through it all, we are always provided for. Manna and water from Miriam's well are there to be had, in a miraculous way, when we are children. As adults, we enter the Promised Land and, just as our ancestors did, leave behind the comfort and caretaking for the responsibility of creating our own manna and miracles and we must relate to G-d even in seemingly unG-dly situations.

A wilderness, in both spiritual and geographic terms, is a place where people do not dwell (without the occasional vegetation and oases, even nomads and bushmen could not call the desert a home) and G-dliness is not present. The world, without the influence of our Torah study and *mitzva* observance, is a spiritual wilderness, a place of chaos and Darwinian survival.

How do we make it a fit dwelling place — for both humans and G-d? The miracles are here already as G-dliness exists in every aspect of creation, but they only provide the foundation for us to build upon. It's up to us to irrigate the land and uncover this G-dly energy, plant the trees, develop the fruits, make a home for the cattle and fish.

To make the entire world an Eretz Yisrael — Holy Land, we have to dig, dig, dig.

Submitted by Rabbi Eliezer Levy of the CHAI Center.

# THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

## A Bridge Over Troubled Years

by Alison Smith  
Herald Editor

There is a program, Summerbridge, at Wheeler School in Providence, that offers committed seventh- and eighth-graders in middle schools a chance to change the direction of their lives.

At an age when kids are frequently drifting, subject to the treacherous currents of peer pressure, neighborhood strife and poverty, or welfare lethargy, Summerbridge says, "If you really want to make something out of yourself, grab hold!"

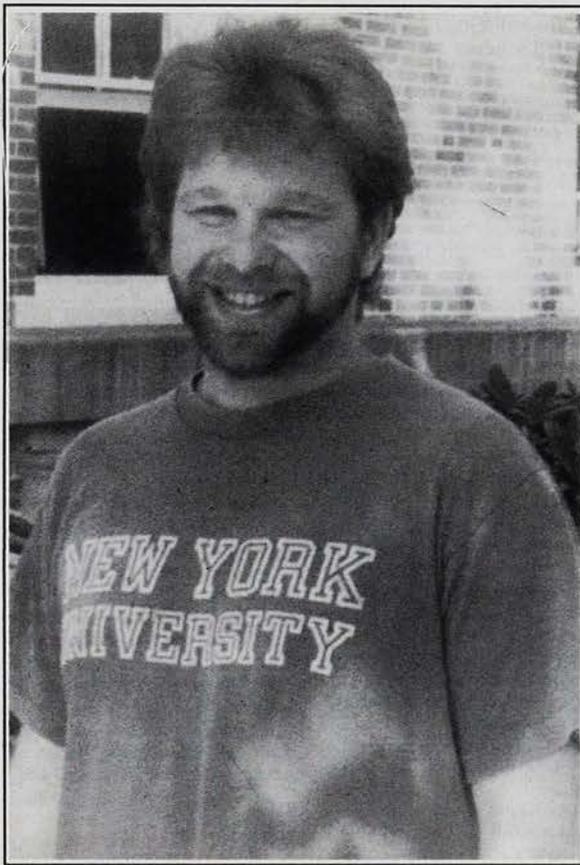
This year 88 kids are grabbing hold and hanging on, committed to their own futures and this extraordinary opportunity at Wheeler.

Sasha Olinick, a three-year veteran teacher at Summerbridge and a recent graduate of Brown, talked to me about the program in the reception office at Wheeler. We sat on a flowered sofa, in a room full of morning sunlight and leaf shadows, while people with gentle voices and polished manners floated in and out. The murmur of voices reached us from down long, polished corridors flanked with classrooms. It was easy to imagine the impact of a setting like this on a child whose living conditions bordered on the chaotic or were at subsistence level. A student here would feel special, would feel fortunate, would feel that almost anything was possible.

Summerbridge starts with a round of visits by Summerbridge teachers or directors to all the public elementary schools in the area during the school year. These representatives of the program tell sixth-graders about its satisfactions and its demands. Students in the summer program commit to two hours of homework every night, for the duration of the program (July 6 to Aug. 18).

During the intervening school year, from September to June, each Summerbridge student puts in two hours twice a week with a tutor, after school. At its fullest and most complete, Summerbridge spans two summers and two school years, leaving off just as a student is ready to go to high school. One of the most important services it provides its students is the full discussion of the options in high schools open to them. They are encouraged to aim high, and take every advantage the city offers them in superior facilities, instead of just sliding into the nearest high school, whatever the conditions there.

Crucial to the success of the program is always the cooperation and understanding of the parents, so while prospective students are seeking teacher recommendations and composing essays and filling out questionnaires, their parents are answering questions about how firmly they are willing to stand behind this program, and they must put it in writing. Throughout the length of the program, parents' feedback is encouraged, and every effort is made to keep them posted on their child's progress.



'THE SUMMERBRIDGE SUCKER,' as Sasha Olinick calls himself, loves his work and believes passionately in the success of the Summerbridge program at Wheeler School.

Herald photo by Alison Smith

A Summerbridge morning starts with a bus ride to the school, arriving at 8 a.m. Breakfast is served, and then at 8:30, students go to one of two major 90-minute classes — numeracy (a course in understanding the way in which the principles of mathematics work — a class designed to give the student skills in handling figures) and literacy (with stress on the acquisition of skill in reading, writing, and some public speaking).

Then everyone changes places — the numeracy students go to literacy, and vice versa.

There are usually two team teachers to every class of approximately 12 students.

Next comes lunch, a choice of 50-minute minicourses (Spanish, the stock market, newspaper publishing, environmental sciences, etc.) and microcourses of 50 minutes duration in subjects like arts and crafts, sports, Haiku poetry, computer literacy, etc.

Finally there is an all-school meeting, about 30 minutes long — which a student emcees. Riddles are solved, announcements are acted out in skit form, the word of the day is defined and illustrated — almost everything in this session is done with

a light touch.

The kids are kept at Wheeler till 4 p.m. — which makes for a long, rich day. Keeping in mind the old maxim, "Idle hands are the devil's playground," we feel pretty sure the devil doesn't get much of a crack at these kids.

Summerbridge programs now exist in 30 areas in this country, and the count is growing. The one in Providence is somewhat unique in its emphasis on the acquisition of skills in handling subjects, instead of the acquisition of more and more facts.

Why does Wheeler do this? Well, partly to contribute to the well-being of the Providence area, and partly because some Wheeler students and teachers are involved and get a lot out of it. Olinick will leave for Syracuse this fall, but he will leave reluctantly. He has enjoyed the program, gotten so much out of it himself as an instructor, and believes so much in its worth.

Both Olinick and Andrea Kaufman, a teaching team member, are Jewish.

If you would like to know more about Summerbridge, call Esan Looper or Cathy Sanford, program directors, at 521-6744.

## Camp Hoffman to Celebrate 75th Anniversary

Camp Hoffman on Ministerial Road in West Kingston, R.I., will celebrate its 75th birthday on July 21 from noon to 4:30 p.m. with a variety of activities and a ceremony.

Former campers, counselors,

Girl Scouts, their parents, and friends of Girl Scouts of Rhode Island, Inc., are welcome to join the 200 campers in residence in the celebration. Camp Hoffman is the resident camp of Girl Scouts of Rhode Island, Inc.

## Summer Pleasures at the Gardens of Israel

Lubavitch News Service

The Gardens of Israel are the place to be this summer. But you don't need a plane ticket to Tel Aviv to get there. More than 200,000 children in Jewish communities around the world are swimming, running, photographing, painting and paddling their way through the summer in Gan Israel (literally: Garden of Israel), the largest network of Jewish camping in the world.

In the Italian countryside, on a sprawling estate donated by the late sculptor Jacques Lipschitz and his wife Yulla, some 100 children decorate wooden charity boxes. Three hundred children in Vienna, Austria, dress up and bake hamantaschen for a mid-summer "Purim day," as do 1,000 camp children in Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine.

Camp director Rabbi Ben Zion Geisinsky, of the Potomac, Maryland Gan Israel, believes that the uniqueness of this enormous program lies in its creation of a total Jewish environment. "Kids come away with a sense of living Judaism, not just classroom Judaism. Every part of camp is imbued with their heritage and their identity."

On Friday afternoons children bake their own challah and host "Shabbat parties," saying kiddush over grape juice and reciting the blessing for eating bread.

But Gan Israel children enjoy the universal summer pleasures with Jewish spirit as well. "It's great to see the kids emerge from a study session to play a wicked game of tennis or soccer," said counselor Yossi Mandel of Caracas, Venezuela. "For the better part of the day, they throw themselves heart and soul into sports or crafts. But you cannot help but notice a refinement, a sensitivity. There's something in the air."

Jackie Silverman, 12, who attends public school in Los Angeles, said her camp experience remains with her long after she leaves. "At Gan Israel you feel the way you imagined being Jewish was like," she adds.

"At camp," said Rabbi Heshy Spalter of Costa Rica, "the gaps in the children's Jewish education are filled and they are reached on a deeper level."

## JORI Trains Future Leaders

Approximately three dozen teen-agers are getting a chance to develop their leadership skills this summer at Rhode Island's Camp JORI.

The camp's new program, entitled Leadership in Training, is designed to provide a skills-building experience for 14- and 15-year-olds. The program began June 30.

To qualify, applicants had to submit references and be interviewed by members of the camp's staff. In choosing participants for the program, the staff sought out teens whose school and extra-curricular activities indicated leadership qualities and potential.

Named after Rabbi Israel Baal Shem Tov, the founder of the Chasidic movement, Gan Israel camps embrace the openness and dedication to children associated with his life. The camp system was founded by the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson of blessed memory, whose care for children and devotion to their education is legendary.

The children are not the only ones happy with their Gan Israel experience.

The counseling staff is a mix of young men and women who travel from Lubavitch learning institutes where they receive training for their summer posts. They are aided by teen-age junior counselors. "The counselors have a lot of spirit about being Jewish and spirit for the camp," said Orli Linett, age 11, from Potomac, Md., "and that makes camp really fun."

The parents are delighted too. "My son picked up so much in his two months at camp," said Djoah Levy of Paris, "so much pride and knowledge."

All Gan Israel camps offer learning programs designed to accommodate different levels of Jewish education. Some children learn to read Hebrew for the first time, while others go as far as to study the Talmud.

"The diversity of children teaches them tolerance and acceptance and breaks down barriers that might otherwise separate communities," said Mariasha Groner, director of Gan Israel's Charlotte, N.C., branch.

Camp instills in children a strong sense of pride in their Jewish identity. For close to 40 children at Gan Israel in Bratislava, Slovakia, this is especially true.

"Camp is the first time that they are among other Jewish children," said Chanah Mayers, Lubavitch emissary and director of Gan Israel in Bratislava. Mayers explains that the Gan Israel camp there is the only Jewish summer program in all of Slovakia and children come from halfway across the country to attend. "For years Jews here knew nothing about Judaism. They get no Jewish education in school, making camp their only exposure to Judaism."

They also gave priority to teens, who as former JORI campers, were familiar with the camp's array of sports, nature, crafts, and cultural programming.

The young people accepted into the program are dividing their time between leadership training and the more traditional activities enjoyed by all JORI campers. As part of their training, they are participating in workshops and discussion groups, as well as engaging in role-playing.

They are also taking special field trips and assisting counselors with the activities designed for JORI's younger campers.

# ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

## Yankee Crafts & Skills Weekend in South County

The South County Museum will celebrate traditional Yankee crafts and skills with hands-on demonstrations of crafts such as blacksmithing, woodworking, beekeeping, rope working, rug braiding and hooking, caning, tatting, quilting, knitting, Victorian floral arranging, pottery making, folk music and more, on July 20 and 21, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Admission to the event is free, but donations are welcome.

Traditional South County foods will be available, including jonnycakes and Ben & Jerry's old-fashioned ice cream.

Yankee crafters and artisans from all over South County will gather at the museum to provide a look back into the daily lives of our ancestors, their skills and make-do ingenuity.

Children of all ages will enjoy riding on an old-fashioned hay wagon pulled by Luke and Blue — Percheron draft horses, courtesy of Side Hill Farm.

The Little Rhody Model A Car Club will have an assortment of Model A Fords on hand to view on July 21. The Rhode Island Beekeepers Association will also be present on the 21st, and will hold lectures and demonstrations.

Lisa Schmitz and Rich McKinney will provide traditional music on fiddle and banjo on the 20th from noon to 2 p.m.

The museum is handicap accessible and is located on Route 1A in Narragansett. The entrance is opposite the Narragansett Town beach pavilion.

For further information, call Peter Gardiner at 783-5400.

## Calling All Readers

We have been amazed and delighted by the recent contributions of older subscribers who tell us about the Jewish community in decades back.

Now we are asking our readers — young and old — for their recollections of Rosh Hashanahs of the past, even the very recent past.

What special moment of happiness, grief or spiritual awakening do you want to share with our readers? Even humorous moments are welcome here.

We should have the material in our hands by Aug. 23. The Rosh Hashanah edition of the *Herald* will appear on Sept. 5.

## Circus Smirkus Comes to Dartmouth Children's Museum

On July 21, the Children's Museum in Dartmouth will host Circus Smirkus for two performances.

International circus clown and Smirkus director Rob Mermin announced that this show will be one of the most fun for audiences.

"The theme will revolve around the idea of an old-time movie director coming in to shoot a circus film using Smirkus as the background," Mermin stated. "Hilarious situations ensue when the director assumes the audience are all 'extras,' and uses them for funny parts throughout the show. Everyone under the big top literally gets into the act."

Coaching and creating new acts for the show are Alevtina Anatolevna Youdina, formerly

with the Moscow circus and current creative director of acts for Ringing Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus; Vladimir Augustov from the Moscow Circus; Stewart Lippe from the Franzini Family Circus; Chicago actress Julie Greenberg, and clown Jeff Jenkins, formerly of Ringling Brothers.

The two performances are at 3 and 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$8 for museum members, \$9 for non-members, \$7 is the group rate for 10 or more and children under 1 year old are free. The price will be \$10 at the door.

Tickets may be reserved by calling (508) 993-3361 or come to the museum, which is located at 276 Gulf Road, South Dartmouth to purchase the tickets.

## Vet's Pool is Open and Free

In collaboration with the YMCA of Pawtucket, the city of Pawtucket recreation department and the Pawtucket Community Police Unit, Veterans Memorial Park pool facility is now open to area youth and families.

The pool, staffed by YMCA of Pawtucket, is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday 6 to 10 p.m., through the middle of August.

As one of the community services the YMCA of Pawtucket offers area youth and families, the Vet's pool facility provides individuals and families with a

safe outdoor swim facility during the summer months.

For more details on programs offered by the YMCA of Pawtucket, call 727-7900 or stop by the "Y" located across from the Pawtucket Library at 20 Summer St., Pawtucket.

## Pawtucket Y Offers Preschool Programs

The Pawtucket Family YMCA is offering preschool programs for area children ages 1 to 5 years. 1,2,3 Grow; Preschool Picassos and Jimminy Crickets will run for four weeks, beginning July 22.

1,2,3 Grow is an interactive parent/child program for children ages 1 to 3 years. This National YMCA program develops basic motor skills and introduces movement exploration through songs, games and tumbling.

1,2,3 Grow is offered Tuesdays from 5 to 6 p.m. or Thursdays 9 to 10 a.m.

Playdough, finger paint, cutting, pasting, coloring and drawing are some of the things Preschool Picassos will be doing in this creative parent/child class. Preschool Picassos is offered Thursdays from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., for children ages 2 to 4 years.

Jimminy Crickets celebrates the fun of being a preschooler. Children jump, hop, skip, climb, sing and tumble their way through this interactive preschool program. Jimminy Crickets is offered Tuesdays from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m.

For more details on programs offered by the YMCA of Pawtucket, call 727-7900 or stop by the "Y" located across from the Pawtucket Library at 20 Summer St., Pawtucket.

## Cluster Round These Tomatoes

by Alison Smith  
Herald Editor

For some time now I have been buying "cluster" or "on the vine" tomatoes because they taste, look and smell like real garden tomatoes (as opposed to the ones that have no tomato smell, a white styrofoam core, and anemic flesh). The cluster tomatoes cost a lot — as in \$3 or more a pound — but I either bought them or went without. They'd spoiled me for the other kind.

Recently, on a television cooking show, I learned that these cluster tomatoes come from Israel. These Israelis know how to grow tomatoes. Anyone who can get me to pay more than \$3 a pound for tomatoes is on to something.

## Let Me Tell You a Story

Books on the Square will hold a third Summer Pajama Story Hour on July 24 from 7 to 8 p.m.

Special guest storyteller Sharon Ahern of Seekonk will visit, bringing several of her favorite stories for the children. This program is for children 3 to 8 and their families, teddy bears, blankets, and other nighttime can't-do-without loved ones. Children are encouraged to come in their pajamas. Books on the Square is located at 471 Angell St. in Wayland Square, Providence (331-9097). Story hours are free and open to the public.

Announce the birth of your child in the Herald!

## The Rogues Are Back

Books on the Square has announced the triumphal return of Rhode Island writer Tom Briody, author of last year's best selling *Rogue's Isles*. He will read from and sign copies of his newly published second installment of the series, *Rogue's Justice* (St. Martin's).

In the new comedy-suspense thriller, investigative reporter/lawyer Michael Carolina returns to look into the suspicious death of a former lover and colleague. Set in Providence, the novel takes a satirical look at the corruption in Rhode Island and explores both above and below ground, courtrooms and city hall offices. *Publisher's Weekly* notes that "the public figures are nearly as funny as they are corrupt and dangerous."

Briody will appear on July 24 at 7:30 p.m. at the store in Wayland Square, 331-9097. The program is free and open to the public.

## Concerts Coming Up

On July 25 (Solution a.d. and The Godrays), Aug. 1 (Dada and Three Pound Thrill), Aug. 8 (Magna Pop and Versus), Aug. 15 (Dishwalla and Frente), and Aug. 22 (T.B.A.), there will be a Cutting Edge Concert at Waterplace Park from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. These concerts will be free.

On July 23 (Peru Andes), July 30 (Lester Hirsh), Aug. 6 (R.I. Sax Quartet), and Aug. 13 (4th Street String Band), there will be a free concert at Providence Washington Plaza from noon to 2 p.m. In each case, the rain date will be the following day at the same time.

For more information, call 785-9450, ext. 244.

## Hear the Music of the Andes

The Providence Waterfront Festival, Inc. would like to announce the continuation of the Providence Washington Concert Series. Peru Andes, a Boston-based band will be performing in the fourth concert of the series from noon to 2 p.m. on July 23.

The music from the Andes Mountains is full of the poetry of their ancient languages, but also possesses the freshness of the new. The power of the puma, the eagle, and the serpent are just as important, in Peru Andes' music, as the tenderness of the dove.

Additional lunchtime concerts will take place on every Tuesday until Aug. 13 from noon to 2 p.m. Located at the Providence Washington Plaza (formerly Old Stone Square), adjacent to Hemenway's on South Main Street.

All concerts are free and open to the public. Rain dates are scheduled for the following day.

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# THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

## ADL Offers Calendar

The Anti-Defamation League offers a "calendar of understanding" for our increasingly diverse world to inform educators, students, businesses and others who schedule events, conferences and programs about a variety of religious and cultural observances.

The 1996-1997 *ADL Memo & Date Book* is a convenient, 17-month comprehensive listing of special occasions for Jews, Christians, Muslims, Buddhists, Baha'is, Shintoists and others.

Several holidays are keyed to relevant ADL videos, posters and other materials that can be ordered in advance to make commemorations more meaningful. For example, Martin Luther King Jr. posters can illustrate Black History Month, an "Hispanic America" video can highlight Hispanic Heritage

Month and "Weapons of the Spirit," a moving video about Christian rescuers of Jews during the Holocaust, can increase understanding of Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day).

The spiral-bound publication has a glossary explaining Kwanzaa, Ramadan, Yom Kippur and other significant days, as well as a special section for names and addresses. The calendar is organized so that two weeks can be viewed simultaneously.

The *ADL Memo & Date Book* is available for \$4.95 per copy, including shipping and handling. Send check to *ADL Memo & Date Book*, Dept. MRC, 823 United Nations Plaza, New York, NY 10017. For further information, call (212) 490-2525, ext. 7951.

## Reparations for Survivors

Holocaust survivors who were American citizens at the time of their Nazi persecution are now eligible for a new reparations program being conducted by the Justice Department.

The payments are the result of a lawsuit initiated by Holocaust survivor Hugo Princz — supported by an amicus curiae brief filed by the Anti-Defamation League — which led to an agreement that Germany would

provide funds through the U.S. Foreign Claims Settlement Commission to those identified under a Holocaust Claims Program.

The reparations are specifically for those U.S. citizens who were interned in a concentration camp or under comparable conditions during the Nazi era. The deadline for filing is Sept. 30, 1996. All forms are available through the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission, 600 E St., N.W., Suite 6002, Washington, D.C. 20579, (202) 616-6975, or FAX (202) 616-6993.

## Thousands to Gather for Ahavas Yisroel Presentation

This Tisha B'Av, the ninth of Av, July 25, join thousands of Jews throughout the country who will take a new and deeper look at Ahavas Yisroel, loving one's fellow Jew — the mitzvah that is at the very foundation of Jewish life.

As it has on Tisha B'Av in the past, The Chofetz Chaim Heritage Foundation will present a videotaped lecture for groups gathered in locations throughout the nation. This popular event will take place this year in more than 100 camps, bungalow colonies and communities across the United States and abroad.

Rabbi Dr. Dovid Gottlieb, internationally renowned lecturer, will examine exactly what a Jew is required to do in order to meet the Torah's requirement of loving your fellow Jew. He will explore the question of how the Torah can legislate the feelings members of the Jewish people harbor in their hearts.

The Torah tells us that the lack of Ahavas Yisroel (love of fellow Jew) caused the Second Temple to be destroyed at the hands of our enemies. The exile that began then continues today, because the sin that caused continues as well.

So, there's no better time than

Tisha B'Av, the day when we lament the destruction of the Second Temple, to come together as Jews and examine and commit ourselves to this mitzvah that is fundamental to bringing about redemption.

In Providence the presentation will be held in the Korn Auditorium at Providence Hebrew Day School. The presentation will take place at 2:30 p.m.

Admission is \$6 donation for adults and \$4 donation for students.

For more information, contact the Providence Chofetz Chaim Heritage Foundation at 272-5011.

## Jewish Educators to Gather in Jerusalem for CAJE 21

Where do Jewish educators from around the world meet to discuss the issues of the day in their communities and the means for passing on Jewish heritage?

In Jerusalem, of course, "for out of Zion will go forth Torah."

Therefore, it is entirely fitting that the 21st annual Conference on Alternatives in Jewish Education, to be held in Jerusalem at The Hebrew University, Aug. 4 to 9, will be the most international CAJE conference to date and will provide unique opportunities for cross-cultural dialogue on Jewish edu-

cational issues.

Sizable delegations are coming from the United States, Canada, Israel, Great Britain, Sweden and Australia. More than 1,300 Jewish educators are planning to attend from the United States. The Israeli contingent is expected to total between 200 and 300.

The international representation will be utilized for cross-cultural discussions through the intensive Mifgash, a series of dialogues over several days about common problems and prospects in the field of Jewish education.

Topics to be examined include "New Technologies and their Implications for Jewish Education," "Parent and Family Involvement in Education," "Jewish Values in the Real World," "Educating for Jewish Identity," and "Meeting the Challenge of the Future of the Jewish People."

For more information about CAJE 21, contact CAJE, 261 W. 35th St., FL 12A, New York, NY 10001, telephone (212) 268-4210.

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## Barbara Feldstein to Marry David Loewenberg

Barbara and Edward Feldstein of Providence and Newport announce the engagement of their daughter, Pamela Ann, to David Zev Loewenberg, son of Dr. J. Joseph Loewenberg of Philadelphia, and the late Betty Binder Loewenberg.

The bride-to-be is the granddaughter of Eva and Harry Feldstein and the late Fannie and Philip Levine. Her fiancé is the grandson of Margarette Loewenberg and the late Dr. Ernst Loewenberg and Esther Binder and the late Samuel

Binder.

The bride-to-be graduated from Barnard College of Columbia University and is an officer in the marketing department of Sumitomo Bank Capital Markets, Inc., in New York City. Her fiancé attended Columbia University and the Jewish Theological Seminary and is an assistant treasurer for Fuji Capital Markets Corporation in New York City.

The wedding date has been set for Oct. 13 at Temple Emanu-El.

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# THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Avon Cinema Supports the R.I. Holocaust Museum

The Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum recently enjoyed some extra support from local businessman Kenneth Dulgarian.

When showing "Anne Frank Remembered" at his Avon Cinema, Dulgarian made a donation to the museum and provided a place for the museum's brochures and literature in the theatre's lobby.

This display helped to promote the message of awareness of the Holocaust that the Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum delivers through its educational programs.

Beth Cohen, director of education at the museum, said, "We're always pleased to have local businesses show an interest in the work we do. Mr. Dulgarian's initiative in supporting the museum helps us to

increase awareness through our educational outreach programs."

The mission of the Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum is to provide the schools and the community with information about the Holocaust so that such a tragic moment in history might never happen again.

The museum also provides a vital link for Holocaust survivors and their families through exhibits, commemorations and programming. The museum keeps audio and video records of local survivors, a *Book of Remembrance* of those who perished, as well as photographs, books and artifacts connected to the Holocaust.

Contact Beth Cohen for further information at 453-7860.

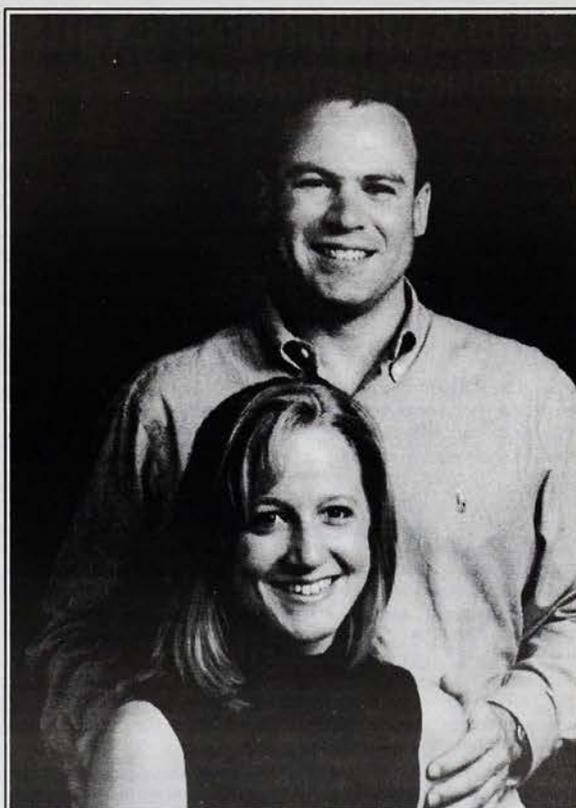
## Explore the Mystical Dimension

Those who have wanted to know more about kaballah, who have been attracted to the mystical in Judaism, will be interested in a three-part course presented by Chabad of West Bay CHAI Center, called "The Mystical Dimension."

The course will consist of an in-depth exploration through the annals of Jewish mysticism, including the works of masters such as Rabbi Isaac Luria, Rabbi Schneur Zalman of Liadi and the Lubavitcher Rebbe, enlightened by Chasidus.

The course will take place on Tuesday evenings, July 23, 30 and Aug. 6 at the CHAI Center, 15 Centerville Road, Warwick. Part 1 is entitled "Kabbalah: The History," Part 2: "Purpose of Creation," Part 3: "G-d's Manifestations in the Physical World."

Advance reservations are requested. Call the CHAI Center at 884-4071.



Faith Levine and Scott Gorman

## Levine to Marry Gorman

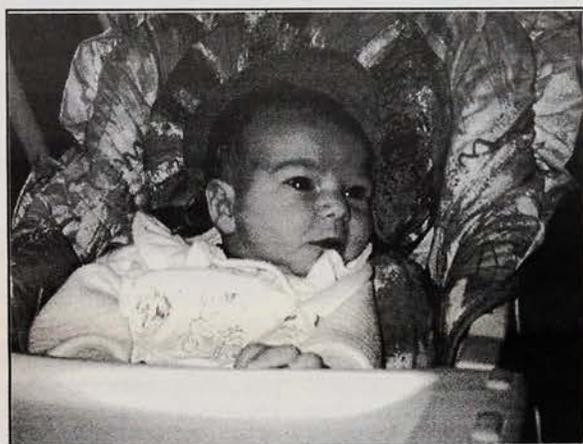
Herma and Sid Levine of Warwick, R.I., announce the engagement of their daughter, Faith Lisa Levine of Coral Springs, Fla., to Scott Jeffrey Gorman of Coral Springs, Fla., son of Gerry Gorman and the late Honey Gorman of Del Ray Beach, Fla., and formerly of Commack, Long Island, N.Y.

The bride-to-be studied at Queen Mary College at University of London, London, England, and graduated cum laude from Brandeis University,

Waltham, Mass. She also received a J.D. degree from Hofstra Law School, Hempstead, N.Y., and is currently a manager of state and local taxation with Ernst & Young L.L.P. in Miami, Fla.

Her fiancé graduated from the University of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz. He is director of credit systems and analysis at American Express in Plantation, Fla.

The wedding date has been set for Oct. 19, 1996.



## Anna Lauren Adelman

Anna's birth announcement was carried on July 11, but her picture was omitted. She was born to Mr. Harlin and Dr. Laura (Roiff) Adelman, of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, on June 11.



## Ariana Rachel Keigan

Andrea Ellen and Brian Keigan of 6 Savoy Road, Needham, Mass., announce the birth of their first child, Ariana Rachel, born June 17.

Ariana's grandparents are Joan and Herb Priluck of Los Angeles, Calif., and Nancy Keigan of Dedham, Mass.

Great-grandparents are Leo and Betty Frye of Los Angeles, Calif. (formerly of East Providence).

## Tour the Cherry Pickers

On July 31, from 10 a.m. to noon, the Children's Museum of Rhode Island invites children 3 and older to come and watch Blackstone Valley Electric linemen as they ride bucket trucks into the sky. The linemen will perform simulated repair moves on electric lines, then give the kids a tour of these immense trucks. No registration is required.

The museum is located at 58 Walcott St., Pawtucket.

## Hadassah Selects Morris Sherman

Morris Sherman, M.S.W., has been appointed national director of development by Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc.

In this capacity, Sherman will be responsible for managing all aspects of fund-raising, including financial resource development and working with volunteers to plan, execute and evaluate fund-raising programs and opportunities.

Prior to joining Hadassah, Sherman served as vice president of campaign for United Jewish Appeal.

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# SPORTS FEATURE

## Jewish Little League Hits A Home Run

by Sherry Shameer  
Connecticut Jewish Ledger

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. (JTA) — For many Americans, a childhood without Little League baseball is almost unthinkable.

Yet for many children of Orthodox and Conservative Jewish families in Connecticut's Lower Fairfield County, playing baseball on a town team was something, well, out of their league.

Last year, Stamford resident Ira Schechter went to bat to change things. When this soft-spoken, self-employed advertising man moved from Long Beach, N.Y., to Stamford two years ago, he found a gaping hole where a baseball diamond and kids should be.

Schechter realized that many Jewish kids could not play Little League baseball on Saturdays because their families observe Shabbat.

His experience as a coach in a league of about 300 Jewish children in New York's Nassau County made him a natural to start a Jewish baseball league in Stamford.

The league, which began in April 1995, was warmly welcomed by local Jewish communities.

The league has about 200 kids, ages 5 to 12, on five teams,

with three age divisions on each team.

The teams are affiliated with synagogues in several area towns.

Overall membership was up about 33 percent from last year. Girls make up about 40 percent of the members.

The season began in April and ended recently.

Each team name has a biblical reference — Maccabees, Matzoh Balls, Shimshon Sluggers, Eagles and Stars.

For the players' parents, the fun of baseball is just as important as re-enforcing a strong Jewish identity by being with other Jewish children.

Dana Silver, who is affectionately known as the owner of the Matzoh Balls team, said, "It gives the kids more spirit of chavura with each other."

Eileen Rosner, a local teacher, said, "I think it's terrific that we have a league that plays on Sunday so that kids who want to observe Shabbat don't have to make a choice."

This issue is, understandably, a concern for Rabbi Joshua Hammerman of Temple Beth El.

"I don't want Judaism to be seen by the child as the thing that kept him from playing baseball," he said. "We have enough

problems selling Judaism to kids without trying to deny them a chance to fulfill the American dream by hitting that grand slam in the ninth."

Hammerman also feels that the league places "sports in their proper place."

"Baseball is filled with positive Jewish values: teamwork, cooperation, discipline, exercise, leadership and acceptance of adult authority, but all in moderation," he said. "Moderation is the Jewish way."

He added, "Seen in this way, the ballfield can become an extension of the Hebrew school classroom."

Having a strong Jewish identity is not always a top priority for some of the kids at this stage in their lives.

Schechter redesigned the Stars' uniforms because the kids were uncomfortable with the large Star of David that was part of the logo. The Star of David was in place of the "a" in the Stars' logo. This year, this symbol of Judaism is smaller but makes up part of each letter on their uniform.

Despite this, there is no question in the league about Jewish identification or Jewish values, which parent-coaches emphasize over the idea of "winning is everything."

## Maccabiah Alumni To Compete In Atlanta

Maccabiah alumni of United States Maccabiah Teams will be competing in the Summer Olympics, announced Robert E. Spivak, president of Maccabi USA/Sports for Israel, sponsor of the U.S. Maccabiah Team.

Fencers Clifford Bayer (New York City) and Elaine Cheris (Denver), judoist Damon Keeve (San Francisco) and swimmer Daniel Kutler (Israel) will join the thousands of Olympic athletes heading to Atlanta for the centennial Olympiad in July. Swimmer Brenda Levy (Rockville, Md.) will compete at the Paralympic Games in August.

Bayer, 19, earned both an individual bronze and a silver team medal in fencing at the 14th World Maccabiah Games in 1993. At the age of 17, he was named U.S. National Champion.

Cheris, 50, will mark her third appearance at the Olympics this summer. She competed on the 1980 and 1988 Olympic teams,

the 1987 Pan American Games and in the 1991 Pan American Games in Cuba, earning a gold medal in team epee.

Keeve, 35, began competing at the age of 9. He earned two medals in judo in both the 1985 and 1989 World Maccabiah Games. His upcoming competition in Atlanta will mark his second appearance at the Olympics as he also competed in the heavyweight class in 1992, earning a seventh place.

Kutler, 25, first traveled to Israel with the U.S. Maccabiah Team in 1993. He swam his way to two gold medals, in the 100m butterfly, setting a Maccabiah record, and in the 4x100m freestyle event. Born and raised in Santa Clara, Calif., he was a 1993 graduate from UCLA.

Brenda Levy, 38, competed for the U.S. Maccabiah Team in 1993, earning gold medals in the disabled half marathon, 50m freestyle and 50m backstroke.

## Olympic Committee Snubs Kin of Slain Israeli Athletes

by Faye Bittker  
Jewish Exponent

PHILADELPHIA (JTA) — The families of the 11 Israeli athletes slain at the 1972 Munich Olympics have written to President Clinton, asking him to intervene on their behalf with the International Olympic Committee.

"The IOC refuses to recognize the 11 victims, claiming that this would be a political act," the families of the Munich victims wrote to Clinton on May 25.

"We thought that since the games were taking place in Atlanta, [Clinton] might be willing to help us," Ankie Rekhess-Spitzer said.

Rekhess-Spitzer was 26 when her husband, fencing coach Andrei Spitzer, was killed during an attack by the Black September Palestinian terrorist group during the 1972 Olympics in Germany.

She and Ilana Romano, whose husband, weightlifter Yosef Romano, was among the dead, have been leading the battle with the IOC to gain recognition for the fallen athletes.

For the past two decades, seven widows have tried to reconcile their losses with what they consider to be the callous response of the Olympic Committee.

On Sept. 5, 1972, eight Palestinian terrorists entered the Olympic village, took 11 Israeli athletes as hostages and ultimately killed them during a botched rescue attempt.

Rekhess-Spitzer stressed that the families are not asking for a memorial to the slain athletes for political reasons.

"We don't ask that they mention 11 Israelis, or 11 Jews. We just ask that they mention the 11 athletes who came to participate in the international games with a spirit of peace and brotherhood, and went home in coffins."

The International Olympic Committee has also denied the families' request that their 14 children be invited to participate in the opening ceremony of the Atlanta Games.

"We have done our utmost to raise the 14 orphans, many of whom were infants at the time and never knew their fathers, without hate in their hearts," the family members wrote in their letter to Clinton. "All their lives they grew up in the shadow of the Olympics and we want them to be there to taste the glory and understand what the Olympics are about," the letter stated.

"The IOC already said they are not going to do it because it is a political act," Rekhess-Spitzer said, adding that the committee is "afraid that the Arab delegations will get up and walk out if they try to have a memorial service."

According to the *Atlanta Jewish Times*, the Atlanta Jewish community is holding a memorial for the slain athletes July 28 at the Atlanta Jewish Federation.

## Is the Olympic Mascot Jewish?

by Neil Rubin  
Atlanta Jewish Times

ATLANTA (JTA) — Izzy Jewish? And if so, should Jews be offended?

The question came to the forefront in the fall of 1993, when the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games announced the nickname of Whatizit, the official mascot of the summer games that begin July 19 in Atlanta.

The original label received more than a few snickers when it was released to the general population in the preceding year.

But it is the nickname — now the official moniker — that grasped the attention of some Jews, particularly when it was put in the framework of alleged anti-Semitism at the local Olympic committee.

The organization received some calls about the name, said

Laurie Olsen, communications director for Olympic programs.

One came from a man who said he was a gentile, but liked the idea of Izzy being Jewish. Another came from a Jew who felt use of the name was anti-Semitic.

A letter from a delighted real-life Izzy in New York City read: "I only know one other Izzy and he lives in China. After 79 years, it's great to see another Izzy. I love it."

The Atlanta office of the Anti-Defamation League, after consulting with local rabbis, deemed the name was not problematic.

"Even if it is [Jewish], it's not a pejorative, but utter overreaction and nonsense by people that see anti-Semitism everywhere," said Stuart Lewengrub, then-director of the ADL office.

In addition to Atlanta newspapers, talk of potential offenses hit the local airwaves. Jimmy Baron, a popular radio morning show personality, said on the air that "as a Jewish person I'm embarrassed. I thought it was really splitting hairs."

Olympic committee officials did a computer check in all known languages on the name before its final approval, hoping to weed out any potentially problematic meanings in other languages.

The moniker came from more than 3,300 suggestions from children in 41 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and 15 countries. Israel was not one of them. Izzy beat out a final list of five that also included Kirby, Starz, Zack and Gleamer.

The Olympic committee would not confirm or deny Izzy's ethnic/religious heritage. "We're not saying he's Jewish," Olsen said. "I don't think Izzy, or Whatizit, has a religion."

But Atlanta Larry Miller disagreed.

"No one not Jewish has ever been named Izzy," he said. "Therefore, Izzy must be Jewish."

His advice to the Olympic committee: "Maybe you should sell Izzys wearing a Jewish star."

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## A Thousand Julys

by Mike Fink  
Herald Contributing Reporter

"Once you're in July, the days are getting shorter." I heard this lament from a Jewish couple on the Narragansett sands.

"But in December, they're already getting longer," I countered. Touché. It's true that everything in Rhode Island is compressed, especially the fine days of midsummer. But then, each precious passage of sun and moon may hold a pleasure as jeweled as a hummingbird's visit to your wildflowers.

For me the special delights include and feature the visits, calls and notes of my friends and allies. There's Sue Oppenheim, who lives right round the corner on Middlebridge Road. A tight alley, with machinery, tools, and parts of trucks lining the space at the left of the sidewalk, leads to a flat birdfeeder scattered with pigeonscratch. A bevy of mourning doves flutters off among the murmurs of their charming dirge, as I knock at the door. Sue, a slim, smiling, lively person, an editor of scholarly journals, greets me and guides me to the porch, which overlooks the glowing river. We pass by beds of lilies of exquisite hues, soft pinks and peaches as well as gorgeous orange, and an herb and vegetable patch of potatoes and tomatoes, basil and peppers. She tosses food to the row of ducklings passing by the stream, bringing cheer with every word and gesture.

Myron Waldman also lives on Narrow River, feeds the wildbirds, keeps a memorial rose garden, and sits on a bench, a gift from his daughters Sherry and Alexis, under a shade tree on a velvet lawn. He welcomes me to another tiny domain in Middlebridge, tight quarters like a ship in this small world, but yar and kindly.

## Hands That Help

by Mike Fink  
Herald Contributing Reporter

"I was driving down a country road when I spotted the enormous snapping turtle trying to cross over. A car before me hit the poor creature and sped off. I stopped and picked it up. The shell was damaged. It couldn't work its head out."

Doug, my former student, was sitting at a sidewalk cafe. I was telling some sad tales about the fate of wild souls on holiday weekends in crowded places. Not long ago a mother duck was guiding her brood, her wee flock, across a highway at peak commuter time. Enough said. But Doug's account has a quite different twist.

"I always liked turtles, their completeness, their integrity," continued the gentle healer. In fact, Doug, with his broad bones and ironic smile, has something of that integrity himself. "Anyway, for whatever reason, I motored some fifty miles out of my way to find a wildlife vet.

Seamus has strolled with his shillelagh staff to our door, and I have sat at his table. He's back in Middlebridge after several seasons in nearby Jamestown. Seamus is Irish, has lived in Israel, has a Jewish daughter, drives his truck to Newport to study Judaism at Touro and at Shalom, and sometimes, too, to Providence to consult Emanuel.

The bumper of his red pickup holds both Hebrew blessings and Gaelic runes. "As a student of my native Celtic traditions, I keep finding the Torah, which holds all the secrets of life."

Seamus greets my son in excellent Hebrew, far beyond my own. I walk him back to his own wee quarters a street away. He reads me the poetry and prayers he composes, about "the diaspora of the human spirit, distanced from itself."

Middlebridge is decidedly not a Jewish community, but there are Jews everywhere, even in the most miniature realms. And then, there are guests who stop by to check in, as though I were a border guard. Bernie Bell and Archie Finkelstein come over and bring laughter and good fellowship. I have a fancy sign-in book, but I forget to dust off the cobwebs and collect the noble autographs.

Rabbi Joel Braude rings up, and Jim Wolpaw from Jamestown, and the hours shine with gentle words like the flowers in a vase, or in a beam of afternoon light, like the young robins bathing in my birdbath or the unseen fledgelings chirping from the honeysuckle.

And so the long and short of it is, the time is brief, the space is mini, but each moment is golden. Eternity in the ticking of an old clock, a thousand Julys from noisy dawn to the fireflies.

He took the tortured tortoise in and said the injury was not life-threatening. The next day he called me up with a reassuring report. The patient was on the mend, and could get its head out without difficulty. Where had I found it, so he could release it in the right spot to find its proper destiny."

I told Doug, "What a relief! What a victory! You are a rescuer by nature and by virtue. It's a noble quality. Does it ever get you in trouble?"

"I always find women like that turtle, who are hurt, wounded. But they're also like that snapping biter. Once they get out of their shells, they take off and leave me high and dry. That's where I am right now."

"Maybe you crave people who need you, depend on you. But some people don't like to be grateful very long." The next thing Doug said caught me by surprise.

"Fix me up with a nice Jewish (Continued on Page 16)

## Aliens and Jordans

by Mike Fink  
Herald Contributing Reporter

Anybody know what a Jordan is? It's a sneaker that costs a lot, made in Taiwan by kids, and clamorously called for by kids here who watch Michael Jordan on a basketball court. Well, my son talked me into getting a fancy pair to get me through summer and through September. If you see me on the streets, please take note.

My boy also talked me into seeing "Independence Day." Everybody he knows thought it was great. I say yes more often than no to my 11-year-old, and off we went to another summer flick. "It's got lots of Jewish scenes," he noted. Let's talk about the hottest hit of the season.

Aliens who look like a cross between a bug and a clam with weird hands and eyes have come to knock down our cities the way locusts used to wipe out croplands. The only way to fight back, of course, is with major weapons, aircraft, and high tech computers. The mastermind of the human victory is a Jewish boy with his father! The son is none other than my friend Jeff Goldblum.

Jeff plays the Jewish role in his customary complex, saturnine style. He's smart but detached, lonely but loving, both

brave and cautious. He steals the show from co-actors just by his presence. The Bible his father, Judd Hirsch, hands him saves his soul while he conquers the enemies of our planet. We even catch a glimpse of an Israeli plane with its El Al blue and white logo. Yes, "Independence Day" is Jewish-friendly.

Even so, I had a lot of quarrels with this feel-good production. We have two dead mothers on hand. The only good mom is a dead mom these days. And the true hero is not the intellectual but the black marine (Will Smith) who sleeps with his stripper girl friend, beats up an alien with his bare fists, and proves his p.c. manhood also by accepting his fiancée's child, who is not his own, and going through with a marriage ceremony. Pretty crude stuff if you were brought up with the classic cinema.

I guess I worry about the values my youngest is getting from the fun we have, going out on July evenings. I mean, is watching death and destruction the only spectacle we can share with the community? Is the threat of annihilation the only thing that can bring the peoples of the world together?

Is the embrace of amorality the same thing as true tolerance

and generosity of spirit?

I'm pretty easy to figure out. I write the same words about every American film. And by contrast, the same words about European imports. Our movies cost a lot to make so they have to appeal to masses of people. Films from abroad don't have to come on as broadly, they can risk some quirky themes, some charming speeches, some touches of irony or poetry.

Coming back to my Jordans, they're not the patent leather black ones with red soles. My heir has those, but he picked out mine from the most recent group. They're a soft pearl tone with blue soles. I'll wear them later with jeans and a grey corduroy jacket, maybe even a knit tie. For now they'll go with my beard and my bermudas. We'll bounce to the next Hollywood work of entertainment and fill our heads with the latest images.

I'll stay young during these weeks and months of mild days and soft twilights. But independence is not what it's about. It's about buying into some dependent values. Still, I look at my lad's charming face with confidence in his good heart, good humor, and goodwill toward me, and toward one and all. Lighten up, Dad.

## Those Were the Days, in Old New York

by Jonathan Mark  
New York Jewish Week

NEW YORK (JTA) — Guess whether the following restaurants or catering places are Jewish: Va Bene, Le Marais, Chez Lanu, La Strada, Medici, Fuji Hana, Jasmine, La Mer, Cafe Roma, Le Tre Venezia, Lou G. Siegel.

Thank G-d for Siegel's.

Once upon a time, Jewish guys did not have to pretend they were from Vichy or the Garden of the Finzi-Contini to serve a kosher meal in New York.

Siegel's, where New Yorkers have been eating kosher since 1917, has closed.

The restaurant lost its lease at 209 W. 38th St. after 75 years at that location.

Chances are there is not another glatt kosher meat restaurant in the world that has been around so long. When Siegel's originally opened on 31st Street, Wilson was president, the czar was in his palace and the Yankees played in Manhattan.

Back when dinner was called

supper, Jews traded wisecracks with their Jewish waiter.

The proprietor of one of the new Jewish restaurants with the foreign sounding, chi-chi names said he is thinking of approaching the Wexner Institute to provide his restaurant with a "scholar in residence" who would visit table after table, if requested, providing educational and intellectual dinner conversation to the upscale patrons.

But if Lou G. Siegel were alive, he would say, "Keep all your Wexner Fellows." He wanted his joint filled with jolly good fellows.

Eddie Share, manager and owner of the place since shortly before Siegel died in 1965, remembers Lou G. as "a Damon Runyon character."

"He loved life," Share said. "He was the king of the hill around here. When he arrived, you knew he arrived. He would do nothing. (He'd just stand in the front and you knew he was there. The whole place go the vibration."

All the Jewish Broadway

guys would come to eat and shmooze with Lou G.

The sepia-toned photos on the restaurant wall are so ancient that the caption for one of Georgie Jessel and Eddie Cantor partying at Siegel's does not even bother to identify a young George Burns, puffing on a cigar and eating his supper off to the side of the photo.

Who remembers? Over there, past the kitschy painting of a man in a tallis, is a photo of Rudy Valee, Harry Richmond, Harry Ritz of the Ritz Brothers, David Rubinoff of 1933's radio hit show, the Chase & Sanborn Hour.

Share walked through the empty dining room on one of Siegel's last afternoons.

The carpeting was still dark red, the wooden walls an Oriental walnut, the wrought iron still black.

Share pointed out framed letters from Eleanor Roosevelt and long-forgotten mayors and governors.

He showed where a bullet (Continued on Page 16)

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# WORLD AND NATIONAL NEWS

## Right From the Start Sharon is Special Case

by Naomi Segal

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Israel's premier apparently averted a potential crisis in his Cabinet by bringing Likud hardliner Ariel Sharon into the government as minister of infrastructure.

Netanyahu made the move just before he left for his first official visit to the United States as prime minister. He delayed his departure by two hours to get Sharon's position finalized by the government.

The Knesset approved the appointment recently in a 58-33 vote, with one abstention.

The possibility that Sharon would remain outside the government while Netanyahu was abroad could have created problems.

Foreign Minister David Levy threatened to leave the government if Sharon was not appointed prior to Netanyahu's departure. Sharon had forged Levy's political alliance

with Netanyahu.

The appointment is likely to displease both the Arabs states and the United States.

As defense minister in 1982, Sharon led Israel's forces into its costly war in Lebanon. In 1983, he was forced to quit after an Israeli inquiry committee found him indirectly responsible for the killing of hundreds of Palestinian civilians at the Sabra and Shatilla refugee camps during the invasion.

In the early 1990s, as housing minister, he spearheaded a Jewish settlement drive in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Sharon's portfolio in Netanyahu's Cabinet was created only after other ministers reluctantly gave up some of their responsibilities.

The new ministry will oversee the water rights issue, a highly sensitive subject in the Middle East.

## Russian Jews Take Comfort in Boris Yeltsin's Victory

by Lev Krichevsky

MOSCOW (JTA) — Russian Jews expressed relief recently after President Boris Yeltsin defeated Communist Party leader Gennady Zyuganov in the nation's presidential runoff.

"Zyuganov had proved to be a Stalinist and anti-Semite," said Alexander Stepansky, a history professor at the Russian Humanities University. "If he was elected, Jews would have serious troubles. I'm glad we got rid of the danger."

Yeltsin was elected to another four-year term in the July 3 runoff.

He won 53.7 percent of the vote. Zyuganov won 40.4 per-

cent. The remaining 4.9 percent did not cast ballots for either candidate.

"We have escaped from the bigger evil that is communism and national socialism," said Alexander Lieberman of the Union of Councils on Soviet Jewry's Moscow bureau.

Yeltsin's victory, while averting a return to Communist rule, has not completely alleviated concerns among Russia's Jews — estimates of their numbers run from 600,000 to 2 million — about the direction of the country.

Those concerns were heightened by rhetoric in the Yeltsin campaign and the sudden ascendancy of Alexander Lebed.

Lebed, a former general whom Yeltsin appointed Russia's security chief after the first round of balloting June 16, placed third in that vote.

"In order to win, Yeltsin's campaign was using national patriotic phraseology" that until recently was the preserve of the Communists and ultranationalists, Lieberman said.

"Vague ideas of the great army and military industrial complex" were promoted by Yeltsin's campaign before the runoff, Lieberman said, adding, "This is not a sign of democratic thinking."

Many Russians associate Lebed with a possible Yeltsin retreat from democracy.

## Church Coalition Calls for Implementation of Agreements

by Debra Nussbaum Cohen

NEW YORK (JTA) — A coalition of major Protestant and Catholic groups has called on the Clinton administration to press Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to hold to the commitments Israel has made in the peace process.

Churches for Middle East Peace, a coalition of 14 groups that together represent some 45 million Christians, including the National Council of Churches, which itself is an umbrella organization of Protestant and Orthodox churches; United Methodist Church; United Church of Christ; Episcopal Church; American Baptist Churches in the United States of America; and the Roman Catholic Conference of Major Superiors of Men; the Mennonite, Quaker and Church of the Brethren de-

nominations, expressed concern about the future of the peace process.

The Clinton administration "must make clear that it opposes the building of new settlements and the expansion of existing settlements geographically or by adding population, including in the occupied areas in and near Jerusalem," the group said in a statement released in advance of Netanyahu's visit to the States.

Rabbi A. James Rudin, director of interreligious affairs for the American Jewish Committee, criticized the move by the church coalition. "Unless Israel does exactly what they want they come down hard on the country. You don't find them making similar demands on the Palestinian Authority or Syria."

In a June 11 letter, the coalition's executive committee

recalled how the Bush administration used U.S. loan guarantees as leverage to curtail Israeli settlement activity in the territories.

"In recognition of the considerable financial aid provided to Israel and the restrictions placed by the Bush administration on loan guarantees, Americans are particularly alert and sensitive about the financing of Israel's settlement program," the letter said.

The umbrella group urged President Bush to withhold the \$10 billion in loan guarantees until Israel agreed to stop all construction of settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The organization has also protested Israel's closure of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, imposed after the first of a series of suicide bombings in February and March.

## Mandela Attends Graduation

The ORT-STEP (Science and Technology Education Project) Institute in South Africa graduated its first class of technology education teachers this past spring. Each of the 28 graduates was handed his or her Certificate in Technology Education by President Nelson Mandela.

Speaking at the ceremonies, Mandela praised ORT for its initiative in establishing this unique center of technology education and resource development.

"Technology education ought to be one of the cornerstones of our education and training," the president stressed.

"Each teacher will, in turn, train hundreds more students... and they will lead in enabling us to solve today's problems with today's tools."

ORT-STEP, launched in Midrand (near Johannesburg) in 1993, is the only program of its kind in South Africa.

Funded by local industry and private donations, it is South Africa's first fully operational, educational project offering technology education and training to both teachers and high school students, as well as a resource center for the development of curriculum and computer hardware and software.

## Army Commander Dismissed

by Naomi Segal

JERUSALEM (JTA) — An Israeli army inquiry into an ambush in which three soldiers were killed has resulted in the dismissal of the commander of the Jordan Valley Brigade.

Col. Avi Burger was relieved of his duties after the investigation of the June 26 ambush on Israeli forces showed a series of mistakes.

Lt. Gen. Amnon Shahak, the Israel Defense Force chief of staff, announced the dismissal.

"It was a terrible failure: of planning, execution and control," Shahak said.

Other IDF sources were

quoted as saying that the entire chain of command failed in connection with the attack, which also resulted in the wounding of two Israeli soldiers.

According to the report, after the gunmen fired on an Israeli patrol, they overtook the command car, using its machine gun to fire on a second patrol that arrived at the site about an hour later.

While Israeli forces had reported hearing shots to their south, it was not until 45 minutes later that the company commander decided to send a second patrol to see what had happened to the first, the report said.

## Immigrants Gain Respect

by Michele Chabin

JERUSALEM (JTA) — With seven of their own now sitting in the Knesset, many immigrants from the former Soviet Union are holding their heads a bit higher.

Dogged by feelings of alienation from mainstream Israeli society, on May 29 the immigrants took their grievances to the voting booths — and emerged stronger politically than ever before.

Seemingly as surprised as other Israelis to learn that Natan Sharansky's Yisrael Ba'Aliyah party had garnered seven seats in the 120-seat Knesset — most pollsters predicted the party would win three or four seats at most — the olim say they feel both vindicated and empowered.

The 400,000-strong Russian voting bloc, nearly half of whom

supported Yisrael Ba'Aliyah, proved to themselves — and others — that they have the political clout to get things done.

"It's like we've been put on the map, as if we suddenly count," said a hairdresser who identified herself as Irina.

"With seven voices in the Knesset, and Bibi [Netanyahu] in power thanks in large part to Russian support, perhaps now we will be able to get affordable apartments and jobs in our profession."

This newfound feeling of empowerment is manifesting itself in subtle but important ways, according to Tanya Weinraub, a veteran immigrant who works with new olim.

Prior to the elections, Weinraub said, "Russian olim suffered not only from the diffi-

culties associated with entering a new culture, but also with nasty stereotypes. We heard that Russians are mafiosos and prostitutes, that doctors aren't really doctors, that engineers aren't really engineers.

"They were made to feel that they weren't Israelis or even Jews. They were told they didn't belong."

Although the stereotypes have not disappeared, she said, "since the elections, Israelis have begun to treat the olim with new respect."

"On the street, when an Israeli realizes that the person they're dealing with is Russian, he'll often say, 'Kol hakavod l'chem' — Good for you, you did it — and the olim cherish this new respect. Suddenly, they don't feel like second-class citizens."

More than anything, Weinraub said, "this past election was about respect. When the immigrants voted in seven [Knesset members], two of whom received Cabinet posts, they gained power, strength. Israelis respect strength and the people who command it."

Natan Sharansky was appointed minister of industry and trade and Yuli Edelstein, also of Yisrael Ba'Aliyah, was named absorption minister.



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# WORLD AND NATIONAL NEWS

## 50 Years Later, Poland Tries to Atone Netanyahu and Clinton Present United Front

by Ruth E. Gruber  
KIELCE, Poland (JTA) — "The heavens are weeping on our ceremony," New York Rabbi David Blumenfeld told a crowd of about 2,000 people who gathered last week outside a white building in the center of Kielce, Poland.

As rain fell, he lit a memorial candle and held it before the crowd.

Fifty years ago, on July 4, 1946, a Polish mob, inflamed by anti-Semitism and rumors that Jews had kidnapped a Christian child, besieged the building and during a day of bloody violence, slaughtered 42 Jewish Holocaust survivors.

Sunday's emotional ceremonies were held at the site where the massacre took place, as well as at the Kielce Jewish cemetery and at the former Kielce synagogue.

The commemorations marked Poland's official atonement for the pogrom and its request for forgiveness.

Among those in the crowd was a Polish survivor of Auschwitz, who wore a concentration camp uniform and bore a sign calling Kielce the shame of Polish Roman Catholics.

The Kielce pogrom, the worst of a series of Polish attacks on Jewish survivors returning to their homes after the Holocaust, became a landmark in Polish anti-Semitism, sparking the mass emigration of some 100,000 Polish Holocaust survivors.

Although nine people were hastily tried and executed for the Kielce murders by Poland's Communist authorities, the pogrom has been a festering and divisive memory over the years. Many Poles refused to accept that ordinary people could have carried out such carnage, and blamed the attack on provocation by Soviet-backed secret police.

Public discussion of the affair during the Communist era was virtually taboo.

But in January, Polish Foreign Minister Dariusz Rosati wrote a letter of apology to the World Jewish Congress for the pogrom.

His letter elicited angry responses from Polish rightists as well as a highly critical open letter from Edward Moskal, head of the Polish American Congress, who called Rosati's apology "unfortunate and unnecessary" and accused the Polish government of catering to the Jews.

Nobel Peace Prize laureate Elie Wiesel praised the current

What happened in this place showed that normal citizens could be as cruel as the killers of any death camp.

Elie Wiesel

Polish government for its efforts toward better relations with Jews.

But he raised the issues and questions that have blighted the memory of Kielce for half a century — and that still, despite recent official investigations into the pogrom, remain largely unanswered.

"True, the killing was perpetuated by hoodlums," he said. "But what about the soldiers who reportedly took part in them? And what about the others, the on-lookers, the bystanders?"

"What happened in this place showed that normal citizens could be as cruel as the killers of any death camp," Wiesel said.

Kalman Sultanic, vice president of the World Jewish Congress and president of the Federation of Polish Jews in America, echoed Wiesel's call for a thorough examination of the Polish past. In his remarks, he recalled his own experiences. "From 1945 to 1946, more than 1,000 Jews were killed in various places by Poles; taken off trains, they were hunted down in small towns and killed.

"I was one of those Jews on a train from Kielce to Ostrowiec when the train stopped and hoodlums entered to hunt for Jews — and I hid my face, so there-

fore I speak to you today — and I remember that I was frightened to death."

Holocaust survivor William Mandell, leader of an association of Jews in the United States from Kielce, said in an interview that he appreciated the efforts of the Polish authorities to atone for the pogrom, but that it was too long in coming.

"The wound has healed, but the scar has not healed," he said. "We hope that today's events bode well for the future, but for us older generation, it is tough to forgive."

"Today opened up some discussion, but I would not say forgiveness."

Some Jews expressed disappointment with some facets of the occasion.

Polish Bishop Tadeusz Pieronek, secretary general of the Polish Episcopate, was faulted for giving a bland speech in which he cited church statements condemning anti-Semitism without talking of the ambivalence demonstrated by some senior church figures.

"He said the right things, but clearly he was not trying to face the totality of the church's attitude at the time," Stanislaw Krajewski, Polish consultant the American Jewish Committee, said in an interview.

During the ceremonies, side-by-side monuments were dedicated at the former synagogue to commemorate the 27,000 Jews deported to Treblinka from Kielce and to remember a number of local Righteous Gentiles who saved Jews during the war.

"Both are meaningful and needed monuments," Krajewski said, "but I am a little unhappy they are juxtaposed."

"And also, the monument to the Righteous Gentiles is much more elaborate; its inscription is so much larger. The Jews are commemorated as a number, 27,000, an anonymous mass," he said.

"Those who helped them are commemorated as individuals with names. An anonymous abstraction vs. individuals about whom we care."

Council of America, which organized the conference.

Religious parties increased their representation in the 120-member Knesset to a total of 23 seats in the May 29 elections.

The victory of Netanyahu and the religious parties was a way for voters to oppose those Israelis who "began a process of bi-culturalization," Grossman said

in his speech. "Israel's raison d'être is to be a state for Jews and Jewish in every possible way, culturally and religiously."

Given the degree of assimilation plaguing the Jewish community today, he said, "how then could Jews anywhere have accepted an Israel that assimilates into the abyss of Western decadence?"

True Picture is Rockier  
by Matthew Dorf

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has returned home with a firm American pledge or "rock solid" relations between Jerusalem and Washington.

Publicly, President Clinton and Netanyahu heaped praise on each other and pledged to extend the honeymoon that U.S.-Israel relations have enjoyed during the past three years.

But their positive comments could barely mask deep divisions on the peace process once they were meeting in the Oval Office.

In 2 1/2 hours of White House meetings, Netanyahu presented U.S. officials with a lengthy list of Palestine Liberation Organization violations of the accords signed with the Jewish state.

Netanyahu claims that the Palestine National Council at its meeting on April 24 did not amend its covenant as PLO chairman Yasser Arafat had stated.

Both the Israeli government of Shimon Peres and the Clinton administration welcomed the PNC's action in rescinding the sections of the covenant calling for the destruction of Israel.

Netanyahu's list also included examples of what he termed systematic violations of a commitment the PLO made not to conduct political activity in Jerusalem, according to the Israeli official.

The list also asserted that the Palestinian Authority has not done enough to crack down on the fundamentalist Hamas movement.

Netanyahu's list directly contradicts a recent U.S. State Department report on which Clinton based his decision to certify the PLO as being in compliance with the peace accords.

Such certification allows the United States to provide \$75 million in cash assistance to the Palestinian Authority each year.

But the sharp differences between the new Israeli government and the U.S. administration on PLO compliance may pit Jerusalem against the White House on the crucial issue of continued U.S. aid to the Palestinians.

A second set of documents given to Clinton by Netanyahu detailed Israeli intelligence reports on Syrian support for terrorist groups.

Since his election, Netanyahu has pointed at Damascus as a major source of terrorism, charg-

ing that the regime of Hafez Assad supports the fundamentalist Hezbollah group in Lebanon and several Palestinian terror groups that are violently opposed to peace with Israel.

Syria remains on the U.S. list of nations that sponsor terrorism.

During their joint news conference after the meeting, Clinton and Netanyahu glossed over their differences even when they appeared to be 180 degrees apart.

As Netanyahu pledged to continue a growth of Jewish settlements in the West Bank, Clinton reiterated long-standing U.S. policy that considers settlements an obstacle to peace.

Netanyahu sidestepped the issue, saying that "we have not yet decided on the precise pattern of our settlement policy. He also said, "We inherited two agreements, Oslo I and Oslo II, not to our liking, but governments keep agreements."

While pledging to uphold past peace agreements, Netanyahu said he is continuing to

Netanyahu's list directly contradicts a recent U.S. State Department report on which Clinton based his decision to certify the PLO as being in compliance with the peace accords.

study the redeployment of Israeli forces from most of Hebron.

"We will not accept the notion that peace and terrorism can coexist under one roof," Netanyahu said.

A U.S.-Israel counter-terrorism group will begin meeting by the end of this month to examine concrete ways the two allies can contribute to each other's security.

Netanyahu continued to back away from a pre-election interview in which he said that within four to eight years Israel should wean itself off of the \$1.2 billion in economic aid it receives each year from the United States. After meeting with Clinton, he extended the time frame to perhaps 10 years.

Clinton agreed that now is not "a time to do anything to destabilize" the Middle East by cutting Israel's aid.

## Orthodox Leader Damns 'Western Decadence'

by Debra Nussbaum Cohen  
NEW YORK (JTA) — The success of the religious parties in the recent Israeli election was "a call for the re-Judaization of Israel," Rabbi Rafael Grossman said in his opening address at the First World Wide Rabbinical Conference, which was held recently in Jerusalem.

Grossman is president of the Orthodox Rabbinical

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# OBITUARIES

**EVELYN KAUFMAN**  
PROVIDENCE — Evelyn Kaufman, of Bristol, R.I., died June 29 at Rhode Island Hospital.

Born in Piesk, Russia, the daughter of the late Yitchak and Esther (Backer) Murstein, she worked for Jordan Marsh for many years, retiring 20 years ago.

She is survived by two daughters, Paula Kaufman of Bristol and Marsha Kwicinski of Royal Oak, Michigan; two brothers, Leon Murstein of Malden, Mass., and Albert Murstein of Del Ray Beach, Fla. She was also the mother of the late Roberta Kaufman.

Graveside services were held June 30 at Beth El Cemetery, West Roxbury, Mas. The family was assisted in the arrangements by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## ANITA NAMEROW

PROVIDENCE — Anita Namerow of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., and Providence, died July 12 in Miriam Hospital. She was the widow of Maurice "Mike" Namerow.

A daughter of the late William and Sophye (Slack) Schmelz, she lived in Ft. Lauderdale and Providence for the last 18 years. She attended Rhode Island School of Design, and was a member of Temple Beth-El, its Sisterhood and Garden Club. She was a Gray Lady of Miriam Hospital, and vice president of the Waterbridge Condominium Association in Sunrise, Fla.

She leaves a son, Leigh J. Namerow of West Warwick; two daughters, Sandra J. Namerow of Warwick and Lori Namerow

Pontus of Rehoboth, Mass.; a brother, Elliot Slack of Providence, and a granddaughter.

The funeral was held July 14 at the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

## LEAH F. 'LEE' SELTZER

PROVIDENCE — Leah F. "Lee" Seltzer, 77, of 139 Sessions St., died July 9 in Miriam Hospital. She was the wife of Manuel Seltzer.

Born in Providence and a lifelong resident, she was a daughter of the late Isadore and Marion (Glickman) Leitner. She was a member of Temple Beth-El, Providence, and was a member of the Cranston and Majestic Senior Guilds.

Besides her husband, she leaves a daughter, Barbara Concoff of Woodland Hills, Calif., a son, Benton Seltzer of Plainview, N.Y., a sister, Frances Mendelsohn of Cranston and four grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Leonard Leitner.

The funeral service was held July 12 at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Post Road, Warwick.

## EVELYN SHAPIRO

CENTERVILLE, Mass. — Evelyn (Fine) Shapiro, of 37 Wedgewood Dr., Centerville, died July 13. She was the wife of the late Milton Shapiro.

She is survived by a son, Robert Shapiro of West Los Angeles, Calif.; two daughters, Sonya Shapiro, Lexington, Mass., and

Avis Jansson, Commaquid, Mass.; two sisters, Pauline and Eleanor of Longmeadow, Mass.; four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Oscar and Frieda. The funeral service was held July 15 at Tifereth Israel Congregation, 145 Brownell Ave., New Bedford, Mass. The family was assisted in the arrangements by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence, R.I.

## PHILIP SIMON

PROVIDENCE — Philip Simon, 83, of E. Shore Circle, Apt. 306, Providence, operator of the former Artistic Picture Frame Co., Providence, then an employee of the U.S. Postal Service before retiring 15 years ago, died July 12 in the Miriam Hospital, Providence. He was the husband of Emma (Berman) Simon.

He was chairman of the Veteran's Memorial Fund, a member of the Jewish War Veterans, a volunteer at the VA Hospital and a member and volunteer of Temple Emanu-El. Besides his wife, he leaves a son, Mark Simon of New York City, and a sister, Nettie Seltzer in Florida.

The funeral service was held July 14 at Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

## 'Palestine' Olympics Team Sparks Renewed Controversy

by Anne Miller

WASHINGTON (JTA) — With the opening ceremonies for the Summer Olympics just days away, the controversy over an officially recognized team from "Palestine" has sparked new protests.

A delegation of athletes from "Palestine," as the team is designated in the Atlanta Committee on the Olympic Games' official publications, is competing in the summer games.

The Anti-Defamation League has protested the choice of nomenclature to the International Olympic Committee.

In a letter to the committee, ADL National Director Abraham Foxman said it would prefer that the delegation be referred to as "the Palestinian team" rather than as athletes "from Palestine."

## JNF Mourns Passing of Congressman Emerson

On behalf of the board, staff and supporters of the Jewish National Fund, JNF president Milton S. Shapiro has extended condolences to the family of Missouri Congressman Bill Emerson, and to those he so ably represented during his years in Congress.

On April 28, Emerson, who was the vice-chair of the House Agriculture Committee, joined a delegation of JNF leaders in a meeting with former Prime Minister Shimon Peres in Washington, D.C., to discuss the work of JNF.

Speaking to the delegation, the congressman began in a raspy voice, explaining that he was being treated for lung cancer and that he felt optimistic about the course of his illness.

He gained strength as he spoke about his regard for JNF and its work. "What JNF is doing is not something that makes the front pages of the newspapers every day," he commented, "but your efforts to cultivate the desert and to share these technologies with developing nations can have a profound impact in helping their citizens, including some

of Israel's former adversaries." He continued, "I was amazed to learn that JNF bought plot by plot in Israel in the early part of the century, and that this was how modern Israel came into being."

The congressman was referring to the fact that JNF was created to purchase and redeem land in the ancestral Jewish homeland on behalf of world Jewry, and that the United Nations' partition lines that helped define Israel's initial borders were drawn in large part around JNF land holdings.

JNF is now sharing technologies it has developed in arid lands management with countries around the world, particularly those in which expanding deserts pose political problems.

JNF national campaign chair Robert B. Levine remarked, "We know the pain and loss that Congressman Emerson's family now feels. We want them to know they are not alone.... We will miss him. We have all lost a good friend."

In memory of the congressman, JNF has planted a circle of 10 trees in Israel.

observers.

A Palestine Liberation Organization faction had taken credit for the massacre of 11 Israeli athletes at the 1972 Munich Olympics.

Palestinians are allowed to participate in the Olympics under Article 33 of the Olympic Convention, which stipulates that "the term 'country' in the Olympic Convention means every country, state, territory or part of a territory."

## Harold Trobe Dies at 82

by Heather Camlot

NEW YORK (JTA) — Harold Trobe, a Jewish official who played a central role in helping refugees escape wartime Europe and North Africa, has died.

Trobe, who was 82, died June 24 in Gainesville, Fla.

In 1937, Trobe received his master's degree from the Graduate School of Jewish Social Work, now part of Columbia University in New York.

That year, a large number of German immigrants arrived in the United States.

Hired as head of child care by the Jewish Welfare Service of Pittsburgh, Trobe's responsibilities included finding employment for the recent arrivals.

In 1944, Trobe moved to Lisbon to run the American Jew-

ish Joint Distribution Committee's European headquarters. He helped feed, clothe, shelter and provide medical attention to displaced persons in Europe.

He also aided in transporting two boatloads of refugees from Portugal who were on their way to Palestine.

"How they got across the border is not my business," Trobe told *The Jerusalem Post Magazine* in 1979. "But the minute they come across they are. If they come across illegally, that's also not my concern. I'm not the police, I feel them."

At the end of World War II, Trobe worked in Czechoslovakia and Switzerland, where 6,000 to 8,000 Jews streamed through every month on their way to Palestine.

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## Old New York

(Continued from Page 11)

pierced the wall. Long ago, a thief ran into Siegel's and a cop followed, shooting a bullet that missed the thief and hit the wall. As the cop and crook wrestled, Share ran over and "punched the thief in the face."

"Then, the policeman hit the thief with the butt of the gun," Share said.

When does a restaurant grow old? When do the Broadway characters stop dropping by?

Synagogues stopped having theater parties that always seemed to begin with dinner at Siegel's.

When did the wedding business, in one of the restaurant's several private dining rooms, drop off?

"We used to be the only game in town," Share said. "People got a little bit bothered by the insecurity of the streets and parking."

"The neighborhoods have not been an advantage for people of my time to come down and have dinner. You've got your panhandlers out, and people breaking into cars. Our dinner business fell off, even as our takeout business to the hotels increased."

"It's getting slow, the whole garment district has gotten slow. And in the last few years, more than five glatt kosher restaurants opened within a short walk from here."

The new places have names such as Le Marais and serve soup du jour instead of soup of the day. They serve poisson fume, galette de pomme de terre and vinaigrette de pamplemousse, instead of Siegel's specialties like flanken in a pot, derma, rugelach, kasha, beef goulash, stuffed cabbage and 13 ways of doing chicken justice.

In Siegel's you could get horse-radish, a condiment almost extinct in modern Jewish eateries.

The restaurant tried to change with the times.

It was the first to provide in-flight glatt kosher food to the airlines, a service Siegel's no longer offers, in 1966.

The restaurant menu began to list Israeli salad and tri-color food, but the young seemed to think the place was old, an artery waiting to harden, a Catskills dining room in search of a lobby.

Share said, "We had someone a few weeks ago who celebrated his bar mitzvah here in 1934 and now he celebrated his 75th birthday here. But the young generation, they can't identify with Siegel's like their parents do, just like they can't identify with World War II. They didn't live through it."

"And the kids, they're eating all types of fast food. I don't know about the nutrition. Here you could get a sensible salad and some sensible boiled meat," Share said.

"Maybe the kids don't have the money to spend. Two pizza slices and Coke will cost you \$5, \$6. A complete dinner here will be between \$25 and \$30, but you eat on a tablecloth with linen napkins, with ambience and service."

But about the kids: Share opened Siegel's to touring Israeli Orthodox youth groups as a Shabbat refuge. They had rooms to light candles, pray and eat three full Shabbat meals.

Until the end, the payroll was pumping out paychecks for some 50 people. There were many cooks in the kitchen. The challah, rolls and rugelach were baked on the premises. The corned beef was cured right there, behind the swinging doors.

For years, Share sent monthly checks to the widows of rabbis who served as his "mash-gichim," or kosher supervisors.

Share is hoping to keep the Siegel's name alive through a delivery and catering service.

Aside from friends dropping by for a last sit-down meal, Share

planned nothing special for the final days. "No celebration," he said.

"My heart goes out with gratitude to the people who came over the years. I was told by people in retail that the biggest times are the opening month and the closing month. But I couldn't take advantage of that situation. I just couldn't get myself to do it."

## Hands That Help

(Continued from Page 11)

girl, it's time for me to find my own roots."

Now listen to this. This is what I said to Doug. Don't guffaw. "Doug, that turtle whose life you saved, she was a kind and lovely Jewish princess under an enchanter's spell. She's shy but independent, and she's on her path right now looking for you. You're already doing just the right thing. All you have to do is stay here in the shade and the sunlight on the sidewalk beside the avenue with your coffee, and keep a lookout. I know she'll come along at the apt moment."

Doug didn't laugh at me. He only smirked slightly and added, "If you feel like writing my story down, feel free, go ahead with it. Only, what made you connect the turtle with my girl friends?"

"It's all the fairytales my mother used to read to us in the age before television and canned responses. I remember the one about the little tailor who helps all sorts of creatures on his way and gets rewarded with true love and good fortune. Colts, bees, fish, he spares them and they bring him luck. Same with you."

Among the cruel ends of the private lives trapped within our busy routines, a few good turns show up, through the benevolent hands of those who take note and care. So, Jewish girls, find Doug and prove me right!



## Jewish Theater In Prague

Featuring puppets and actors, Isaac Bashevis Singer's "The Lion's Milk" is being performed 5 to 10 times a month before sell-out crowds at the Minor Theater in Prague. The play, sponsored by the Jewish Community of Prague, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) and Edward Finkelstein of St. Louis, Missouri, is also being performed by the Jewish Children's Theater of the Jewish community.

## New Survey of American Jews Shows Support for Netanyahu

by Anne Miller

WASHINGTON (JTA) — A newly released poll shows that American Jews support Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Although about 31 percent of American Jews say they would have cast their ballots for Netanyahu in May's election, some 62 percent now say they view him either "very" or "somewhat" favorably.

Nearly two-thirds of the 860 American Jews polled between July 2 and 6 believe the new prime minister will continue to pursue peace, a process about 81 percent "strongly" or "somewhat" approve of as it was conducted by Netanyahu's predecessors, Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Rabin.

The poll was released recently by the Israeli Policy Forum, an American group established in support of the peace process.

Nearly two-thirds of those surveyed said they believe Netanyahu is sincere "when he says he wants to continue the peace process."

Approximately 44 percent of those questioned identified themselves as Reform, 33 percent Conservative, 8 percent Orthodox and 14 percent as other categories, including Reconstructionist.

The poll, conducted for the Israel Policy Forum by Penn & Schoen Associates, has a margin of error of plus or minus 3.5 percent.

## Wheaton College Receives Grant

Wheaton College recently received a \$100,000 grant from the George I. Alden Trust to establish an endowment fund for future purchases of scientific equipment to be used by the college's students and faculty.

More than 10 percent of Wheaton students major in mathematics and the sciences, and many go on to seek advanced degrees.

The George I. Alden Trust of Worcester was established by Alden in 1912. As a faculty member, and later trustee of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Alden exhibited a strong commitment to academic excellence.

This scientific equipment endowment grant continues the Alden Trust's generous support of science education at Wheaton. In 1985, the trust awarded the

college \$100,000 to establish the George I. Alden Endowed Scholarship Fund for science and math majors. In 1994, the trust awarded the college \$50,000 toward the purchase of scientific instrumentation.

The trust's latest grant supports the long-term strength of Wheaton's science programs by ensuring that the college's science labs remain well-equipped for faculty and student research.

The grant will also help Wheaton to complete a \$200,000 challenge grant it received from the Kresge Foundation earlier this year. That grant challenges the college to raise \$400,000 toward a science equipment endowment fund by Dec. 1, 1996, to receive the second and final \$100,000 installment of the award.

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