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This Year, In Jerusalem

by Alison Smith
Herald Editor

By the time you read this article, seven eighth-grade students at Providence Hebrew Day School, and their teachers, Rabbi Mordechai and Mrs. Carol Fried, will have been in Israel four days, or more.

They will be there until March 2. And they will be busy! They will visit the Mount of Olives; Hurva synagogue; the Kotel; Bet Guvrin National Park; the Rampart Walk; the Machane Yehuda Market; the Diaspora Museum; Roman ruins; the Baron Rothchild's gardens; Mount Carmel; Zfat; the sources of the Jordan River; Nimrod's Castle; the Golan Heights; a talmudic village; Mazada; and the Dead Sea...and other spots too numerous to mention.

Rabbi Fried said he would like to lead them over the grounds where Israel became a nation, site by site, from its inception, which he compared to "fire."

He said he wanted them to know how Israel got where it is, and what it cost to get there.

They will see burned-out buildings from this war, and that war...and historic buildings still standing. He said, "Once you feel close to something, and then you leave — you will want to go back." He feels that the conclusion of the trip will be the beginning of something else, for his students.

He and his wife lived in Jerusalem four years, and three of their children were born there. They both have family in Israel. He is particularly anxious to see again the rabbis who taught him. Both Frieds agreed that to them, this trip will feel like going home.

The kids have been prepared for this trip. Preparation intensified in the last month or two. An archeologist came in to talk about excavation and techniques. They will be going to a dig, to see for themselves.

I asked the Frieds, and the students, what they most looked forward to doing or seeing on this trip. The students' responses are printed at the conclusion of this article. Rabbi Fried said he'd have to tell me



WE'RE ON OUR WAY! PHDS eighth-graders and their teachers — from the left, Yael Silberberg, Abby Winkleman, Aviva Shafner, Mrs. Carol Fried, Rabbi Mordechai Fried, Yitzhak Albert-Andelman, Sam Halper, Eli Hartman — were anxious to get going to Israel, when this picture was taken. Pesach Shafner went also, but was not present for the picture. Herald photo by Alison Smith

what he had in mind outside of the classroom.

He drew me out into the hallway and told me that a second, last-minute visit to the Kotel, late at night as the kids were preparing to leave Israel, was on his schedule. He would talk

with them about what they had seen and learned on the trip, and then he planned to present each one with a specially inscribed siddur. He thought this would be a powerful way to end the trip. Imagine it — the Wall, the night sky, the reminiscences, and then the presentation of prayer books.

He and Mrs. Fried, and Sara Halper, stressed that they were extremely grateful to the community for its support for the trip. The Bureau of Jewish Education, Partnership 2000, the Rhode Island Jewish Federation, the New Bedford Jewish Federation, and private benefactors of the school all helped make the dream a reality. The students sold \$6,000 worth of maga-

zine subscriptions as their contribution, and each student's family contributed about \$500. Rabbi Avraham Jakubowicz, principal of PHDS, helped with the funding campaign and the arrangements, also.

A time capsule will be buried in a spot in Israel, to be unearthed at a later date by a future class. Rabbi Fried and his students will draw maps to lead their successors to the location of the time capsule.

During the trip, the students will call PHDS twice, and talk to the whole student body.

We will be looking forward to their reactions when they return. Look for the follow-up article in the March 6 Herald.

See page 8 for Dreams of Israel.

The Jewish Heart of Harmony

by Alison Smith
Herald Editor

Roberta Lisker first came to Harmony as a young, single professional — she was our new postmaster. She aroused the parental instincts of all the older people in town. White-haired or balding gentlemen brought her offerings of garden fresh vegetables — right out of their own gardens — and coffee and doughnuts, and then stayed on to chat with each other for hours. Women exchanged recipes with her, and with each other.

The post office was contained (I chose that word deliberately) in a tiny galley that ran behind the rear wall of an old neighborhood store. The store sold everything from 3-in-1 Oil to Popsicles. Five steep granite steps, and a frail railing, led up to the front doorway. A wall section crammed with old-fashioned brass and beveled glass

mail slots (each with its own combination) flanked the tiny barred window which separated Roberta from her public.

When the blizzard of '78 struck, Roberta stayed at our house so she could make it to the post office, down the hill, as soon as mail delivery was resumed.

I remember making a huge pot of chicken soup, to ward off the demons howling around the house, and then, when travel became just barely possible again, Roberta and I trekked down to Seward's Folly Used Bookstore and went wild in the stacks.

After a series of interesting romances, Roberta became engaged to David Goldsmith, whom everyone inspected, and liked. And (and in those days, it was still considered a remarkable feat) she bought herself a small, picturesque house — within walking distance of the post office, of course.

She married David, and ev-

erone wished them well, and heaved a huge sigh of relief once they knew that Roberta would not be moving away.

She became pregnant, and the whole community worried about a pregnant lady having to sprint across Route 44 to the fire station, every time she needed to go to the john. Anyone who's had a child knows we're talking frequent runner miles, here, and the traffic — particularly the big trucks — on Route 44 would come bombing down the hill and through Harmony at well above the speed limit. We worried a lot.

When Breanna was finally born, a big sign went up in the post office window. We were all immensely relieved. And Roberta managed to find loving daycare for her baby, and return to her post office, as soon as it was appropriate.

While she was gone — whenever she was gone — we were loaned a substitute postmaster by the postal powers that be. Some, I'm sure, were nice. A couple were just awful. But Roberta's shoes, although very small literally, were hard to fill figuratively.

Finally, 10 years ago, they sent us Jane, who was gentle,

(Continued on Page 16)

Kennedy Urges Reconsideration of Jewish War Veterans Stamp

Congressman Patrick J. Kennedy (D-RI), in hopes of recognizing decades of commitment by Jewish-Americans to freedom and the care of veterans, has signed a letter to Postmaster General Marvin Runyon requesting reconsideration of a commemorative stamp honoring the Jewish War Veterans of America.

"It is important that we, as a nation, recognize the great service the Jewish War Veterans have provided over the past century," said Kennedy, of joining a letter initiated by Congressmen Rodney P. Frelinghuysen (R-NJ) and Jon D. Fox (R-PA).

The Jewish War Veterans, the oldest veterans' organization in the United States, has volunteered more than 10 million hours at veterans' hospitals

across the country.

"Traditionally, commemorative stamps have always provided a venue in which to do this," said Kennedy. "Stamps have always highlighted our American heritage by focusing on great individuals and organizations, historical events, extraordinary innovations and the natural wonders found throughout the nation."

Both the Postmaster General and the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee decided not to include the stamp in this year's collection, despite a resolution passed by Congress with support of more than 100 members of the House, including Kennedy. Several members have now asked for reconsideration.



INSIDE THE OCEAN STATE

'Your Genes — Whose Business Are They, Anyway?'

The Rhode Island Breast Cancer Coalition will present a free seminar, "Your Genes, Everybody's Business," on Feb. 24 at the Cranston Public Library, 140 Sockanosset Road, beginning at 7 p.m.

This program will feature a panel of experts addressing the social and public health implications resulting from genetic testing. The benefits of genetic

testing and counseling, and the psychosocial impact of inherited disease, will also be discussed.

The panel includes Wendy McGoodwin, director, Council for Responsible Genetics, Cambridge, Mass.; Janice Platner, Esq., executive director of the Massachusetts Breast Cancer coalition and a civil rights lawyer; Nancy Maruyama, M.D.,

Brown University professor of psychiatry and behavioral medicine; Kathryn McGowan, M.D., obstetrician/gynecologist, medical geneticist, Greystone.

The audience will have an opportunity for questions and answers after the presentation.

This program is free and the public is invited. Registration is not required. For additional information, call (800) 216-1040.

Exhibit Features the Natural Scene

The Camera Werks on Hope Street is sponsoring a photo exhibit, "Water Color," the work of South Attleboro photographer Gregg Spaziano, a radiology tech at a Worcester hospital. Exhibit hours are Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

"In this exhibit, Gregg Spaziano captures the quiet and solitude one experiences when

hiking in New Hampshire. His photographs bring out nature's magic by showing the subtleties of colors and textures in water and landscape scenes," said Patricia Zacks, proprietor of The Camera Werks. The photographer's work has been shown by the Wickford Art Association and he is a member of the Photographic Society of Rhode Island.

Celebrate Langston Hughes' Poetry

On Feb. 23 at 2:30 p.m. the Langston Hughes Center for the Arts and Education is sponsoring a Community Poetry Reading of Hughes' work, in celebration of his 95th birthday, at the Museum of Art, 224 Benefit St., Providence.

Storyteller Ramona Bass; Randall Rosenbaum from the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts; Doreen Bramley, di-

rector of the Museum of Art, RISD; Donald W. King, artistic director of the Providence Black Repertory Company; Dwayne Williams, the new executive director of the Rhode Island Black Heritage Society and many more, will read poetry by one of the most revered and prolific poets of our time.

This event is free and open to the public.

Seven Doctors Join RIH Staff

Seven physicians have joined the medical staff at Rhode Island Hospital in Providence.

Lisa Jacobsen, M.D., of Canton, Mass., is a member of the active medical staff of the department of gynecology/obstetrics.

Peter Karczmar, M.D., of Providence, R.I., joins the department of medicine as an active staff member in the pulmonary/critical care division.

Peter Calabresi, M.D., of Barrington, R.I., is a member of the neurology department staff.

Kathleen Calenda, M.D., of Warwick, R.I., joins the department of pediatrics, specializing in pediatric gastroenterology.

Munir Mobassaleh, M.D., of Sudbury, Mass., has also joined the department of pediatrics, specializing in pediatric gastroenterology.

Menno Verhave, M.D., of Wellesley, Mass., is another pediatric gastroenterologist who has joined the pediatrics department.

Miguel Fuentes, M.D., of Barrington, R.I., has joined the active staff of the department of pediatrics.

NEIT Holds Job Fair

New England Institute of Technology will conduct a Career Fair '97 for its associate and bachelor's degree students on Feb. 25 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., in the college's student lounge.

More than 50 employers representing companies throughout New England will be on campus to recruit students for employment.

Study Finds Garlic Beneficial in Reducing Cholesterol and Blood Pressure

Throughout the ages, people have proclaimed the potency of the pungent herb garlic. A recent scientific study suggests it may have real medicinal value in the fight against heart disease.

Results of a study conducted at Memorial Hospital of Rhode Island to test the effect of garlic on cholesterol level and blood pressure were recently published in the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*.

Co-investigator of the study was A. Hakim Khan, M.D., director of clinical cardiac pharmacology at Memorial and associate professor of medicine, Brown University School of

Medicine. Manfred Steiner, M.D., Ph.D., former chief of hematology at Memorial was the principal investigator.

The double-blind crossover study compared the effect of aged garlic extract on men with moderate cholesterol levels (220-290 mg/dL) to determine whether aged garlic would have a beneficial effect on cholesterol.

"The good news," reported Khan, "is that garlic is good for you, if it doesn't ruin your social life. If you can't tolerate natural garlic," he noted, "garlic supplements are equally effective." People involved in the research project daily took nine 800-mg capsules of garlic (the equivalent of approximately one clove of garlic) a day.

Results of the study showed a reduction in total serum cholesterol as well as in low-density-lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL, or "bad" cholesterol). In addition, study participants demonstrated a mild decrease in systolic and diastolic blood pressure.

"Garlic can be beneficial for individuals with mild hypertension or mild hypercholesterolemia," related Kahn, "but should be considered in conjunction with other means of reducing risk factors for heart disease, such as a low fat, low salt diet, exercise, and smoking cessation. It should not be substituted for medication prescribed by the patient's physician."

Spin and Sparkle

On Feb. 26, between 3 and 5 p.m., the Children's Museum of Rhode Island (58 Walcott St., Pawtucket) invites children ages 5 and older to look at life through kaleidoscope eyes. Kids will explore patterns of radial symmetry in everyday objects, such as pizzas and pinwheels. They will experiment with symmetrical designs they create themselves using colored paper and shapes. After creating their own sparkling kaleidoscopes, they can see the beauty in patterns wherever they go. Same day registration is required. Call 726-2591 beginning at 9 a.m. to register. There is no additional fee beyond the price of admission.

Coping With Depression

The Mental Health Association of Rhode Island will conduct an eight-week video discussion series beginning with the video "Coping With Depression: Self-Help Strategies" on March 6 at 10 a.m. at Independence Square, 500 Prospect St., Pawtucket.

This series is open to the general public and is free of charge. To register, call 726-2285. Persons needing accommodations for this event may contact MHARI at the above phone number, or through RI Relay at (800) 745-6575 (voice) or (800) 745-5555 (TDD).

Discover Slater Mill Again

On March 1, Slater Mill historic site will say "Thank You" by offering a free day.

If you are visiting for the first time or have not visited the museum complex in a while, this is the day to discover it again. Free tours will take place at 1 and 3 p.m.

There will also be a free quilt exhibit, "Home From the Mill — French Canadian Quilt Makers in Rhode Island." This exhibition, which traces the history of French-Canadians who emigrated to Rhode Island to work in the textile mills, includes 15 quilts accompanied by photographs of the quilters, their families, and their homes.

A free reception featuring French-Canadian food will be held from 1 to 3:30 p.m.

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THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Russian Culture Shines At East Side Gatherings

by Emily Torgan
Jewish Community Reporter

The music has been played and the literature has been analyzed.

Now, on Feb. 9, the sound of



Maxim Shrayer
Herald photo by Emily Torgan

could share our high levels of culture and social life."

The Feb. 9 program combined diverse cultural elements.

Pianist Victoria Lambrozo and oboist Dr. Mark Finkelstein performed classical pieces.

Maxim Shrayer, Ph.D., an assistant professor of Russian at Boston College and the son of noted Russian poet David Shrayer-Petrov, presented some of his theories about the works of Vladimir Nabokov.

Shrayer focused his presentation around the little-known fact that Nabokov's wife was Jewish.

This, said Shrayer, made Nabokov aware of both the Jewish people and their suffering at the hands of the Soviets and the Nazis.

Citing examples in works such as *The Gift* and *Invitation of a Friend*, Shrayer discussed Nabokov's treatment of the issues of intermarriage, the afterlife, and the trauma of post-Holocaust life.

"*The Gift*, Nabokov's last Russian novel, is about a Russian writer who is inspired by a Jewish woman," explained Shrayer after the presentation. "She is his muse."

According to Shrayer, the work acts as a bridge between Nabokov background and his work.

"His lifelong affiliation with a Jew had an impact on his themes and understanding of Jewish questions," Shrayer said.

Shrayer also pointed to Nabokov's consistent and stern opposition to anti-Semitism.

"He was one of the first writers to write so passionately and profusely about the Holocaust," Shrayer said.

As the crowd began to dwindle, members of the organizing committee chatted.

"We need to show our mutual cultures," said Kopylova. "We can learn much more about each other through art, music and literature."

polite conversation in both Russian and English mingles with the heady scent of Russian tea.

Visitors at Temple Emanu-El in Providence examine items from the synagogue's museum and nibble at Russian biscuits.

"In Moscow, we used to go to a beautiful gallery in the Pushkin Museum for winter cultural evenings with music and literature. Our people are very tied to the arts, and these evenings are something we are trying to continue here."

"I am very glad that this has occurred," said new American Zhanna Volynskaya at the last of three evening programs designed to present elements of Russian culture to Americans, new and otherwise.

"In Moscow, we used to go to a beautiful gallery in the Pushkin Museum for winter cultural evenings with music and literature. Our people are very tied to the arts, and these evenings are something we are trying to continue here."

According to Bela Kopylova, the chairwoman of the New Americans' Committee of Temple Emanu-El, the three evenings in December, January and February did a great deal to make those Moscow nights feel closer.

As Rhode Island residents, Kopylova and her committee of 11 felt there was a need to organize and present such programs.

"American society has done a lot for us, and we wanted to have the opportunity to give back," said Kopylova. "We created the evenings so we could all meet on the basis of culture. Most of us feel like outsiders here, but many of us are very well-educated. We sometimes feel like we are on the bottom, so we asked Rabbi Franklin if we

Switzerland's Wartime Role No Surprise to Some Local Survivors

by Emily Torgan
Jewish Community Reporter

New information about Switzerland's wartime past is presently shocking the world.

But Marty Weissman, a Cranston resident who lived through such horrors, was considerably less surprised by the news.

"The Nazis took everything, and we knew they had to be hiding our property somewhere," remembered Weissman.

Rather than causing him shock, the first few media reports instead provoked Weissman's memories.

He remembered what had happened when Nazi soldiers stormed Trnograd, Poland, his childhood home.

"One of the first things they did was to come into our house," Weissman said. "They grabbed my mother's gold chains. We also had a warehouse, and they took everything that was valuable. We knew it all had to be somewhere — in Germany, in Switzerland, or somewhere else."

Other members of the local survivor population were not completely surprised to learn the news.

Morris Gastfreund, a Providence resident and former president of the Rhode Island Holocaust Survivors Association, said the fact that many nations had assisted the Nazis had long been well established.

"The Holocaust involved worldwide conspiracy," said Gastfreund, who was confined to the Radomsk ghetto and Buchenwald during the war years. "Everyone was indifferent. Switzerland, Sweden and France hoarded Jewish property. Even the International Red Cross, which was headquartered in Switzerland, knew what was going on and ignored it."

But Leah Eliash, a Providence resident who served as a forced laborer in Lithuania's Kovno ghetto, said she has been greatly saddened by the new developments.

"This was very painful for me," Eliash said. "I never thought Switzerland would do such a thing."

But now that Switzerland is

under tremendous international pressure to make restitutions for its role in holding Jewish assets during and after the Holocaust, local survivors have ideas about how these monies should be spent.

"Some of the survivors could use some of that money," said Weissman of the \$71 million dollars earmarked for Holocaust victims by three Swiss banks. "Remember, many of

Eliash contends that the funds should go towards Holocaust education.

"It should not go to me," Eliash said. "I did not have any money there, and I do not know them. If they can contribute to Holocaust museums, that would be very nice. I think they should contribute to any agency that is keeping the memory of the Holocaust alive, and to organizations like the Anti-Defamation League that fight against such hatred."

The 50-year gap between Switzerland's war crimes and its acknowledgement of them causes Weissman great pain.

"The Swiss government did not come out about this after the war, and they should have," Weissman said. "Now the world has to squeeze it out of them. Some will never admit it."

Although Gastfreund said Switzerland's actions cost millions of Jewish lives, he is glad the nation must now examine itself.

"The Nazis did not liquidate Hungary's Jews until 1944," Gastfreund explained. "If the Swiss had not helped them, they would not have had the economic power to survive that long. But it's better that they are coming to terms with what they did later than never."

Eliash also said she was glad the facts had finally surfaced.

"It is never too late to acknowledge that they sinned," Eliash said. "They should know and understand."



Morris Gastfreund
Herald photo by Emily Torgan

them are not in the best of health. It should go to Jewish old-age homes in Israel, and to help the rest of the Jewish community."

According to Gastfreund, the monies should be returned to their rightful heirs if possible.

"If the heirs have survived, it belongs to them," Gastfreund said. "If not, it should go to Jewish institutions of learning and towards preserving Jewish heritage."

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EDITORIAL

Albright Struggles With Her History

by Lisa Hostein

NEW YORK (JTA) — What did she know and when did she know it? These are the questions that keep tugging at me even as I sympathize with the inner turmoil Madeleine Albright must be experiencing.

When the revelations about the new secretary of state's Jewish heritage began to surface, I, for one, was convinced — as she and her friends insisted — that she had no prior knowledge until a few weeks ago, when a *Washington Post* reporter confronted her with the facts.

Of course, it seemed a bit strange that she would have no idea that three of her grandparents were Jewish and that they and other family members had perished in the Holocaust.

But history shows that it was not unusual for people of her generation not to probe too deeply into the past. Even if she had questions, it seems apparent that her parents, anxious to look ahead and not back, had manufactured answers to quell any further curiosity.

For most of the world, it doesn't really matter when or what she knew. The story is a curious one, but not particularly meaningful. In this day and age, few, aside from your typical anti-Semites and radical Arabs, would question whether a Jew, let alone an Episcopalian with Jewish roots, is qualified to be America's top diplomat.

For Jews, however, it's a different story, one that deeply touches two of the most painful chapters of our history: the Ho-

locust and assimilation.

The legacy of the Holocaust continues to haunt us in many ways. Restitution, compensation, newly uncovered documents about the Swiss and others' role in the war — these are the final pages of a history in which 6 million Jews were annihilated in the gas chambers and slave labor camps of Europe.

Those lost Jews are the easy ones to remember.

Perhaps more difficult to understand — and mourn for — are the thousands of Jews, like Albright's family, who converted to Christianity. Whether out of fear for their safety or a desire to assimilate in a Europe less than friendly to Jews, Albright's parents were not alone in choosing to reject their Judaism.

We now know that Albright's parents fled Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia in 1939 not out of some noble political principle, but because they probably would have perished along with the rest of their families had they stayed. They had a premonition then which history proved true: They could call themselves Catholic or whatever they liked, but in Hitler's eyes, they were still Jews.

In England and later in America, however, they could shed that heritage, erase the past as easily as wiping a history lesson off the chalkboard — and start anew.

It seems incredibly sad that her parents not only rejected their Judaism, but fabricated sto-

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Who Owns Judaism?

by Leonard Fein

The Orthodox rabbinate in Israel insists that it is Judaism's sole legitimate manager, but even in its arrogance it will not claim ownership. No, it is the Jews around the world who own our faith, both for better and for worse.

I am, therefore, a stockholder, and I demand my rights. I did not vote for these self-appointed managers, and I do not accept their authority.

For reasons political, Israel's Orthodox rabbinate has been given immense power to define Judaism within the Jewish state. It uses that power to disenfranchise all other forms of Judaism. I do not believe we can be indifferent to that abuse.

It is customary to refer to the problem of religion and its rela-

tionship to state power in Israel under the heading of "religious pluralism," as if the issue at stake was merely the well-being of Reform and Conservative Judaism in the Jewish state. That is by no means a trivial matter, but it is only a small part of the much larger problem. We are talking about nothing less than religious freedom.

Admittedly, the Orthodox rabbinate has a problem. In its view, freedom of religious association and the right of any aggregation of individuals to practice whatever religion they prefer must give way to Jewish law. The rabbinate has its standards and is fully entitled to seek their observance and to condemn those who do not observe them. The question, therefore, is not about the rabbinate; it is about

the state. Shall the state decide that the standards promulgated by one group of rabbis are superior to those promulgated by another? That would be very messy, indeed. And that is the point. We are living inside exactly that mess.

Only a handful of people favor cleaning up the mess by a radical separation of rabbinate and state. The American system is not, even at the theoretical level and surely not at the practical level, a desirable or a plausible option. Given Israel's Law of Return, under which virtually any Jew who comes to Israel is granted automatic citizenship, there must be some definition of just what is meant by "Jew," and it is the state that must provide it. And the fact

(Continued on Page 15)

The Wonder of It All

What if water were as necessary as it is — but far less plentiful?

What if gravity were stronger, making every task a greater strain on our physical abilities?

What if our brains were limited to the invention of simple tools, and all we could do is construct rudimentary shelters and spend most of the day hunting for food?

It is true that we are chastened by the existence of millions who are less fortunate than ourselves. It is by this contrast alone that we should appreciate the bounty we have and be moved to relieve the suffering of others.

But the greater truth is that we live in the midst of a million miracles that we take for granted every day. Why did the world have to be the way it is? It didn't. The more we know of other planets (and the more specula-

tion there is about the possibility of forms of life elsewhere), the more we are moved to wonder what barren cosmic body we could have been born upon.

G-d meant for things to be the way they are for us. All around, every day, scientists, sociologists, and, yes, even politicians are searching for ways to manipulate our existence to bring greater good to more people. And the treasures we have around us, the physical laws we are subject to, make that progress possible.

In this week's portion, Terumah, we begin to read the instructions for the building of the sanctuary. There is a glittering enumeration of materials: "gold, and silver, and brass; and blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen, and goats' hair; and rams' skins dyed red, and sealskins, and acacia-wood," and on and on.

There are many symbols in the tale of this construction, and many lessons. One of the most obvious is that this bounty was available to us to use. We had, and have, myriad riches at our disposal to create the context of our lives. In this case, the task was to erect a home for G-d's Law, a place to worship and a place to touch the divine. But that was only a microcosmic example of the eternal task of building a home for Him here on earth with the cornucopia He has given us.

The miracles we have made it even more imperative that we work to relieve the pain of others. If there is enough here to make our own existence tolerable, or comfortable, or plush, then there is enough to share. Build your own life with that in mind.

Submitted by Chabad of West Bay CHAI Center, Warwick.

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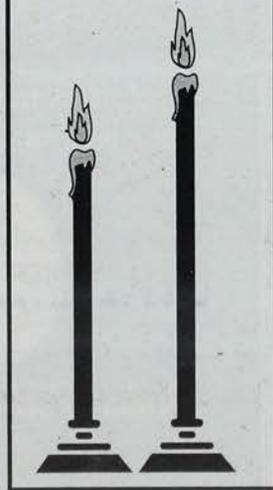
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Candlelighting

February 21, 1997

5:08 p.m.



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

The Jew's True Desire

In this week's Torah portion, Tetzaveh, the Torah speaks of the sanctuary's golden altar. Last week's portion dealt with the altar of copper.

The Mishna explains that the altars cannot become ritually impure. According to one opinion, this is because the altars are like earth, which can never acquire ritual impurity. A second

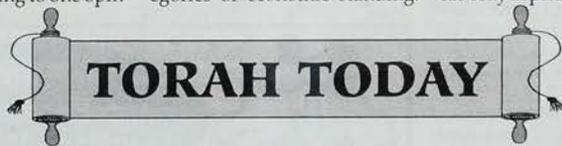
opinion holds that the altars cannot be defiled as they are only a covering for the earth they contain; the altars are of secondary importance to their essence, which is always pure.

In the allegorical sense, every Jew is a "sanctuary" in which the divine presence dwells. And just as the physical sanctuary was made up of various components and vessels, so, too, is the spiritual sanctuary comprised of the Jew's "vessels": intellect, emotions and feelings, etc.

A Jew will sometimes have inappropriate thoughts, i.e., thoughts which are contrary to the will of G-d, in conflict with the Torah and its commandments. When that occurs, the

"vessels" of the Jew's sanctuary are defiled, and he must look for a way to purify them. The impure thought must be removed and "cleansed," and the "vessel" restored to its former status.

People fall into two main categories of economic standing:



rich and poor. Rich people are likened to the sanctuary's golden altar; poor people, to the copper altar. However, both rich and poor possess the same essential point, the Jewish spark that is always whole and wants to carry out G-d's will.

In the spiritual sanctuary, the Jewish spark is equivalent to the altar. It is the truest and most essential part of the Jew's makeup, the part that can never become impure.

Thus, both "golden altars" and "copper altars," Jews who are rich and poor in the spiritual sense, are equal when they remember that they are "altars" — when their Jewish spark is aroused and their desire to ful-

fill G-d's will is revealed.

The altar, the inner essence of the Jew, is always pure, like the earth that is trodden upon by all. When a Jew's entire being is nullified before G-d and his only aspiration is to do what

G-d requires of him, he can never become impure.

According to the second opinion of the Mishna, the altars do not acquire impurity because they are only a covering, of gold or of copper. A wealthy Jew may be so involved with his business that he fails to fulfill G-d's will.

A poor Jew, because of his poverty, may also sometimes transgress. Yet in all Jews the essential spark is always pure. For wealth or poverty is only a covering superimposed over the Jew's essential nature. While the outer covering may become sullied, the inner essence remains untouched; for the Jew's true desire is to fulfill the will of G-d.

Adapted for Maayan Chai from Likutei Sichot, Vol. 3. Submitted by Rabbi Yehoshua Laufer of Chabad House.

Jeeping to Jim and Joel

by Mike Fink

Herald Contributing Reporter

I started Black History Month with "Driving Miss Daisy" as my sixth annual choice for the film to draw from the collection of the State Cinema of Stamford, Conn. I drive to the elegantly restored theater on Hope Street. I introduce the movie to a small group of aficionados of screen history. Then the proprietor, my Yale classmate and former roommate, Joel Freedman, puts me up overnight and I come back with a mix of personal, national, and cultural nostalgia teeming among my thoughts.

This time, our other roommate, Jim Greene, flew in from Chicago to join us and the discussion about the issues articulated in the Alfred Uhry story. Uhry, a Brown alumnus, wrote the original "Daisy" script for a freshman class. This portrait sketch of a great aunt made its way to a small local campus stage, thence to off-Broadway, Broadway itself, and on to the honors of Hollywood. My good friend and fellow Yale alumnus, Jim, is black, but he doesn't look it. Nobody ever thought he was a Negro, and neither did my wife on this first rendezvous in Connecticut. Jim's wife was white, and his career in the Air Force was an escape as well as a commitment. She died, of cancer, a decade ago, leaving him her own daughters, and their handicapped child together, to raise alone; Jim, who sought freedom above all things.

Now, if you recall the Oscar-winning tale, Miss Daisy is an aging southern Jewish widow with one son. He hires a chauffeur to keep tabs on her inevitable decline. But they age together, locked and bound in the tragedy of black-Jewish southern chronology.

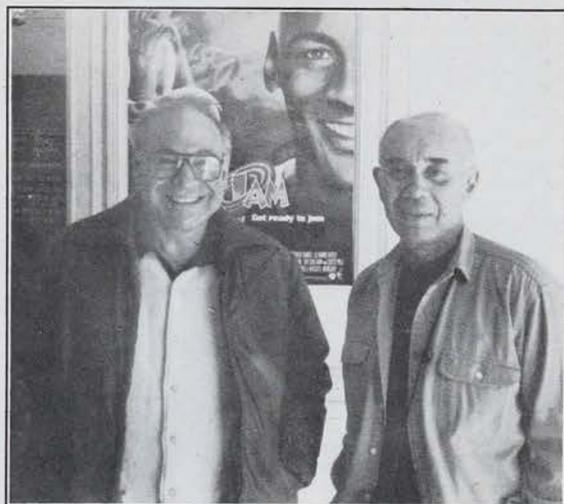
The director was Australian, the actress who plays the Georgia-Yiddish matron was British (Jessica Tandy, of course) and the colored servant was the by now familiar Morgan Freeman, whose dignity redeems the conventional image of a domestic servant.

I write about the reunion of us three, a trio of Eli outsiders who banded together and still find affection and respect at a festive table. Jim has Jewish grandchildren, and put on a yarmulke for the Canadian bar mitzvah of his converted

stepdaughter's son. He has been pulled into Jewish destiny.

"I had a relative who would

It's all about loneliness and the search to hold up under terrible, tragic pressure. You can't win,



Joel Freedman and Jim Greene

Herald photo by Mike Fink

not work as a maid for Jews," he says sheepishly. "I often wonder at the prejudice of blacks against Jews, I think it has roots in the South."

Our host, Joel, restored and maintains the State Cinema, with its gilded and sculpted detailing, its mural ceiling, its immaculate corridors. "I recall Tap Day in the '50s, when there was no chance a high school graduate, a minority kid, would be invited to join the upper ranks of the campus aristocracy," he says. But he sent his three children to Yale nonetheless, and his hospitality to his former classmates makes him a kind of Yale University within one person. Jews and Blacks were drawn into a circle of intimacy against the established order of things.

We were all passing, in that era. If you were Jewish, you tried to mimic Protestant styles. If you were black, you copied the Jews. We three connected, once and forever. As I select one movie per year from the vaults of celluloid, the cans of dreams, in Joel's basement chamber, I weave a web of memory and hope.

It's a February, late winter's ritual. I get a lot more out of it than I give to it. If you have seen "Driving Miss Daisy," it really is a brilliant piece of business.

because your health gives out in the end, anyway. But it's a delicate essay, balanced and subtle, and reviewers label it "light," when it's anything but.

Come and sit down with me over coffee, and I'll fill you in on the whole, elaborate story about Joel, my successful, easygoing, generous and goodhearted Connecticut Jewish Yankee. I'll tell you about Jim's fate, if you don't already know it. He may resettle here in the east, and run his weather reporting telephone service in New England, where he comes from. He has flown missions over Vietnam, taken charge of a daughter with Down's syndrome, maintained his kindly but sharply ironic demeanor, and dealt with the dilemmas of Jewish-African-American connections with laughter and thoughtful perception.

Your college degree is not an investment to be cashed in. It is a strange document that grows with the decades like a tree that bears fruit in due season.

We took a walk in the woods and bogs around the suburban household Joel and Naomi Freedman have kept for nearly 40 years, on a mild midwinter morning. Time rolled back, and the air I breathed was steeped in the smells of eternal springtime.



Paris Visits Providence

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing
Report

He made a darkly dramatic study of a sort of country mouse and city mouse in Paris—"The Cousins"—that served as a prelude to the New Wave in filmdom. With a quiet touch of elegant malice he turned Shakespeare upside down with a version of "Hamlet" that stressed Polonius, called "Ophelia."

But the American influence has caught up with French director Claude Chabrol. His most recent suspense yarn, "La Ceremonie," chooses lurid color and bloody action scenes to replace the moody shadows of yesteryear.

The opening clips recall the subtle, quiet beauty of French moviemaking. You order a tea at a cafe table. You open and close a door. You walk down a street, or look beyond the win-

The murderous maids, Isabel Huppert and Sandrine Bonnaire, define their styles with wit and with restraint. But the finale has a pointless cruelty that makes one think of Bernard Kaplan's current comment on French culture—that it has come up with nothing new for decades.

On the other hand, "Microcosmos" gives the lie to that diatribe. It is an altogether lovely mood piece on the life of insects. The camera moves from sky to tree, down to grass, and thence to the simplest creatures who dwell upon a patch of earth for a daytime of life. You don't fear these tiny items, as you might in "Hellstrom Chronicle." You don't have to study their lore. You are free just to watch in wonder at the sheer beauty of their existence.

A dungbeetle pushes its precious ball of you know what, which hides its eggs, and its courage and determination give it dignity. Ladybugs making love draw gasps from the matinee crowd. A monstrous spider wrapping a lively grasshopper in its shroud strikes you dumb. This extraordinary, Grecian and Gallic glimpse into the realms of tragedy and comedy at your feet, brought me to a Paris cinema in my imagination. Between the two shows I felt I had journeyed to France without benefit of jet.

Perhaps this pair of films has come and gone by the time you read these words. Maybe they'll show up again in town or suburb. If you have already seen them, a review serves not to urge you to stay away or go, but to chat about the delights and dismays that follow your escape on velvet seats from the streets of February.



dow. Somehow, the grace and beauty of a story are told contemplatively.

But the scenes of explosion and devastation that close the tale revolt and repel this viewer, and disappoint the promise. Jean-Pierre Cassel depicts the bourgeois husband, and Jacqueline Bisset the wife, with cool poise.

'My Mezuzah'

by Cindy Halpern

My life during these 36 years has not always been what dreams are made of. Starting out in life, I was not like other children. I didn't utter my first word until I was 4. Was it that I had nothing to say or was it that I didn't like what I saw?

Later on, I stopped eating for a time when I saw my brothers' decline from a terrible disease the scientists call Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. I called upon G-d to ask him, "Why?" It seemed to me that in His silence, He pleaded guilty for causing such a tragedy. I felt that I had been abandoned by Him so I stopped looking for Him. Or so I thought.

The years went by and with them, I lost nearly everyone in my family: brothers, father, uncle, aunt, sister. But what I gained was a daughter, and the memories of my family sustained me through darker days.

I began to ask, "What would Daddy advise me to do in such a situation?" "Wouldn't Stueie have understood why I did as I did?" "Uncle Abe, wouldn't you have been proud of me?"

Then something strange happened as I walked alone one day in the middle of winter, after my sister died. I heard a voice in my head say, "But you were never alone. I am here with you, as always."

There was no burning bush, I didn't see a sudden light descend upon me from heaven, and the many people I had lost remained buried. I still had my problems to face and I didn't win the lottery.

Yet, something had changed. Today, dear friends of my family helped me place the mezuzah upon the entrance to my daughter's room in the house we bought back in September. Why, you might ask, (Continued on Page 15)

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FEATURE

Israeli Kabbalist Blames Errors in Ketubot for Family Distress

by Rona S. Hirsch
Baltimore Jewish Times

BALTIMORE (JTA)—Childless after 14 years of marriage, a middle-age Chasidic couple from New York City was urged by friends to bring their ketubah, or marriage contract, to Rabbi Simcha Avrohom Halevi Ashlag.

Ashlag is a kabbalist, or Jewish mystic, who checks ketubot for errors.

"I thought it was bubbeh masos (an old wives' tale)," said the husband, a 48-year-old school bus driver who lives in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn, and asked to be anonymous.

But his friends, who also had been childless, had twins one year after Ashlag examined their ketubah.

So three years ago, the couple reluctantly saw Ashlag, who found a major mistake that invalidated the contract, said the husband. Ashlag wrote a new ketubah and gave the woman a second Hebrew name. Since then, the couple has had two daughters.

"It's unbelievable," the husband said. "Simply unbelievable." Ashlag maintains that errors in a ketubah can bring a host of problems down on a household, from childlessness and illness to marital strife and financial difficulties.

"In the holy books it says that every mistake in the ketubah

can bring problems," said Ashlag, 49, who is Chasidic and directs the Moharil Ashlag Torah Center in Israel, which comprises several yeshivot in Jerusalem, Bnei Brak and Ashdod.

"If a family lives in the way of Torah and does good deeds, but we see problems and tragedies, it's a good idea to check the ketubah," he said.

Ashlag said he had reviewed thousands of ketubot from around the world during the past 12 years. The couples suffered from such problems as infertility, death of children and financial loss.

If he finds errors, Ashlag writes a new ketubah on the spot with the hope that further problems will be averted. Ashlag, who keeps the old contract, said he has amassed almost 10,000 error-ridden ketubot. The ketubah, he said, is the foundation of a Jewish home where each level is represented by another generation. A prudent homeowner who discovers cracks in the wall will first check the foundation before plastering the cracks, he said.

"So if there are problems in a family with the children, grandchildren or couple, it's best they check the foundation, which is the ketubah," said Ashlag, whose grandfather, Rabbi Yehuda Halevi Ashlag, wrote "Perush HaSulom," a 24-volume commentary on the Zohar,

Kabbalah's most important work.

A ketubah — which details the groom's obligations to the bride — is a holy contract, said Ashlag. But it is also a legal document. Therefore, he said, most mistakes generally cannot be corrected.

In most cases, halachah, or Jewish law, requires a new ketubah be written, he said, because the "ketubah is connected to the person's inner soul."

Errors have particularly abounded during this century, he said, since printed copies of the ketubah's standard text were permitted to replace the time-consuming task of handwriting the document by scribes who specialized in ketubot.

Spaces are left for the couple's Hebrew names, fathers' names, witnesses' signatures, and wedding date and location, which are filled out at the wedding by the officiating rabbi.

Errors that could invalidate a ketubah include misspelled names, incorrect dates, too much space between a name and the text, crossed-out or erased words, textual errors and rewriting over a letter, Ashlag said.

Ashlag also advises against adding attributes after a name, or writing the Hebrew initials z"l after the name of a deceased father. Those initials, which stand for "of blessed memory," can bring "tragedies" on the couple's child named for that

grandparent, he said.

As a kabbalist, Ashlag said he might also add a second Hebrew name to the husband or wife, if the couple's names are not the "right combination."

Ashlag, who visits the United States annually, consulted 18 months ago with Ahuva and Avraham Albrecht, the cantor at Baltimore's Orthodox Beth Tfiloh Congregation, while they were living in New York. A week later, Ahuva Albrecht arranged consultations for 60 people in her Roslyn, N.Y., community, primarily to help a married friend who had been childless for 10 years.

Her friend, a 37-year-old Queens preschool teacher, met with Ashlag, whom she said pointed out one major error and several small ones in her ketubah.

Ashlag wrote a new ketubah and six months later, the teacher was pregnant. "I have no doubt that what he did had a direct connection," said the woman, who had a baby boy two months ago.

Some rabbis, however, are not convinced that a family's misfortunes stem from errors in the ketubah.

"It could be other things. We never know," said Rabbi Ben Zion Wosner, who heads the rabbinical court in Monsey, N.Y. But he noted that "unfortunately, too many people who write the ketubah don't know

the halachot."

Rabbi Tzvi Hersh Weinreb, of Baltimore's Orthodox Shomrei Emunah Congregation, said he discourages people "from relying upon mystics of various sorts who claim that by reading someone's ketubah or someone's palm, or whatever, they can diagnose what's wrong with them and prescribe what they should do."

Rabbi Rex Perimeter, of the Reform Baltimore Hebrew Congregation, also takes issue with those who seek quick remedies with a ketubah in hand.

"Theologically, I am not a believer that G-d, as we understand G-d, is likely to punish people for those kinds of human errors committed by mistake," he said. "However, I do understand the power of such beliefs, but I'm concerned that it suggests magic as a pursuit instead of looking for solutions."

But for those who have consulted with Ashlag, the kabbalist is an unmatched authority.

"People from all walks of life come to see him," said Rabbi Eliahu Shloush, former spiritual leader of the Orthodox Netzach Yisroel Synagogue in Park Heights, Md.

"Maybe, for the one who does come, the change in that ketubah is going to help. Rabbi Ashlag may be the key that opens the door and releases them from their problems."

Israeli, Jordanian and North American Students Speak for Environment and Peace

Three students from Israel's Arava Institute for Environmental Studies have been touring the eastern coast of the United States and Canada, offering hope for a new era of cooperation in the Middle East.

The students, who have been speaking to receptive academic departments and Hillels on college campuses, include Daniela Kiguel, a Canadian majoring in global development, peace and justice, at York University in Toronto; Akram Tubaishat, a Jordanian who holds a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from the Jordan University of Science and Technology in Irbid, and Tamir Yaari, an Israeli who holds a bachelor of

science degree in agriculture and the environment from Hebrew University, Jerusalem.

The Arava Institute for Environmental Studies is located in the Negev Desert on Kibbutz Ketura, near the Jordanian and Egyptian borders. It offers a one-year program on regional environmental issues to Israeli, Palestinian, Jordanian and Egyptian students, and to their counterparts in North America and Europe.

JNF on Campus, the Arava Institute, the Tel Aviv University Overseas Program and the Hamagshimim Zionist Youth Movement are sponsoring the students' tour. JNF On Campus, the college arm of the Jew-



AT JNF HOUSE IN NEW YORK, Akram Tubaishat, a Jordanian (left), shakes hands with his Israeli counterpart, Tamir Yaari, as Daniela Kiguel, a Canadian, looks on. The three students have been speaking in the United States and Canada on the environment and peace in the Middle East.

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ish National Fund, develops an understanding among college students of the Jewish connection to the natural world. It strengthens their bond with Israel, and helps improve the ecology of the planet.

The students believe that collaboration in the environmental sphere can foster deeper ties between nations and provide solutions to regional problems. "The environment can be a unifying tool," stated Akram, "since

we share the same challenges." One of the first Jordanians to study in Israel, Akram referred to himself as a "fan of the peace process" and said that Middle Eastern nations "should not waste the potential of their joint efforts by going to war."

The students agreed that the supply and purity of water are the area's most critical environmental issues. "We share the same watershed, and water knows no boundaries," Akram

explained. "When one country pollutes, it affects all the others. The solution is regional cooperation."

Expanding upon the theme, Yaari said, "The same principle that applies to water applies to other regional issues, including the loss of habitats, the spread of deserts, air pollution and non-sustainable development. We share the same climate, temperature and animal species."

(Continued on Page 15)

JEWISH COMMUNITY

On The Brighter Side

by Alison Smith
Herald Editor

Jewish Cooking Secrets, edited and compiled by Lorraine Gerstl, has one of the longest subtitles I've ever seen. "From Here and Far, Traditions and Memories from Our Mother's Kitchens."

Inside, you will find a detailed map of Jewish Eastern

2 Tbsps. melted margarine
6 eggs (or equivalent egg substitute)

1 15-oz. can unsweetened applesauce

1/2 cup granulated sugar

1/4 cup milk

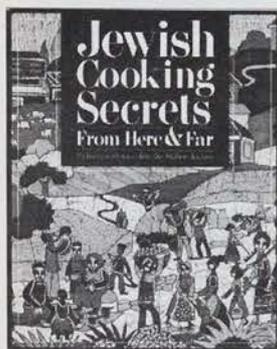
white raisins or cut-up dried fruit bits

cinnamon and sugar to taste.

Soak the matzos in warm water. Squeeze out the liquid. Toss with melted margarine. Beat eggs, add applesauce, sugar, milk and raisins. Mix together all ingredients. Spray a 2-quart pan with non-stick vegetable spray. Bake at 375 for one hour.

Chicken Bernardino (an early California Jewish recipe from Gold Rush days)

1 chicken, cut up
3 Tbsps. salad oil



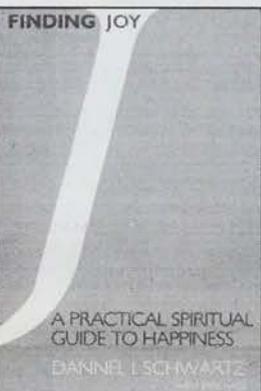
Europe from 1830 to 1914, but Jewish Eastern Europe was just the launching pad for many of these recipes.

There aren't a lot of real secrets in the recipes, but there are accompanying definitions of terms like Sephardic cooking. What are latkes? What is cholent? Passover, the holiday and the dishes, etc.

The thing I like most about this book is its direct, no funny business approach. Martha Stewart would not approve. In most cases, the cooking instructions take up less space than the list of ingredients, and the ingredients are pretty down to earth, too. This is fine with me. I don't, apparently, have Martha Stewart's time or energy. I can relate more closely to the ladies who wrote these recipes.

Matzo Kugel

6 matzos



1 8-oz. can tomato sauce
1/2 cup sherry
1/3 cup orange marmalade
1/4 cup chopped onions
1 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce.

Sauté chicken in oil. Mix remaining ingredients and pour on chicken. Bake in 325 oven for 45 minutes. Serves 4.

Almost every page has a good



It Takes Teamwork

On Feb. 12, the University of Rhode Island Hillel made a huge matzah ball. Upon its completion, the ball was broken up into "normal" size matzah balls and matzah ball soup was made and sold for 50¢ a cup. All proceeds were donated to the Welcome House, a homeless shelter in Peace Dale. Pictured from left: Guy Bermel, Hillel director; Amy Lefkowitz, Hillel president; and Ailene Gerhardt, Hillel's Jewish Campus Service Corps fellow.

Herald photo by Neil Nachbar

deal of white space near the bottom, and children or grandchildren would find it pleasant and agreeable to color the page while the cooking is going on. Then you would have dozens of little souvenirs of days in the kitchen, and good meals, too.

"Secrets" costs \$14.95, and was published by Samuel Wachtman's Sons.

"Finding Joy," (a practical spiritual guide to happiness) by Dannel I. Schwartz, with Mark Hass, could be said to be a book of recipes, also.

Schwartz is as practical and down to earth about learning to

enjoy and appreciate life as the ladies in the kitchens above.

He skillfully mixes anecdotes with traditional Jewish wisdom and psychologically sound advice. He concludes each chapter with day by day suggestions on implementing what you've just read and hopefully learned.

That makes this book stand head and shoulders above many in the self-help field. No one should have trouble finding the time or opportunity to follow these explicit suggestions, but they are pointed, and come in logical sequence, and serve to imprint Schwartz's advice on the reader's mind. Nothing ce-

ments new wisdom to the soul like following it, and finding out that it works.

This is a Jewish book, certainly, but it comes recommended by Catholic and Protestant authorities, and anyone who believes in one G-d will probably find in it words that change their life.

It was published by Jewish Lights Publishing, and costs \$19.95. Check it out, next time you're in a bookstore, and see for yourself.

Prospective Adoptive Parents Invited to Meetings

Adoption Options, the adoption program of Jewish Family Service, is now offering informational meetings about adoption for anyone interested in exploring the choices.

The meetings will be held the first Monday of each month from 6 to 8 p.m. at the offices of Jewish Family Service. The next meeting will be held on

March 3.

The agency is located on the second floor of the United Way building at 229 Waterman St. in Providence.

The meetings are free and open to anyone interested in pursuing an adoption. Call Adoption Options at 331-5437 for information, or to arrange a confidential consultation.

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Finishing Touches

Ailene Gerhardt pats down a giant matzah ball made by the University of Rhode Island Hillel on Feb. 12. The matzah ball measured 3 feet in diameter and was made from 42 pounds of matzah meal. Gerhardt is URI Hillel's Jewish Campus Service Corps fellow.

Herald photo by Neil Nachbar

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SCHOOLBEAT

Great Students Study Great Artists

Visitors were greeted at the door and entered a room hung with examples of the world's great masterpieces. Paintings, sculptures, etchings and prints — by such masters as Van Gogh, Donatello, Da Vinci, Degas, Picasso, Monet and Chagall — were everywhere, rubbing elbows with each other.

Docents accompanied the visitors at each exhibit, giving some background information, biographies, and comments on the artists' subject, style and influence. At some exhibits, audio cassette tapes guided the visitor through, pointing out highlights and providing commentary.

What art museum was this? The grade five A classroom at the Ruth and Max Alperin Schechter Day School! Under the direction of their teacher, Ms. Carol Kapstein, each student chose an artist to work on, did extensive research on the artist's life and work, and wrote a complete report (with two drafts).

In addition, each student produced a written analysis of at least two works of art, designed an exhibition space, and created an original piece of art in the style of the artist studied.

All who visited the grade five A Exhibit of Visual Artists — students, teachers, administrators, parents and friends — were impressed by the creativity, responsibility and diligence of the students, their obvious interest and pleasure, and the depth of the knowledge which they had acquired.



EVAN FAIN with his display on Donatello, complete with original sculpture made by Evan himself.

Photo courtesy of ASDS

Future Faces: Teen Recognition Program

Jewish Outreach and Leadership Training, a Bureau of Jewish Education program which aims to enhance Jewish informal education in the state for teen-agers, now offers Future Faces, a component of JOLT, which recognizes Jewish high school students in grades 11 and 12 who demonstrate qualities of leadership, exemplify the Jewish values of helping humanity or the community and/or demonstrate remarkable talent in the arts and sciences.

Potential nominees are 11th- and 12th-grade Rhode Island Jewish teens who:

- are active in leadership in their Jewish youth group,
- volunteer in a Jewish organization or synagogue,
- work in a communal agency like a food bank or shelter,
- are involved in protection of nature and ecology,
- provide elderly care,

- volunteer in a literacy program,
- organize a community program which contributes to society, and
- demonstrate specific talents in the arts and/or sciences.

Nominations may be made on behalf of a teen-ager or by the teen-ager him/herself. Applications are due by March 10. The BJE will sponsor the Future Faces Recognition Award Ceremony at Brown/RISD Hillel on April 6.

If you feel that you are a candidate for this award or you know of an extraordinary Jewish teen in your community, call Robin Damsky, secondary education coordinator, at 331-0956 for an application and nomination form.

Funds for JOLT projects are provided through a continuity grant from the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island.

'The Phantom' Returns to ACT

Due to continuous sell-outs and the demand for more, the AllChildren's Theatre Ensemble (children performing for children) will once again present last fall's smash hit "The Phantom of the Soap Opera."

This murder mystery dinner theater production will be presented on Feb. 28 and March 1 at 6 p.m. at the Fox Point Elementary School. Tickets are \$10 for children and \$15 for adults and include a four-course dinner.

Mingle with the stars of the 1996 Soap Opera Awards! Who will win the big award this year? Will it be the handsome doctor from "Mental Hospital"? Or the lovely young starlet from "The Dumb and The Restless"? Or

perhaps the evil diva from the classic "As The World Burns"?

But wait — there's more to this award show than meets the eye. Could it be: murder? And who's the mysterious phantom lurking behind the scenes?

The meal will include fruit cup, salad, pizza, dessert plus soft drinks and coffee. Theatergoers will have the opportunity to interact with the characters as they gather clues to solve the mystery.

If you think you've seen this play already — think again. There's always more than one evil-doer in the back-stabbing world of show business.

For reservations and more information, call 331-7174.



Pictures At An Exhibition Photo courtesy of ASDS

Project Undercover Kicks Off on March 8

Girl Scouts of Rhode Island, Inc., and the Rhode Island Donation Exchange Program are launching "Project Undercover" on March 8 to collect new underwear, socks and diapers for children in need. Through March 21 decorated boxes will be available throughout the Rhode Island area.



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Summer Job Fair To Be Held at URI

The University of Rhode Island office of career services will hold its first Summer Job Fair on March 18 in URI's Memorial Union from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"This is a real chance to make connections," said Peggy Ferguson, a URI career adviser. "The fair will have a broad cross section of students and a broad cross section of employers."

All the jobs will be career related, according to Ferguson. She said that summer camps, for example, present a variety of opportunities for students. Physical education majors can

put their classroom knowledge into practice. Counselors can develop their negotiation and mediation skills. Camps that offer music create a wonderful chance for music education majors. Such an experience for any student builds communication and people skills that can be included on the résumé.

Employers who wish to meet URI students looking for summer jobs should register by contacting Ferguson by phone at 874-2583 or on the internet at pfergus@uriacc.uri.edu. The deadline to register is March 5.

Scholarship Deadline Coming Up

High school students who are U.S. citizens and have a grade point average of "B" or better are eligible for a \$1,000 college scholarship. To receive an application, send a request by March 15 to the Educational Communications Scholarship Foundation at 721 North McKinley Road, P.O. Box 5012, Lake Forest, IL 60045-5012; fax a request to (847) 295-3972; or e-mail a request to scholar@ecif.com.

All requests for applications must include the student's name, permanent home address, city, state, zip code, name of high school, approximate GPA, and year in school during the 1996-97 academic year.

Applications will be fulfilled by mail only, on or about April 11. One hundred seventy-five winners will be selected on the basis of academic performance, involvement in extracurricular activities, and some consideration for financial need. A total of \$175,000 will be awarded.

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PORTSMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL



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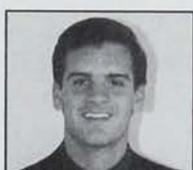
Sarah E. Jagolinzer
PORTSMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL



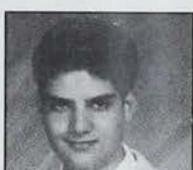
David B. Karelitz
SHARON HIGH SCHOOL
SHARON, MA



Tenessa Karmozyn
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John A. Kazianis
PROVIDENCE COUNTRY
DAY SCHOOL



Paul Kessimian
BISHOP HENDRICKEN
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"Helping to better the lives of others, regardless of race, creed and color, is the greatest of all achievements." — Alan Shawn Feinstein

THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Temple Israel Presents Translator of Biblical Texts

Everett Fox has spent the last 25 years putting the first five books of the Bible into his own words. His translation is entitled *The Five Books of Moses*, published last year by Schocken Books.

On March 8, Temple Israel in Sharon will host an afternoon of study and dialogue as this noted scholar discusses his groundbreaking translation and leads what is certain to be an engaging Shabbat Torah study.

Fox holds the Allen M. Glick Chair of Judaic and Biblical Studies and is director of the program in Jewish studies at Clark University in Worcester, where he teaches Judaica courses in a variety of areas including Hebrew Bible, classical Jewish literature and Jewish history.

His recent course offerings include "Suffering and Evil in Jewish Tradition" and "Jerusalem in History and Imagination."

The adult education-sponsored program will begin with a luncheon immediately following Shabbat morning services and continue with Torah study until approximately 2:30 p.m.

The cost for attending the program is \$8 per person. Checks made payable to Temple Israel should be sent to the attention of the adult education committee at the temple office no later than Feb. 24.

For further information, contact adult education committee co-chairs Marion Gribetz, (617) 784-3571 or Debra Lefkowitz, (617) 894-5293.

JCC in Dallas to Host Singles

The Jewish community Center of Dallas has announced the second annual Nationwide Jewish Singles Convention, May 8 to 11, Dallas, Texas.

The event will be held at the Grand Kempinski Hotel, featuring fine dining, and the dance club, Kempis's.

More than 600 singles attended in 1996. Two engagements resulted from the convention.

Activities will include: progressive dinner, luau pool party, Shabbat services, tours, tennis tournament, Sunday brunch, kosher meals, cocktail hours, socials, mixers, speakers including Jeff Zaslow and Scott Friedman; and a rustic evening at Circle R Ranch including barbecue, open bar, horseback riding, hayrides, and Havdallah service under the Texas sky.

Several price packages are

available, ranging from \$155 to \$555. The prices include all continental breakfasts, Sunday brunch and dinners. There are additional costs for the tours.

Discounted airfares have been arranged with American Airlines through High-Tech Travel. Call Jodi at (800) 562-3960 to take advantage of the discounted airfare.

For more information, or to register, call Susan Rosenberg or Nancy Geyer at (214) 739-2737. The deadline for registration with hotel accommodations is April 10.

Now We Know

Sandi Seltzer thought we should know that Hadassah is the largest Jewish membership organization in the United States.

Thanks, Sandi.

Jewish Teens Will Go to Washington

Applications for Panim El Panim (Hebrew for "face-to-face"), a workshop on social policy and the law-making process through a Jewish lens, are now available. Applicants should be in grades 10 through 12 and demonstrate leadership ability and/or a commitment to social action or community service.

The program will take place in Washington, D.C., on April 13 to 16. Students will travel down by bus from the Jewish

Community Center of Rhode Island and stay in a local hotel. The workshop will include time spent in study sessions and discussions on topics such as: world poverty, value conflicts in public policy and Jews and the political process. Sessions with AIPAC, meetings on Capitol Hill and a trip to the Holocaust Museum are also planned.

Jewish Outreach Leadership Training, the sponsor of this workshop, will fund all of the

students who attend. This four-day trip promises to be an engaging, educational and fun-filled opportunity. JOLT is funded by a continuity grant from the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island.

Applications are available through Rhode Island youth advisors or through Robin Damsky, secondary education coordinator at: joltbj@tiac.net, or at 331-0956, ext. 178. The application deadline is Feb. 28.

Dreams of Israel

What I want to do most is see where the people that I have learned about in the Bible were and how it looks now. The thing that I want to see are the kotel, Masada, and other great things that are in the Holy land. I am hoping that I will have fun and a great time on my trip. — Yael Silberberg

On this trip I would like to have nice weather but it will be very cold and hard to do all the things we expected to do. I would like to see the kotel again and some other holy places. I just went this past summer and I really miss Israel and can't wait to go back. The first time I went I had a little understanding about what Israel was really about and now that I've been I have a little understanding. The more you go the more you learn to love Israel and what

Israel is. Just thinking about all that has happened in Israel I feel a sense of amazement. — Aviva Shafner

When I go to Israel, there are many things I am looking forward to. I have many very close friends in Israel. I hope to see them all on our trip. I've learned so much about my heritage and by going to Israel, I can see all of the sights about our past. There are many gravesights of our ancestors there and it will be a special feeling to reconnect with our roots. I look forward to praying at the western wall, the closest point a person can be to G-d. We're going to be going on many trips in Israel in caves and hikes and I'm looking forward to it all. — Sam Halper

I'm looking forward to seeing all these things that we talk about in Hebrew class. We

learned about all the places that are in Israel, and I've always wanted to see all those places. They have inspired me quite a lot. I can't wait to see the kotel, Masada, and many, many, more places. Considering that I have never been before I'm not sure what to expect. I have seen many pictures of all these things, but I've never really experienced it. I'm really, really, excited. I am looking forward to so much. — Abby Winkleman

The best part will be the trip we go on and I really want to see the kotel and the archaeological dig. I want to visit other stuff. — Elyahu Hartman

I hope to have a fun time and I think the highlight of my trip will be going to the Kotel, and the burial places of different rabbis. — Yitzchak Albert Andelman

JWV Requests More Room

Michael D. Mitchell, Esq., judge advocate for the Jewish War Veterans of Rhode Island, recently requested from the State of Rhode Island, additional space in the Veterans Memorial Building for use as JWV's headquarters.

JWV currently shares a 10' by 15' room on the fourth floor of the Veterans Memorial Building, 83 Park St., Providence, with three other veterans organizations.

In a letter that Mitchell wrote to Dennis Lynch, director of the Central Services Division of the Department of Administration, he stated, "The space which is allocated to the Jewish War Veterans is little more than a mail drop; it is inadequate to serve as department headquarters. The Jewish War Veterans needs additional space for its opera-

tions, preferably space which affords privacy, security and access to conference room facilities."

A copy of the letter was sent to Gov. Lincoln Almond; Irving Levin, department commander of JWV; the *Rhode Island Jewish Herald* and the United Veterans Council.

Beth-El to Hold Healing Service

On March 16 at 4 p.m., Temple Beth-El will continue its series of special "Services of Healing for the Soul." This prayer service is designed for those struggling with loss, grief, illness, disability, or the need for spiritual sustenance.

For more information, call Rabbi Michael Cahana, 331-6070. All are welcome.

Brown Bag Club Hosts Chef

The Brown Bag Club of the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island is a friendly forum for adults free for lunch to discuss current events or topics of interest, to hear guest speakers or to venture on trips.

The club meets at noon on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month.

On Feb. 25, Pamela Grist, a Rhode Island School of Design graduate with 20 years experience as a chef, will speak on and demonstrate cooking in the '90s with whole foods.

Each person brings his or her own lunch. Beverage and dessert is provided. The fee for the Brown Bag Club is \$1 per person.

To reserve a place or for further information, call Sue Robbio at 861-8800, ext. 107.

Sinai Seniors to Meet, Feb. 28

The Temple Sinai Seniors will meet on Feb. 28 at noon in the temple to see a slide presentation entitled "Return to Judaism: The Feles Mura of Ethiopia."

Journey with Sid Goldstein to Addis Ababa to meet the Feles Mura community, descendants of Jews who had converted under pressure to Christianity, who are now returning to Judaism.

Bring a brown bag lunch. Dessert and coffee will be served. The event is open to guests.

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SCHOOLBEAT

Hadassah to Present 'Check It Out' at Moses Brown

The Rhode Island Hadassah will present its breast cancer education program, "Check It Out," to 100 Moses Brown students on Feb. 27. Girls in grades 11 and 12 will participate in the cancer prevention program, at 9:45 a.m. in the Sinclair Room. Rhode Island Hadassah nurse-educators will introduce the girls to the fundamentals of self-exams; cancer survivors will explain the importance of early detection and distribute teaching models and educational material.

According to Hadassah:

- One in nine American women will develop breast cancer, the most commonly diagnosed cancer in America.
- Every three minutes a woman is diagnosed with breast cancer.
- Every 12 minutes a woman dies of breast cancer.
- 1.8 million women in the

United States have been diagnosed with breast cancer; another 1 million are unaware that they have the disease.

Hadassah is the largest not-for-profit women's organization in the United States and is an acknowledged world leader in breast cancer research. Volunteers have already introduced the "Check It Out" program to 70,000 students nationwide. The non-profit group encourages women of all ages to take charge of their health with monthly self-exams and regular mammography screenings. Hadassah also serves as an advocate for increased federal, state and local funding to promote research into the cause, optimal treatment and cure for breast cancer, and supporting legislation to prohibit insurance discrimination on the basis of genetic information.

For more information, call the school at 831-7350.



HAPPY NEW YEAR — Grade two of Alperin Schechter Day School celebrated Chinese New Year with traditional masks, parade and loud instruments. The new year's celebration was part of the group's social studies curriculum of world cultures. Teachers are Diane Bergeron and Nancy O'Hare.

Photo courtesy of ASDS

Technion Students Design Novel Aircraft Using Spreadsheet

A group of 11 undergraduate students at the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology completed a preliminary design of a novel amphibious aircraft in just 14 weeks using an electronic spreadsheet program as a design tool.

Use of this program represents a significant improvement in the design process, reducing design time, eliminating the need for repetitive calculations, and allowing designers to communicate in real time.

As a result, an optimal solution for aircraft performance, size, mission analysis and cost was reached.

and engine features. These properties and others were translated into formulas on a series of spreadsheets which were interconnected, so that a change in data in one cell affected the data in other related cells. For example, a change in the wing longitudinal location automatically caused a change in the aircraft's center of gravity without the student's having to perform a separate calculation.

A separate sheet for messages was included, dedicated to inter-group communication between group members in real time to update the student designers on recent changes.

Certified Nursing Assistant/Home Health Aide Training Available

An information session for persons interested in employment as certified nursing assistants and home health aides will be held at 10 a.m. on Feb. 25 at UMass Dartmouth's Neighborhood College, in downtown New Bedford.

Professor Ora DeJesus, associate professor of community nursing, will explain the 84-hour certification training. Classes will be held Monday through Friday at the Neighborhood College, 1213 Purchase St. The certificate program costs \$600 plus the purchase of a uniform; some students are subsidized by the Department of Employment and Training and the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission. A new class will begin enrolling for spring. Call (508) 984-4564.

New Geshet Dates at URI

Geshet (bridge in Hebrew), a social and educational program for South County Jewish teens, will soon begin its third session at the University of Rhode Island Hillel. Students will meet from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., over dinner, for an informal program which explores many topics relevant to Jewish teens. The session is entitled Pirkei Avot (Ethics of the Fathers), featuring Ethan Adler, and the dates of the program run from March 2 to 30.

To register or for more details, call Robin Damsky at 331-0956, ext. 178.

Rachel Deutsch Receives High Honors

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduates at Vanderbilt University have been honored with publication of the Fall 1996 Dean's Lists for the College of Arts and Science, School of Engineering, Peabody College of Education and human development and Blair School of Music.

Students with an average of 3.5 or better, in George Peabody College, are recognized with high honors. Rachel Claire Deutsch, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Stephen D. Deutsch of Providence, achieved high honors on the fall list.

Lecturer at UMass Dartmouth Honored

Semenya McCord, jazz vocalist and part-time visiting lecturer in music at UMass Dartmouth, will receive the Commonwealth Award for artistic excellence March 4 at the statehouse in Boston.

She has been performing in New England for the past two decades and continues to give concerts in many venues. She performs for schoolchildren throughout the commonwealth through Young Audiences of Massachusetts, Inc., and for audiences of all ages through the Cultural Education Collaborative, the Massachusetts Cultural Council, Young Audiences of Massachusetts, Inc., and the New England Foundation for the Arts. She was named Outstanding Jazz Vocalist in 1988 at the Boston Music Awards.

Pizmon Coming to Midrasha Fund-Raiser

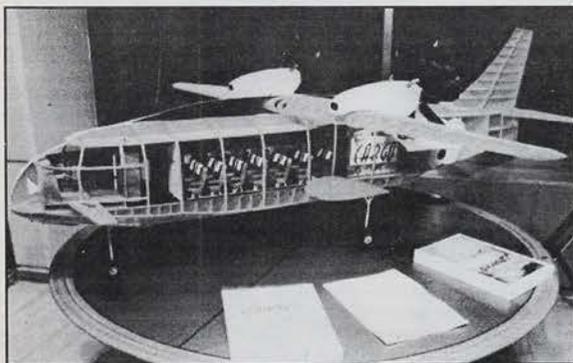
Pizmon, the a cappella singing group composed of students from Columbia University and the Jewish Theological Seminary, will appear at the Jewish Community Center in Providence on March 1, at 8 p.m., for the annual Harry Elkin Midrasha fund-raiser.

Pizmon was established in 1987 to provide outreach to the Jewish community through Jewish music. The group performs at senior citizen homes, college campuses and at Jewish festivals and gatherings in the Northeastern United States. It has a wide appeal, singing harmonic renditions of zemirot and liturgical pieces, rock 'n' roll variations of Jewish songs and compositions by its own members. Pizmon offers something to everyone in the family, from teen-agers to parents, from youngsters to the elderly. Contact the Bureau of Jewish Education (331-0956) for tickets.

NEIT Surgery Tech Grads Excel

The second class of graduates from the surgical technology program at New England Institute of Technology have received the results of their national Certification Exam. The class as a whole had a 94 percent pass rate on the exam, which compares with a national average for this exam of only a 77 percent pass rate.

The surgical technology program was recently accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs.



THE GANNET, a brand new concept in amphibious aircraft, was designed by Technion students.

"This is a worldwide innovation in the plane development process. The students designed a totally new plane, unique in its landing and carrier capabilities using a computer program," said Uri Soudak, the project supervisor. He is a Technion Faculty of Aerospace Engineering graduate and adjunct professor as well as vice president for corporate research and development for Israel Aircraft Industries.

To design the aircraft, the students used Microsoft Excel 5.0 and entered formulas that define the relationships between aircraft properties including center of gravity, lift surfaces,

The resulting aircraft, named Gannet, would be of medium range, able to carry 26 passengers and eight tons of cargo, and capable of taking off and landing on water or land. An amphibious aircraft such as the Gannet would be useful for countries with many islands such as Indonesia which has 14,000 islands over a distance of 5,000 km.

The 11 fourth-year aeronautical engineering students were recognized for their achievement with the Technion's Creativity Prize for Science and Technology. "Their work level was that of a highly experienced team of engineers," said Soudak.

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MILESTONES

David Paskin and Heather Levin to Wed

Cynthia and Milton Levin of Providence, R.I., announce the engagement of their daughter, Heather Harri, of Waltham, Mass., to David Paskin of Waltham.

The bride-to-be graduated from the Moses Brown school in Providence. She graduated from Syracuse University with a B.A. in psychology and received a M. Ed from Rhode Island College. She is a teacher at the Rashi Day School in Needham, Mass.

She is the granddaughter of Ceil Katz of Boca Raton, Fla., and the late Dr. Harold H. Katz

and the late Bess and Michael Levin.

Her fiancé is the son of Frayda Glass of Columbia, Md., and Sorrel Paskin of San Diego, Calif. He graduated from Brandeis University with a B.A. in Near Eastern and Judaic studies and peace and conflict resolution studies. While studying toward his rabbinic ordination, he serves as the acting rabbi for Temple Emanuel of Marlborough, Mass., and is the spiritual leader at the Rashi Day School.

The wedding date is Nov. 22, 1997.



David Paskin and Heather Levin

Julie Oriel Marries Gary Engel

Julie Beth Oriel and Gary Jason Engel were married Nov. 2, 1996, at the Newton Marriott Hotel, Newton, Mass.

The bride is the daughter of Roberta Oriel and Chesley Oriel both of Framingham. The bridegroom is the son of Mrs. Marlene Engel and the late Robert Engel of Spring Valley, N.Y.

Rabbi Alvin Lieberman officiated at the 7 p.m. ceremony with Cantor Alan Brava of Temple Beth Shalom of Framingham participating. The bride was given in marriage by her parents.

The bride is a graduate of Ithaca College and is employed by New York Mortgage Corp in Manhattan. The bridegroom is a graduate of State University of New York at Albany and is employed by MTV Networks.

The bride is the granddaughter of Larry Resnick and the late Linda Resnick of Providence, R.I., and Mrs. and Mrs. Samuel Oriel of Framingham, Mass.

The couple have made their home in Fort Lee, N.J.



Mr. and Mrs. Gary Engel

Meeting and Destination Guide Wins Award

The 1996 Rhode Island Meeting and Destination Guide, sponsored by the Newport County Convention & Visitors Bureau and the Providence/Warwick Convention and Visitors Bureau has been honored with a prestigious national award.

America House Communications of Newport designed the one-of-a-kind guide, which was awarded a gold Adrian award at a ceremony on Feb. 4 at the Marriott Marquis in Manhattan.

The awards competition is the largest, most prestigious event in the travel industry, showcasing the best in hospitality and travel advertising, marketing materials and public relations.

The guide was jointly sponsored by the Newport County and Providence/Warwick CVBs. It featured a companion website, located at <http://guidetori.com>, also designed by America House. Representatives from America House and both CVBs attended the ceremony.

Shortly after it was released last summer, the guide caught the eye of an editorial writer at *The Providence Journal-Bulletin*. The Aug. 1, 1996, issue of the newspaper praised the 81-page guide, describing it as "a refreshing break from tradition" and asking "why doesn't the state make a video of this gorgeous document?"

Newport CVB president Robert Rosenberg said the competition for this award was stiff, with more than 1,500 entries in the competition.



Lauder New Head of JNF

Ronald S. Lauder was elected unanimously to the presidency of the Jewish National Fund, at a recent board of directors meeting.

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ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT



David Frost to Interview Netanyahu Moschen in Motion at RIC

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will be Sir David Frost's guest for the next installment of "...talking with David Frost," which airs Feb. 28 at 10 p.m. on PBS.

The program is expected to be Netanyahu's first hour-long, face-to-face, on-location interview since the signing of the Hebron Agreement. This will be Frost's first full-length interview with the prime minister, scheduled to be recorded in the Cabinet Room in Jerusalem.

The interview takes place at a critical time in the Middle East peace process. Netanyahu's recent agreement with PLO Authority President Yasser Arafat over the city of Hebron has drawn fire from the conservative Likud Party and from far right-wing groups, whose support he drew upon in his narrow victory over former Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

Netanyahu now faces even greater challenges, including Palestinian sovereignty, the status of Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza, and Arafat's wish to make East Jerusalem the Palestinian capital.

In addition to political issues, Frost will also delve into the prime minister's life story, including the influence of his father Ben Zion (a philosopher and professor of Jewish history) and his late brother Yoni (a national hero who died leading the 1976 rescue of Israeli hostages at Entebbe airport).



Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu

A native of Tel Aviv, the 47-year-old Netanyahu is the first prime minister actually born in the state of Israel.

Over the past few years, "...talking with David Frost" has focused intently on the Middle

East peace process.

Following a near derailment of the peace accord signed in 1993 at the White House, Frost conducted back-to-back interviews with the late Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Arafat.

Shiver Through 'The Children's Hour'

The Friar's Cell's upcoming production, "The Children's Hour," a drama by Lillian Hellman, concerns two women who run a school for girls. Their lives are shattered when one of their students spreads a scandalous rumor about them. Although the gossip is later discovered to be false, the damage cannot be undone.

Directing the production is Elizabeth Brady, '98. Lighting design is by Patrick Austin '97. Costume design is by Allison Healy.

Catch the Beat at RISD

The 10th annual Rhode Island School of Design Cabaret celebrates "The Beat Generation," a multimedia performance inspired by the music, art, and poetry of the Beat Generation of the 1950s and 1960s.

RISD students sing, dance and act in an event that offers something for fans of visual and performing arts. The cabaret, which is open to the public, kicks off on Feb. 27 at 8 p.m. on the fourth floor of the Waterman Building, 13 Waterman St., Providence. Additional performances are scheduled for Feb. 28, March 1 and 2 at 7 and 10 p.m.

Tickets are \$5 each and can be purchased at the door or at the office of Student Life, at the corner of Benefit and Waterman streets, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays.

Poetry and text by Allen Ginsberg, William S. Burroughs, Anne Waldman, Jack Kerouac,

"The Children's Hour" will be presented in the Blackfriars Theatre on Feb. 27, 28, March 1 and 2. Performances are at 8 p.m. except for the Sunday matinee at 2 p.m. Ticket prices are \$3 for general admission. To purchase tickets, visit the Blackfriars box office, in the rotunda of Harkins Hall, Monday through Friday 3 to 5 p.m. Tickets may be purchased by mail order or in person. For further information or to be placed on the mailing list, call the box office at 865-2218.

and other Beat Generation guests are featured in the show, complemented by vintage slides and music from the period, performed by the cabaret's musical director Steve Jobe and his band.

Cultural Diversity Festival Needs Volunteers

The Rhode Island Diversity, Education and Community Service Committee and the Feinstein Foundation are asking for volunteers who will help with an all-day festival on April 19 at Roger Williams Park, celebrating the many cultures of the people of Rhode Island.

Dancers, musicians and other artists are needed, as well as volunteers to help in the planning, set-up and clean-up of the festival. Call Peggy Sandoval, at 274-9794, if you can help.

Audition for 'Squabbles'

City Nights Dinner Theatre announces open auditions for its May/June comedy "Squabbles." Auditions will be held at the theater on Feb. 24 and 26 at 7 p.m.

Needed are two men to play ages 30 to 40, one man to play age 70, one woman to play mid-30s and two women to play ages 55 to 65.

Danko to Perform at Orpheum

Rock 'N' Roll Hall of Famer Rick Danko, lead singer, bassist and rhythm guitarist for The Band, and recent member of Ringo Starr's All Star Band, is coming to Foxboro's Orpheum Theatre.

Danko will appear in concert on Feb. 22 at 8 p.m.

Danko has been one of the most influential figures in the folk/rock genre.

Tickets are priced at \$20.50 for adults and \$17.50 for seniors and students. To purchase tickets, contact the Foxborough Regional Center for the Performing Arts, One School St., Foxboro; call toll free (888)-ORPHEUM.

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AT THE JUNCTION OF RTES. 44, 100, 102

by George LaTour

International performance artist Michael Moschen will take the stage at 8 p.m. in Rhode Island College's Roberts Hall auditorium on March 1, for the second time in as many years, bringing back his unique one-man show.

Moschen makes poetry out of the way crystal balls traverse the backs of his hands, and a silver pyramid takes on density as it twists in mid-air. There is hyperbole in the way he saunters through the empty center of a vast hula-hoop, and mystery in his ability to spin a pair of flaming torches so that they leave smoky ribbons in their wake.

He's a juggler, but he moves with the deftness of a French mime and his work has the effect of magic.

His two-hour show combines mystery, comedy, amazing physical feats and expressive movement to the music of the New Age composer David Van Tieghem.

Reserved-seat tickets are \$18 with discounts for senior citizens and students, and may be purchased in advance by telephone via VISA or Mastercard by calling 456-8194 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily.

The box office opens for in-person sales from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily.

'For Sentimental Reasons' Announces New Dates

"For Sentimental Reasons," a nostalgic cabaret, has announced 1997 dates at The Great House, beginning Feb. 23. Dinner is served at 5 p.m. with show following at 7 p.m. The show's setting is a "live" radio show being broadcast over the Armed Services Radio, circa 1944. "The White Cliffs of Dover," "Stuff Like that There" and other popular songs of the war era join Glenn Miller's hit songs "Moonlight Serenade" and Chattanooga Choo Choo. "Irving Berlin's "Stage Door Canteen," and the Andrews Sisters' "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy."

"For Sentimental Reasons" stars Daniel F. Kirby, and Ed-

ward Mastriano of Providence, R.I.; Jenna Wims Hashway of Pawtucket, R.I.; Stacey Geer of Attleboro, Mass.; Lisa Ricci of Quincy, Mass.; and Bob DeVivo of Belmont, Mass. While on tour, "For Sentimental Reasons" has brought the best music of the 1940s to The Homestead resort in Hot Springs, Va., as well as to Orlando and Palm Beach, Fla. The group has appeared locally at Bumblebee's at the Boulevard, The Old Oyster House, Zenga's, Luigi's and The Great House. They were featured for the second year as part of Providence's First Night celebration and have played special events such as the Quonset "Wings of History" Air Show, WLKW's Senior Expo, and the Bristol Fourth of July Parade.

Additional 1997 dates include March 23 and April 20. Audience members are invited to dance and sing along with some of their favorite stars of the 1940s. Tickets are \$23.50 and reservations may be made by calling 739-8600. The Great House is located at 2245 Post Road in Warwick.



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OBITUARIES

PAUL BEDEROW

ST. PETERSBURG, FL — Paul Bederow, 81, of 50 Whitewood Road, North Dartmouth, died Feb. 14 at Bay Front Medical Center, St. Petersburg, Fla. He was the husband of Tillie (Baker) Bederow.

He was born in Detroit, Mich., a son of the late David and Eva (Grossman) Bederow, and had lived in the North Dartmouth area for the past 40 years.

He was a clothing designer for Puritan Fashions of NY until his retirement seven years ago. He was a member of Tifereth Israel Congregation and the Knights of Pythias. He was a veteran of WWII and had served in Germany. He was also a member of Allendale Country Club and was an avid golfer.

He was also the husband of the late Marjorie and Ruth Bederow. Other survivors include: a son, David Bederow of Longwood, Fla. and a daughter Laurie Bederow of Chicago, Ill., five stepchildren, two grandchildren, and 13 step-grandchildren.

Arrangements were by the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. The funeral was held Feb. 16 at Tifereth Israel Congregation in New Bedford.

JACOB FRANK

WEST WARWICK — Jacob Frank, 88 of 241 Morris Ave., owner of the former D. Frank & Sons in West Warwick, retiring two years ago, died Feb. 11 in the New England Medical Cen-

ter, in Boston. He was the husband of the late Bessie (Lecht) Frank.

Born in Providence, a son of the late David and Annie (Treiber) Frank, he lived in Providence for the last 45 years, previously residing in West Warwick. He maintained a summer home in Narragansett.

D. Frank & Sons was founded in 1885 by Mr. Frank's father. The company exported textiles and distributed cotton and lace manufactured products.

He was one of the founding members of Temple Beth David in Narragansett and was a member of Temple Emanu-El. He was a past master of the Redwood Masonic Lodge, a member of the Palestine Shrine and a member of the Shriners Band.

He leaves two daughters, Deborah D. Rudman of Chestnut Hill, Mass., and Sandra E. Goldberg of Palm Beach, Fla.; a sister, Dorothy Fox of Providence, five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. He was the father of the late David Frank and brother of the late Marion Hassenfeld, Florence Fenton, Harry Frank and Sam Frank.

The funeral was held Feb. 14 at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Post Road, Warwick.

MIRIAM LIPSCHUTZ

FALL RIVER — Miriam (Garber) Lipschutz, 83, of Fall River, died Feb. 14 at Charlton Memorial Hospital, Fall River.

She was the wife of the late Rabbi Benjamin Lipschutz of Congregation Adas Israel, Fall River, and the daughter-in-law of Rabbi Abraham Lipschutz, Fall River's first full-time rabbi.

Born in Poland, a daughter of the late Joseph and Sarah (Leifer) Garber, she moved first to Lynn, Mass. and then to Fall River, where she resided for the last 53 years. She is survived by two sons, Rabbi Yacov Lipschutz of Monsey, N.Y. and Irving Lipschutz of Fall River; a daughter, Ann Weinberg of Seattle, Wash. and a sister, Ruth Schulte of Lynn, Mass. She was the grandmother of 11 and the great-grandmother of 45.

Arrangements were by the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Funeral services were held Feb. 16 at Congregation Adas Israel, Fall River. Burial was at Agudas Achim Cemetery, Fall River.

SIDNEY SCHENKER

FALL RIVER — Sidney Schenker of 4001 North Main Street, senior partner in the accounting firm of Schenker & Schenker died Feb. 17 at Charlton Memorial Hospital. He was the husband of the late Selma (Feldman) Schenker.

Born in New York City, a son of the late Max and Bella Schenker, he had lived in Fall River for over 50 years.

He had been a CPA for over 50 years and was a member of CPA Societies in Mass., Washington, D.C., R.I. and Fla. He

was a past trustee of Diman Regional Vocational School, past chairman Fall River Industrial Development Finance Authority, past president of Crestwood Country Club, member of Temple Beth El, Fall River, Paul A. Dever Association, Mass. Association of Retarded Children and a Mason.

Besides his wife, he is survived by a son, Jeffrey of Somerset and a daughter, Maxine of Hallandale, Fla., a brother, Irving Schenker of Silver Springs, MD, a sister, Rosalie Kaplan of Delray Beach, Fla., and two grandchildren. He was also the father of the late Kenneth Schenker.

Arrangements were by the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Funeral services were held Feb. 19 at Temple Beth El, Fall River. Burial was in Beth El Cemetery, Fall River.

FLORENCE UCRAN

PROVIDENCE — Florence Ucran, 84, of 825 Pontiac Ave., a self-employed private duty registered nurse, retiring 15 years ago, died Feb. 17 at Miriam Hospital, Providence.

Born in Newark, N.J., a daughter of the late Morris and Lily (Zablotsky) Grozen, she had lived in Cranston for the last 25 years. She was the wife of the late Irving L. Ucran.

She was a graduate of Beth Israel School of Nursing in Newark, and a member of Temple Beth El in Fall River, Mass.

She leaves a son, Stephen Ucran of Cranston; a brother, Julius Grozen, and a sister, Ida Appel, both of Fall River and four grandchildren.

Arrangements were by the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. A graveside service was held Feb. 18 in Beth El Cemetery.

Providence Hebrew Day School Students Memorialize Victims of the Israeli Helicopter Crash

by Dr. Fried of PHDS

The Providence Hebrew Day School was the somber setting of a very sad memorial service on Feb. 12. Photos of the 73 Israeli soldiers who lost their lives in the helicopter crash on Feb. 4 hung on the walls. The assembled students listened as the New England Academy of Torah high school girls recited poems written by Israeli children in commemoration of the victims as all of Israel mourned. There were no partisan Jews in Israel then, only one body of people unified in profound mourning.

The girls read the name, age,

and home town of each victim for their fellow students, who sat in hushed silence. The memorial prayer -El Moleh was then chanted. Elena Vogel, who organized this program, had just returned from Israel, and had witnessed firsthand the national reaction to the tragedy. She brought back the pictures of the victims which were displayed.

In her introduction she characterized these men as the finest and best young people that Israel had to offer. She asked the students to write poems and make drawings which she will send to the victims' families.



Rivka Gibber, ninth grade
Photo courtesy of PHDS



Liba Vogel, 11th grade
Photo courtesy of PHDS

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'I Can Cope' Program Planned

Memorial Hospital of Rhode Island and the American Cancer Society will sponsor "I Can Cope," an eight-week series of educational classes for people with cancer, their families and friends.

Classes will be held on Thursdays, beginning April 3, through May 22, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the nursing classroom in the MacColl Building.

The course is designed to help people regain control over their lives through better knowledge of cancer and its physical, emotional and social impacts.

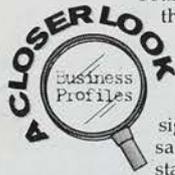
The program gives participants an opportunity to share their concerns with others having similar experiences, and to design ways to cope with the challenges that arise from a cancer diagnosis.

Guest speakers will include professionals in the field of cancer management. In addition, videotapes, print materials and class discussion will provide up-to-date information for patients, family and friends.

There is no charge for I Can Cope, but registration is required; call 729-2512.

Stamps Are His Passion

by Alison Smith
Herald Editor



He stands beside a big cardboard box, near the shop window, letting stamps fall through his fingers. The sign on the box says, "150,000 stamps—1 cent each." A young collector with a small budget would find that box irresistible.

The owner of Warwick Coin, 613 Warwick Avenue (opposite the New Canton Chinese Restaurant, and just south of the intersection of Post Road and Warwick Avenue) has been dedicated to the pursuit of fine and rare stamps since he was a boy. He has big books of clear plastic pages protecting thousands of beautiful stamps from every corner of the world. Many of them are tiny works of art. All of them cost more than a penny apiece.

Although his store is small, his fame is widespread, and he has repeat customers who come to him from Japan, Israel, the Faro Islands, South Africa, and all over the United States. He is the dealer who has been in the business the longest in Rhode Island — 65 years.

Coins and stamps just naturally seem to go together so he also deals in marvelous coins. He has had a golden Mexican doubloon from the 1700s worth



MORRIS BERNSTEIN, owner of Warwick Coin, looks over his box of 150,000 penny stamps. *Herald photo by Alison Smith*

perhaps \$5,000 or \$6,000, and a golden doubloon from Peru, equally valuable. Both were in fine condition.

Normally, he does not handle what collectors call antiquity coins. He says that they require separate study. Their dealer must be a student of history.

He loves being in the business. "You meet fascinating people," he says. And he does not want to retire. But his children are treating him and his wife to a trip to Israel in April to mark their 50th anniversary. A trip is all right...retirement, not an option, to a man who loves his work like he does.

Roberta

(Continued from Page 1)

and soft-spoken, and understanding, and between the two of them, we have been well served.

Countless small gestures of personal assistance have been extended to all of us, without hesitation or irritation.

I saw Roberta or Jane every day during my free-lance writer days. Sometimes I saw them twice a day. They became close friends who understood when I gnashed my teeth or whooped in joy. They really did understand.

Of course all was not harmonious in the Harmony post office. There were patrons who were unreasonable or unpleasant, and once in a while, to prove she was only human, Roberta did err.

At one point the powers that be thought it was time to close this small post office. A wave of closures was crashing across the land. The people in Harmony, who actually don't agree on anything, very often, agreed to a man and to a woman that this post office should remain open.

Calls were made. Strongly worded letters were written. Past due favors were called in. I later heard that a post office executive was overheard saying, "There was a deluge of protest over Harmony — a real up-roar." Well, good. Because the post office was our heart.

Lots of things that made Harmony a village with its own identity had been swept away or died slowly — a small one-stop grocery and candy shop, a gas station, an elementary school...all that was left now were the volunteer fire department and the post office, and the men at the fire station didn't encourage the rest of us to come on down and hang out, and talk about the weather, and gardens, and politics. They insisted on leaving room for the fire engines, and they didn't like us parking in front of the station

doors, either.

So, if the post office closed, where would we meet as fellow residents of Harmony? There would be no place left where Harmony was the sole common denominator, and at that point, the town would die, too.

They did move the post office up the road a bit, to a small, square, new building that conformed to the building codes of the 20th century. It took some of us six months to stop pulling into the old parking lot and opening the car door. It was a real wrench. Roberta's continued presence, and familiar welcome, made the new building more comfortable. She was our one constant — our town anchor.

I hadn't seen much of Roberta in the last three years. I left for

The whole community worried about a pregnant lady having to sprint across Route 44 to the fire station, every time she needed to go to the john.

work before she opened up, and I got home after she'd closed the post office for the day. My husband got to be our post office contact.

But this week, because something we had to discuss came up, I went by her house after 5. We sat in her living room as daylight faded, and talked and laughed as if no time had passed. But then Breanna came into the room — Breanna who had her bat mitzvah at Temple Beth-El last year — Breanna who had grown tall and slender and beautiful — and I could feel the weight of all those years pressing down.

Roberta looks today very much as she did the first day we met, but friends and loved ones have departed and some have not come back, many neighbors have been taken ill and recovered, or died, and the town has gone through some fierce infighting and quite a few accidental tragedies.

Just this month, Jane went to another small post office, permanently. Naming a little wide place in the road "Harmony" will not provide protection against changing circumstances, the push and pull of insensitive state agencies, bad weather and bad judgement, politics, and warfare in distant places.

But as long as Roberta and the post office remain in Harmony the town will survive as a town. And although you could sneeze, as you drove west on Route 44, and miss us entirely, we are still here, and we are grateful.

To Roberta Lisker Goldsmith — L'Chaim!

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