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UMass Professor Appointed to Berlin Holocaust Memorial Commission

James E. Young is the Only Non-German Chosen by the German Government

Nearly a decade ago, German Chancellor Helmut Kohl declared Germany would build a national Holocaust memorial in Berlin. Now, after years of failed attempts and rancorous debate, University of Massachusetts English and Judaic studies professor James E. Young has been named the only foreign member of a search commission that will finally choose a design.

Young was invited by Speaker of the Berlin Senate Peter Radunski after taking part in a public debate in Germany on the issue in April. The award-winning author of a book about Holocaust memorials and the curator of an international exhibition on public memory of the Holocaust which traveled to Germany in 1994, Young is considered a worldwide authority on the subject. On July 7, he and the four other members of the commission will announce a list of approximately 18 internationally renowned artists and architects invited to submit designs for the memorial. From this pool, the commission will choose and

rank three finalists to be presented to Chancellor Kohl's office in November.

"When I spoke at the public debate, I told the audience that I had actually been reassured by the memorial paralysis in Germany," said Young. "They were facing an almost impossible dilemma: how does a perpetrator

"They were facing an almost impossible dilemma: how does a perpetrator mourn its victims?"

Prof. James E. Young

mourn its victims? And how do you build a new state on the bedrock memory of your crimes? Making a national Holocaust memorial the centerpiece of a newly reunified capital in Berlin is like making memorials to slavery and the genocide of Native Americans the center of our national mall in Washington, D.C."

Young said this seemingly intractable position over what kind of memorial to erect has kept the debate simmering for

as long as it has. Originally proposed by a German television talk show host and eventually adopted as an emblem of "reconciliation" by the government, the monument for years has been plagued by infighting and opposition among the principals involved. While the original citizens' group supporting the memorial has wanted something with populist appeal, city planners have pushed for a high-art design, and the government has attempted to find something relatively free of controversy.

Young said a jury made up of representatives from each of these three groups had chosen a memorial in 1995 after a large international competition. Public and critical dissatisfaction with the choice was so widespread, however, that the original plans were scrapped and a public debate was called. It was then that Young spoke, and was subsequently appointed to the new commission.

The final monument will be built near the Potsdamer Platz, not far from Hitler's bunker. It is scheduled to be unveiled in time for the official restoration of Germany's capital to Berlin in 1999.



The Tradition Continues

Sparkly saxophonists march through Bristol during the town's 212th annual Fourth of July parade, the oldest Independence Day parade in the nation.

Herald photo by Sara Wise

Solution to Conversion Crisis Still Faces Significant Hurdles

by Michele Chabin

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Now that the Israeli government has reached agreement with the Conservative and Reform movements on a process to resolve the conversion controversy, is a solution really attainable?

Reform and Conservative leaders appear confident that the recent and widely touted accord establishing an interdenominational committee will lead to a compromise in the stalemate over the recognition of conversions in Israel.

But if comments by Orthodox Knesset members are any indication, the prospects of achieving a mutually satisfactory understanding may be dim.

If Reform and Conservative "converts say they want to be equal with Orthodox converts, the answer is 'no,'" said Knesset member Avraham Ravitz of United Torah Judaism, one of the religious parties in Israel's governing coalition that would have to sign off on any deal.

Said Knesset member Shaul Yahalom of the National Religious Party: "We accept the formation of a committee because it is not a compromise.

"The committee buys us time, and its conclusions will come to everyone and we'll see if we're satisfied," he said. "We are not opposed to the process."

To pave the way for the agreement, Reform and Conservative leaders agreed to freeze their court petitions on behalf of non-Orthodox Israeli converts.

In exchange, the coalition agreed to freeze a pending bill, which would codify the Orthodox Rabbinate's monopoly on conversions performed in the Jewish state.

The lingering question is whether this interim agreement has done more than just buy time.

For the non-Orthodox movements, the establishment of the seven-member committee, which will include representatives of the three main religious streams, is a significant breakthrough.

"Probably for the first time in Israel's history, the government has recognized the Conservative and Reform movements by putting their representatives on the committee," said Rabbi Jerome Epstein, executive vice president of the United Syna-

gogue of Conservative Judaism.

"We have a commitment by the prime minister there will be no plan that is not acceptable to the Reform and Conservative movements," Epstein said upon his return to New York.

"Probably for the first time in Israel's history, the government has recognized the Conservative and Reform movements by putting their representatives on the committee."

Rabbi Jerome Epstein

Rabbi Uri Regev, director of the Reform movement's Israel Religious Action Center, said he expects that a solution worked out by the committee that meets "our satisfaction will either be 'sold' to the religious parties or else the prime minister will carry it out in spite of their reluctance."

The conversion crisis erupted

a year ago after religious parties secured a commitment from newly elected Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to seek conversion legislation.

The Knesset passed the first reading of the bill in April, and final action on the measure was expected by the end of June.

But Reform and Conservative Jews, both in Israel and the United States, went to work vigorously opposing the measure, saying that it would delegitimize the non-Orthodox movements.

The recent agreement came after more than two months of talks between coalition representatives and Reform and Conservative leaders, including last-minute marathon talks here that involved Netanyahu himself.

Under the agreement worked out, the committee will present its recommendations to the coalition by Aug. 15. If the coalition, which includes the 23 Knesset members from the religious parties, adopts the recommendations, the Knesset would likely pass legislation in September.

But interviews with members of the religious parties, whose

support for any compromise will be critical, suggest that such support remains doubtful.

The NRP is opposed to any solution "that would put non-Orthodox converts on the same legal level as Orthodox converts," said Yahalom, who is chairman of the Knesset Law Committee.

One compromise proposal on the committee's agenda would list the first letter of a person's religion, such as the letter "J," instead of the word "Jewish," on Israeli identity cards. But the Interior Ministry would record on its population registry the type of conversion.

Yahalom appeared to reject this proposal, maintaining that by identifying all converts, regardless of how they were converted, by the letter, "J," the government would be giving equal status to Israelis converted by Reform and Conservative rabbis.

"For nearly 50 years, the laws of marriage and divorce and conversion, and the religious councils, have fallen under the purview of the Rabbinate, and that must continue," he said.

(Continued on Page 15)

HAPPENINGS

Fantasy Art on Display

Fantasy paintings and drawings by local artist Shawn Hare will be featured at the Barrington Public Library until the end of this month.

Childhood interests in dinosaurs, fantasy and monsters influenced Shawn's artwork choices in school. He became an avid collector of comic books and fantasy art publications such as *Heavy Metal*, *Creepy* and *Eerie Magazine* and for several years aspired to be a comic book illustrator but later preferred the satisfaction of producing single pieces of art.

Artists such as Salvador Dali and Max Ernst of the Surrealist and Dada art movements as well as the Renaissance masters and pre-Raphaelites hold high rank in Shawn's mind and remain as influences.

Hare creates his works to the sounds of Pink Floyd, the Beatles and Rush as well as Mozart and Beethoven.

Except for a handful of painting lessons from friend, Juanita Paolino, Hare has had no formal art training.

English Passion for Horticulture

The Eden Garden Club will host a beautiful exploration of the "English Passion for Horticulture." Guest speaker Sandi Tinky will present a visual tour of elegant gardens and exotic plants and flowers.

Following the presentation, tea and scones will be served. The meeting will begin promptly at 1 p.m. on July 17. The meeting will be held in the auditorium of Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave. in Providence. The hostesses for the meeting are Martha Finger, Corinne Lamchick and Bess Lindenbaum.

Wear Your Helmet, Win a T-Shirt!

Local police departments will be distributing T-shirts provided by the Rhode Island SAFEKIDS Coalition to youngsters they see wearing their helmets when riding their bikes. This is being done with a grant from the National SAFEKIDS Campaign to increase compliance with Rhode Island's bike helmet law.

As part of this grant, Rhode Island SAFEKIDS is producing T-shirts which have Dalmatian-type spots and read "I was spotted wearing my helmet by the community police." These shirts will be distributed by participating police departments throughout the state to those children 8 years of age and under who have been spotted wearing their helmets while on their bikes.

Rhode Island's bicycle helmet law requires all children 8 years of age and younger who are operators or passengers on bicycles to wear a properly fitted helmet when riding on any public highway or other public right of way.

Sleep Tight

"Sleep Tight: Hand Woven Blankets, Coverlets, and Bed Linens of the 18th, 19th and 20th Centuries," is an exhibit of textiles from the Slater Mill Historic Site collection. Included in the exhibit are nightgowns from the Daggett House, the oldest standing house in Pawtucket (1685) located in Slater Memorial Park. An old-fashioned lemonade reception will be held July 24, 1 to 4 p.m. at the Wilkinson Gallery. "Sleep Tight" will open in the Wilkinson Gallery on July 24 and run through Aug. 19. Admission is free — donations are welcome. Slater Mill is a private, non-profit organization.

For directions or additional information, call 725-8638.

Calendar of Events for July 10 thru 19

- 10 Moonlight cruise** aboard the "Southland," 7 to 10 p.m. Cruise around Point Judith Pond and the Harbor of Refuge, July 10 and 24. For all ages; reservations required. Call 783-2954.
- "Rhode Island's Private Past: Documenting the Artist,"** through Aug. 30 at the Bert Gallery, Providence. A survey of historic R.I. artists with photo documentation of local artists' haunts captured by photographer Erik Gould. Call 751-2628.
- 11 The College Fair,** 12:30 to 4 p.m. More than 40 representatives of mid-Atlantic and Northeast colleges and universities are available to speak with college-bound students and their parents at Brown University Office of Summer Studies, Providence. Call 863-7900.
- Traditional boat-handling class,** July 11, 18, 25, at 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Mystic Seaport, Conn. Learn in a classic wooden boat at the museum's boathouse. Call (860) 572-0711, ext. 4233.
- Brazilian Music Quartet,** 8 p.m. at UMass Dartmouth Recital Hall, Room 153. The concert is part of the Portuguese cultural series. Tickets are \$5 for general public and \$2 for students. Call (508) 999-8765.
- 12 18th annual Great Gatsby Ball,** 8 p.m. to midnight. Enjoy sounds of the Roaring '20s, fine foods and high spirits at Rosecliff Mansion, Newport. Call (800) ACS-2345.
- 35th annual Wickford Art Festival,** 10 am. to 6 p.m., July 12 and 13. Original fine arts festival held in historic Wickford Village. Call 294-6840.
- Newport '97 Kite Festival,** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., July 12 and 13. Newport sport kite championships and kitemaking competition. Kite flying demos, lessons and an auction/banquet to support R.I. March of Dimes, Brenton Point State Park, Newport. Call 846-3262.
- Newport Flower Show,** "Marble House: East Meets West," July 12 and 13, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Features Asian-inspired garden and floral designs, outdoor room settings, horticultural tents and a garden marketplace. Call 847-1000, ext 120.
- 29th annual Newport Music Festival,** July 12 to 27. Call 896-1133.
- K & S Ballroom Dance** at Knights of Columbus Hall, Cranston. Lesson 7 to 8 p.m., dance 7 to 12 a.m. Couples and singles welcome. Call 821-4108.
- 13 Camp JORI Open House.** Come celebrate the camp's 60th birthday, 2 to 4:30 p.m. Call 783-7000.
- Historic tour** of the Eleazer Arnold House in Lincoln, 1 to 4 p.m. by the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities. Admission is \$2. Call 364-8897 for information.
- The R.I. Wild Plant Society** offers tour of private northern R.I. gardens. Enjoy some of the loveliest gardens in the Blackstone River Valley. Call 783-5895 to register.
- 14 Family Day** on the Palmer River, Rehoboth, Mass. Guided canoe/kayak trip down the Palmer River, nature stories, games and crafts, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call (508) 336-2274.
- Meeting of the Compassionate Friends** (a self-help group for parents who have suffered the death of a child) at Hasbro Children's Hospital, Providence. Use parking lot C. Meeting is in Room 151. The public is invited. Call 885-2900.
- Writer's Workshop** at Borders Book Shop, Cranston, 7 to 9 p.m. The group is open to the public and meets twice a month on Monday evenings. Call 944-9160.
- 15 Union Brewery Dinner Series** presents four-course brewery dinner of savory cuisine, 6:30 p.m., Providence. \$35 per person and reservations are required. Call 274-2739.
- "The Business of Murder,"** by Richard Harris at Brown Summer Theatre, July 15 to Aug. 2. For tickets or information, call 863-2838.
- 16 Breakfast and Books** at JCCRI Bureau of Jewish Education, Providence, 9 a.m. to noon; "I.B. Singer: Life and Stories" presented by David Jacobson and Toby Rossner. \$5 per person. For reading materials or information, call 331-0956.
- Ancient studies book discussion group,** 1:30 p.m. at Borders Book Shop, Cranston. Call 944-9160.
- 17 Stories** by Captain George Fred Tilton, performance in the Seaman's Bethel, New Bedford Whaling Museum, 8 p.m. Call (508) 997-0046, ext. 14.
- 18 13th annual Newport Regatta,** July 18 to 20. Draws 1,500 sailors and 300 boats from Northeastern and Mid-Atlantic states. Sail Newport, Fort Adams State Park. Call 846-1983.
- 19 Annual Book Sale,** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Cross Mills Public Library, Charlestown. Call 364-6211.
- Full moon kayaking,** 6 p.m. Experience the setting sun and rising moon while paddling through historic Tiverton basin and protected Blue Bell Cove, Sakonnet Boathouse. Call 624-1440.

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On Your Marks, Get Set, SWIM!

Celebrate your right to swim in a clean and healthy upper Narragansett Bay! On July 26 at 7:30 a.m. Save The Bay and The Jantzen Corp. will hold a 1.7-mile open water swim from Newport to Jamestown. The SWIM helps raise funds and awareness for Save The Bay's

work to protect and restore Narragansett Bay.

Save The Bay is a private, non-profit membership organization. The mission of Save The Bay is to ensure that the environmental quality of Narragansett Bay and its watershed is restored and protected from the harmful effects of

human activity. Save The Bay seeks carefully planned use of the bay and its watershed to allow the natural system to function normally and healthfully both now and for the future.

Swimmers must collect a minimum of \$150 in sponsorships to be eligible and will win great prizes based on how much they raise. If you don't want to swim but would still like to help out, be part of a swimmer's safety team and sign up as a safety team rower or spotter. To help raise money, sponsor a swimmer who plans to swim. Best of all, event proceeds go toward Save The Bay's clean water advocacy work.

Being part of Jantzen's Save The Bay Swim is a great way to show your support for a clean and healthy Narragansett Bay. Register today!

For more details and to register, call Page Cooper at 272-3540 or email her at savebay@savethebay.org.

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THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Feinstein To Help Jews in Former U.S.S.R.

by Emily Torgan

Jewish Community Reporter

Philanthropist Alan Shawn Feinstein has long been renowned for helping people in need, regardless of their race, color or creed.

But now, Feinstein is letting the public know that some of those people may be Jewish.

On June 10, when Jewish Federation of Rhode Island Executive Director Steve Rakitt introduced Feinstein to about 100 young adults at a JFRI breakfast, he spoke of Feinstein's plans to assist elderly Jews living in the former Soviet Union.

On July 3, Feinstein discussed those plans and his public affirmation of his Jewish roots with the *Rhode Island Jewish Herald*.



Alan Shawn Feinstein

"I was approached and asked if I would help," Feinstein said. "I said I would be glad to."

Feinstein, whose philanthropic acts, name, and image have saturated the media, would say little else about the new project.

"I do not yet know how many people I will be helping," he said. "I do know that they are all very elderly. They are retired, and the pensions that they get are not enough to live on."

Feinstein would divulge neither the name of the organization nor the amount of money involved.

"I would rather not say right now," he said.

But the public is likely to know at some point, for Feinstein is one of Rhode Island's most public believers in charity.

After earning vast amounts of money with *The Feinstein Report*, a financial newsletter, he founded The Feinstein Founda-

tion, a Cranston-based organization that has donated millions of dollars to prevent hunger and to promote awareness of social service.

Some of Feinstein's most famous philanthropic acts include the creation of his Feinstein High, a Cranston high school that includes public service in its curriculum; his \$5 million grant to Providence College for its Feinstein Institute, which confers unique degrees in public service; his work with the Rhode Island Food Bank to make Rhode Island the nation's first hunger-free state; his founding of the World Hunger Program at Brown University, and his implementation of the "I Can Make A Difference Program," in which some 70,000 Rhode Island elementary school students are learning about the power of good deeds.

Although Feinstein is careful to attach his name to all of his projects, he said his support for Jewish causes has hardly been recognized.

"I give to Jewish philanthropies regularly, but it's not something that's talked about," he said. "I was brought up in a family where this was the normal thing to do."

Feinstein, who grew up in a Conservative Jewish home, married a Buddhist woman who converted and helped him raise their three children Jewish.

As Feinstein discussed his plans to help Jewish people in the former U.S.S.R., he said that he will soon assist young Russian Jewish émigrés by giving Rhode Island College funding that will help new Americans from all nations by teaching them the English skills necessary for the job market.

"If I weren't Jewish I would be an admirer of the Jewish people," he explained. "I think the Jewish people have made tremendous contributions to the world — far more than their numbers would suggest. Whether I was Jewish or not I would feel an affinity with them. And this is my heritage."

A Song Unto G-d: An Overview of Music in Hasidic Judaism

by Emily Torgan

Jewish Community Reporter

Last week, the Rhode Island Jewish Herald covered a Lubavitcher Kumsitz. This week, it offers an explanation of the importance of music in the Hasidic movement.

Jewish music is as ancient and varied as Jewish life itself.

The Torah refers to music as early as Genesis 4, and thousands more references to song, dance and instruments are woven throughout the Holy Book.

Songs have played a key part in Judaism since the days of the temple, but it was in Diaspora that the Jews created their Klezmer music, their songs of prayer and their *chalutzim* songs.

It was also Diaspora that led to the formation of Hasidism, a form of Judaism that placed music in a unique role that is now upheld by the Lubavitchers and its other modern branches.

The Hasidic perspective on music is wedded to the movement's aims and origins.

According to Joan Conway's *The Diaspora Story*, modern Hasidism was founded by Israel Ben-Eliezer, who lived in the Ukraine during the 18th century.

Although the details of Ben-Eliezer's life are subject to some debate, he was indisputably born into a desperately bleak period of Eastern European Jewish history.

The Chmelnicki massacres of 1648, frequent pogroms, and accusations of blood-libel pushed the Jewish population into despair.

Ben-Eliezer, a lime-cutter with a deep interest in the books of Jewish mysticism, began to acquire fame as a faith healer, philosopher and teacher.

Shortly thereafter, writes Conway, taking the name Baal Shem Tov, he was able to revive and present a "more emotionally satisfying brand of faith" that began to attract followers

in communities throughout the region.

As Louis Jacobs writes in his *Hasidic Prayer*, Hasidic doctrine states that the entire world is in G-d. Thus, since divinity is in everything, there is no place for despair.

Through impassioned prayer, wrote Conway, any Jew could experience a state of ecstasy that would enable him or her to personally come together with G-d.

In order to reach this state, every worshiper had to sublimate his or her personal ego and reach for a state of joy; music was a critical means to reaching this state, and music and dance were the only real ways to express it.

"The Hasidism resort to singing to exalt their mood to the state of ecstasy," wrote Aron Marko Rothmuller in *The Music of the Jews*.

And certainly, Hasidic folk songs are exceptionally beautiful.

"Most of our songs have no words," explained Rabbi Eliezer Levy of the Chai Center.

"We are trying to express something deeper that cannot be expressed through language. It's like the cry of a child."

At present, the Lubavitcher movement blends

these ancient customs with modern technology. As a result, their melodies may be recorded, blasted through giant synthesizers and stereo systems, and broadcast to great numbers of people.

The Hasidic perspective on music is wedded to the movement's aims and origins.

"Our Rebbe said that the Talmud says that gold was created for the Temple," said Levy. "The reason music is out there is for use in the service of G-d. We use television, radio, the internet and music. Chabad Lubavitch was the first movement to record Hasidic music and bring its beauty to the masses."

In Crown Heights and other Lubavitch centers, visitors are certain to see large, separate groups of men and women dancing wildly and expertly to the melodies.

"We reinstated the concept of dancing in a circle, because when people dance together, they become part of a greater whole," Levy explained. "Also, the average person enjoys music. He or she becomes more somber when a mournful tune is played, and is elevated by a happy melody. Music lifts people onto a plane."



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OPINION

Letters to the Editors:

To New Bedford Federation Members and Friends:

A long dream of several of us is now becoming a reality! We will soon have a magnificent Holocaust Memorial in a most prominent and solemn location in Buttonwood Park — thanks to Mayor Tierney and her city hall staff, the New Bedford Park Board, and the extensive time, effort, and generous contributions of numerous individuals, and organizations, both Jews and non-Jews.

As of the end of May we have successfully raised, in direct contributions and pledges, the majority of funds for this memorial.

Holocaust Memorial Status

(If you have not yet seen the scale model, pictures, or extensive media publicity, we can make these available to you.) As in any such campaign, it is the last 10 to 20 percent that is most difficult to raise. So if you have not yet participated, we urge you to make your tax-free contribution and/or pledge, as soon as possible.

For those who have already made such contributions, we reiterate our sincere appreciation. We will soon have a memorial (and Holocaust "teaching tool") of which our whole community will be most proud.

The construction of the foundation and base is scheduled for this summer, while the special granite and molds for the bronze sculpture have been ordered.

As noted, we are now planning to have plaques, if desired, for any donations of \$500 or more. So if you are in this category, indicate your desired inscription. (If you have contributed or pledged a lesser amount and wish to make further contributions, these will surely be most appreciated.)

Abe Landau, Peter London, and Ed Rudnick, co-chairmen

Open Letter to Father Edward Flannery

Dear Father Edward Flannery:

I was thrilled to be invited to your celebration of 60 productive years in the ministry. The mass was beautiful!

I told some of your friends about your involvement in Fair Housing for Rhode Island. There was a two-day meeting at Brown University. I was a discussion leader; you were a "resource person" for many discussion groups. This meeting had effective

results. Irving Jay Fain had a new following. He fought all odds and was successful in getting a fair housing law passed. Irving bought many empty houses and he made sure that they were rented to minorities. He bought land and set up parks to beautify neighborhoods.

I was in Israel when you were chosen a "Righteous Gentile." A tree was planted in your honor. Many honors were bestowed on you. Many years ago,

you were honored at a synagogue in Stamford, Conn. Many bishops attended, many priests attended also, including Father Thomas Trepanier. Also in attendance were Sandy and Dorothy Wiener.

I pray for your continued good health. May G-d give you the energy to continue to speak up on issues that are of interest to you and your fellow man.

**Best wishes always,
Dorothy Ann Wiener**

Addressing Vital Issues

To: Jewish Federation of R.I. and R.I. Board of Rabbis

Re: Community Response to Shavuot Incident at Western Wall

The Talmud forbids Jew harming Jew, so your resolution of June 19, 1997, is unnecessary. Let us address the really urgent and vital major issues of our community, namely:

1. Developing young com-

mitted Jews who keep Shabbos and go daily to shul. This is the only way to say "thank you" to the A-mighty.

2. Preventing the high rate of assimilation. Let us show alternatives — positive and outreach.

3. Reopening the Jewish Home for the Aged of R.I. to take care of our elderly and sick. Most importantly, a huge priority.

4. Rebuilding our Boys' High School (\$150,000 has been paid or pledged.) The basis and background for education.

5. Developing an effective outreach program to non-observant Jews.

6. Preventing our Jewish community and most others from disappearing in the next generation clearly due to lack of adherence to Torah principles.

Let's try to put first things first.

**Sincerely yours,
Harold Silverman,
president,
Congregation Sons
of Jacob Synagogue**

The Mystery of Change

by Velvel 'Wally' Spiegler

The first requisite for personal change is that the energy must change first. Our lives are controlled by physical, emotional, mental and spiritual energy. We can take steps to make changes in the physical, emotional and mental realms, but real change and healing emanates from the spiritual, the mysterious dimension.

Through Jewish practice, we can make some sense of the transcendent. Jewish mysticism distinguishes between four levels of reality. The highest and purest level is, the world of emanation, the inexpressible — the abode of the Ten Sephiroth and the soul. The Sephiroth, the Tree of Life, portray the flow of universal energy. G-d's blessings — health, prosperity, wisdom, love, etc., result from an even, balanced flow of this energy. Any interruption of this flow limits the blessings we can receive. Any interference of the flow is the root cause of all the problems in our lives. Genetics and family dynamics play a role, but all difficulties begin at the spiritual level.

The human soul, the spark of holiness in each person, also resides in the kabbalistic world of emanation, the loftiest of the four worlds, where it bears the greatest influence for our well-being. The soul emerges into the embryo at the time of conception and is the perfect product of the parent's love for one another. The soul's purpose in life is to balance the energetic blockages and issues that arose from past life experiences.

Our universe is bathed in mystery that in Hebrew is called *Sod*. The very rituals we perform, the mitzvot, the Torah we study is shrouded in abstract subtlety. Who knows the meaning of mitzvot and Torah to us? The kind of energy I'm referring to is spiritual energy — which is more than the tip but the iceberg itself — the force which governs our lives.

This is where Torah and mitzvot enter the scene. Torah and mitzvot are experienced in this world of action while their effects are felt in the spiritual domain. Mitzvot balance the soul. Judaism stands for justice, not morality or ethics. Justice, law, halachah mean balance. Just think of the scales of justice with its balance pans that depict how one act needs to be balanced by another. The mitzvot in Parshat Mishpatim describe in detail many of the remedies that balance wrongdoings like the issue of the "ox that gores" which is further elaborated in the Talmud. The system of mitzvot are specific acts divinely calculated to rebalance what is blocked by negative behavior, unconscious acts and sins — the cause of our distress. A few examples: Shabbat balances the week (six days of creation); blessings and prayer balance what we receive, supporting our ability to impart, to give. Rabbi Isaac Luria, the great 16th-century Kabbalist, taught that the vessels (our energy channels) broke because they could only receive. We have to learn to give in order to receive.

The concern of life is that the soul is tugged in one direction by a desire to return to G-d and in the opposite direction by the desires of the ego. Torah is the story of this lure. Torah speaks to the soul; it gets the soul on course, G-d's journey towards successful living.

What do we need to do to rebalance our lives? The answer lies in Torah, mitzvot, prayer and meditation. Torah and mitzvot affect the spiritual realm. These acts may seem insignificant, archaic and unproductive in a world that demands swift results, but it's been the system created for Jews and has stood the test of time for centuries.

Velvel "Wally" Spiegler is a certified polarity therapist and a student and teacher of Jewish mysticism.

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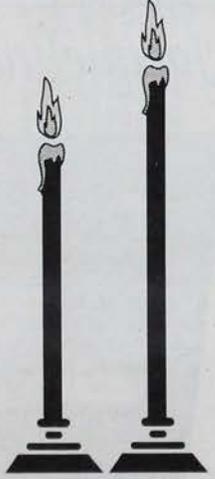
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Candlelighting
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What is the Promised Land?

by Rabbi Charles Kroloff

One of the best known and most perplexing passages in the Torah occurs in *Parashat Chukat*. In Numbers 20:12, *Adonai* informs Moses and Aaron that they will not enter the Promised Land because they did not place enough trust in *Adonai*.

For Moses not to enter the Promised Land after 50 years of seemingly successful leadership in the wilderness was a severe punishment. Imagine how he must have felt! The rabbis of our tradition stayed up late trying to figure out what transgression Moses had committed to deserve such a fate.

A close reading of chapter 20 reveals that G-d instructed Moses and his brother to take a rod, assemble the community, and order a rock to yield its water. Instead of speaking to the rock, Moses struck the rock, and he did so twice. He called the Israelites "rebels" and did the entire job himself without including Aaron, as G-d had commanded.

We could stop right here, list Moses' many shortcomings (im-

patience, anger, self-centeredness, lack of faith), and conclude that he did indeed fail to reach his goal.

But that would be a mistake because the deeper truths in this story can help us in our own lives. While Moses was a

great leader, he was an imperfect human being, like you and me. He made many of the same mistakes we make.

This was a new generation of Israelites he was trying to lead. He must have felt as if his entire 40 years of struggle were a waste. Even G-d agreed that they needed a new leader to enter Canaan. It was easy for Moses to feel that he had failed.

But in fact he was not a failure but a success. If we measure success by whether we leave the world better than we found it, he scored extremely high. If we measure success by how much we have done to strengthen the

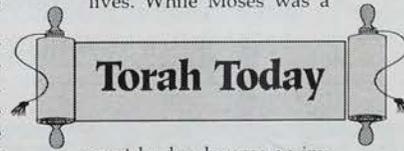
Jewish people, he was a success without a peer.

The Cunard Steamship Line used to have a motto: "Getting there is half the fun." How we travel the journey of life is more important than the specific destination we reach. In our personal lives, our Promised Land should be neither acquiring a certain amount of financial wealth, nor having the most friends, nor a guarantee that we will enjoy good health.

Moses really did reach the Promised Land. Perhaps he did not actually enter Canaan, but he brought his people right to the edge, and despite his shortcomings, he led a remarkable life.

So it is with us — even if we experience personal loss or disappointment. If we live ethical lives, if we spend enough time with those we love, if we direct our talents and resources to those who need us, if we sanctify our days with Jewish tradition, we, too, can say that we have arrived at our Promised Land.

Charles Kroloff is the senior rabbi of Temple Emanu-El, Westfield, N.J.





A Time For The Truths of Trees

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

Manuel and I share a love for the copper beech tree, that purple-dark-leaf, smooth-trunk shade tree that grows through the years and takes over a whole lot.

Manuel Brum takes me in his tool-cluttered jeep to visit a few fine specimens in and about town. We went first to the Woods Gerry arboretum on the R.I.S.D. campus. Like Adam, the gardener knows the name of every kind of tree, both in Portuguese and English. He critic the state of the pruning and snaps off a dead twig, placing it neatly on the ground. He stands in awe at the foot of the major beech looming beside the former

dressed in workman's dignified garb. I enjoy the folkloric aspect of the meeting.

We move along on the road, to the masterpiece of Brum's collection of favorite arboreal behemoths: the copper beech belonging to Sylvia Orodenker. It rises majestically in the region of the Edgewood Yacht Club among the tree-named boulevards. Brum has been training and teaching the tricks of the trade to a young C.C.R.I. student and care for this great stately giant above the

from the roots of a magic oak in legend. But of course he is holding a noisy, high-tech ax-saw. He comes from another realm. Just below the enchanted-elf-phant-smooth root sloping down to the sea, an Orodenker cousin, a chum and schoolmate of the woodman, rests in a hammock, swaying in the noon-hot air. "We lost not one branch in the spring blizzard," boasts Manuel Brum eloquently and forcefully, "because we trimmed just right." They made good firewood from the lost timber, but Brum really does understand how to let the wind move freely and still keep the beauty of the beech perfect. His student respects him, but he demurs always to Mrs. Orodenker, mistress of the estate. He guides me



"I stand amid the eternal ways."

Herald photos by Mike Fink



governor's mansion, now a museum gallery. We stroll. A pair of plinths look like the tablets of the Ten Commandments. A crude stone bench gives a ghostly contemplative mood to the clearing in this elegant forest. The chairman of the board, Barnet Fain, passes by and I introduce him to Manuel, who is

harbor. "I can imagine the sea captain just back from the Orient, bringing the sapling to the owner as a gift and planting it gently, centuries ago." I say this to the woodman sparing the tree. This big guy with very long hair and a mild and polite demeanor looks just like a kids' book drawing of the genii who steps out

among the paths of the rose-garden, his hands never idle, and we wind our way back to the battered jeep. An afternoon of high humidity and cruel glare, but an opportunity to thank the grateful shade of the copper beech and the noble caretakers who bring out its ancient spiritual gift.

A Victory Dance For Victor

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

The first time I met Doug Victor, he told me he came from Gypsy stock among his Bohemian background. Now, I always wanted to run off on the Romany road. Doug Victor gives out a card proclaiming a Benefit Street inn he keeps with Riva Leviten. He also teaches creative dance downtown on Empire Street. Victor phoned to ask me to visit his Groundwerx studio above AS220 during a class session.

It was held in a hot spell. Fans in the high windows above the red sunset skyline slightly stirred the heavy air. The students formed a mixed band of enthusiasts, of varied shapes, sizes and ages. This is not an audition for a Broadway show, or a training court for a chorus line. The professor talks calmly as he guides you through early steps. "Walk and make up a new hike. Stretch your hands and feet. Open your toes wide and hold the floor. Drop down!" And big guys fall with a zestful thud, while dainty girls sigh and faint with grace. Creative or modern

dance is not about spectacle or audience. It's about movement itself, feeling your shape in the medium of air.

I'm not supposed to choose a star among the students, but one Jami Weinstein did steal the show for my camera and me.



She rose to every word or hint, the lithe embodiment of the credo. She was neat and bold, shiny, polished and childlike, innovative and classic. She covered the planks beside the wall of mirrors in the clean attic vault with small acts of physical poetry.

Unlike the Gypsy style of

keeping no records, Victor edits and publishes a newsletter about the traditions and legacy of modern dance. The idea caught on in 1946 and has stayed fast and true to its family of man united nations line. If we learn to share space and to keep faith with both our own selves and others, we will get along great.

"Water is not my element. I live in air. I fly free as I move and dance and make my mark." Doug Victor meets me for coffee after the hour and a half workout. His son plays football, a bigger type than the trim, light dad. Doug lost an elderly aunt recently, who had lived in the rural family house in nearby Massachusetts. So the teacher of fluid flight, an elusive presence, seems indeed to dwell above the clouds in the realms of imagination and idealism. "Maybe I do my best ballet just in words." I offer lamely as we shake hands and go our ways.

Empire Street has a touch of Times Square. A large dark figure with no legs in a high tech wheelchair crosses my path as I search out my vehicle and head home.

Moths, Butterflies and Vampires

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

"Bookworks IV" showed off the works of its students and faculty in a new graphics department headquarter space at 48 Waterman St. This was the fourth summer session for the seminar course on making your own unique art book. Jan Baker does the calligraphy to gather staff and disciples and schedule their meetings.

You make your paper and binding or box, and you choose the concept or topic of your enterprise.

I spend a morning talking about writing and another session editing and even proof-reading.

Shaina Rappoport

had to choose between celebrating either her wedding to an Israeli with diverse mementos or the phenomenon of movie-queue lettering. She picked the design of cinema credits and even popcorn cardboard baskets. Jayne Rosenberg did cubes of symbolic pears and family snapshots to imply the memories that haunt her household. There was a postponed project to organize and interpret collections of Talmudic scholar cards—in the style of basketball cards but all about spiritual scholarship not athletic prowess. Maybe next time.

I also present my own account each time we put out our "Bookworks" cam-

and did the calligraphy for that one. It's on display among other past efforts of the bookworks group at the City Arts gallery in the Arcade, through July 12.

The third June-July I offered a travel diary of my sojourn in Brittany among its mysterious plinths and rocky pillars.

I placed my snapshots in a bed of stones and sand I had gathered, and built a sunken ship like a ruined corsair.

Pretty kitsch, huh?

This time

round

I placed,

among the

fabulous

work of

my stu-

dents

and col-

leagues,

on the

altar of

the new

mini-mu-

seum, a group of ghosts held within a pretty coffin. The phantoms are the strange postcards to my grandparents, from Rumania, scrawled in a mix of Yiddish, Rumanian, and crude English. They bear no last names. I have no idea who they are or how they lived or died. There are other sepia portraits from around the states, Spokane, Washington, New York to Montreal, or Cincinnati, Ohio.



A box of ghosts



Librarian Ellie Nachman (left) and Jayne Rosenberg at Bookworks show.

Herald photos by Mike Fink



These faces and figures haunt and hover. They rest like vampires now in a tiny vault in which I respectfully and whimsically laid petals of white roses and pale camphor balls against moths. The perfume of flowers that attract butterflies and bees and the forbidding fragrance that repels moths combine to smell like my late grandfather's household in this world.

Frankly I am slightly nervous at these openings, hoping nobody thinks my own concept is too lightweight, not professional enough. But hey, June is bustin' out and so am I.

I learn from those I teach. Every year you find an idea. You capture its shadow as it flies free. You build a mansion for it. "Bookworks" seems to be thriving and moving right along.

pus fortnight. The first one, in '94, was a sort of Jewish autobiography of, I guess by, my dog. My clever brother did the satirical drawings of the exodus of the miniature Caleb from Egypt to Canaan, the Diaspora, and on to the land of the Touro Synagogue. "I" pointed out Moses among the bulrushes, and watch out for the boy in Providence Plantations.

Follow that if you can. The second year I kept a journal of the range of my cafe acquaintances. Joshua Wood, a R.I.S.D. librarian and alumnus, designed

THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Russian Youth Seen as Source of Future Emigration to Israel

by Lev Krichevsky
MOSCOW (JTA) — It was easy for the Jewish Agency for Israel to operate in the former Soviet Union five years ago.

With the freedom to emigrate a fresh reality and the threat of anti-Semitism, Jews were leaving in big numbers — and most of them were going to Israel.

Today, however, with Jewish emigration from Russia and most of the other post-Soviet states on the decline, the Jewish Agency has a tougher job on its hands.

A few years ago, "we could just put a stand with Israeli symbols on display and people had no further questions," said Chaim Chesler, former head of the Jewish Agency's operation in the former Soviet Union.

"Now people want to get as much information as they can before they make a decision."

Since 1989, the Jewish Agency has brought almost 700,000 new immigrants from Russia and neighboring countries to Israel. Between 1995 and 1996, however, aliyah to Israel from the former Soviet Union declined by 15 percent, according to agency statistics.

The agency assumes that in 1997 there will be an additional 25 percent decrease.

"Aliyah is declining," said Charles Goodman, the chairman of the Jewish Agency's board of governors, because "those who had wanted to come the most have come already.

"There are many people who feel they have real opportunities in Russia, where life seems to be better than it was."

Goodman recently visited Moscow as a part of a group of 500 delegates that traveled to six destinations in the former Soviet Union en route to the annual Jewish Agency Assembly in Jerusalem.

Despite the decline in aliyah, the Jewish Agency maintains an extensive network of programs in the former Soviet Union.

"We continue to bring large numbers. The biggest part of the aliyah to Israel is from the former Soviet Union. So it is the major focus of the Jewish Agency," said Goodman, adding that aliyah from the region is a "major focus" of the agency.

In addition to running about 300 Hebrew-language courses and 80 summer camps for 12,000 Jewish teen-agers, and operating direct flights from 23 cities to Israel, the agency has been active in promoting new educational and employment programs for young adults in the former Soviet Union.

"Our main work is concentrated now among the youngsters," said Chesler. "We believe that once the younger generation comes to Israel, their parents will follow."

Major programs that recruit young people for resettling in Israel include:

- Selah, or Students Without Parents — a 12-month univer-

sity preparatory program for high school graduates. Four hundred students from the former Soviet Union are currently in Israel on this program.

- Chalom, or Dream — a 15-month vocational training program. By the end of this year, 1,000 young Jews from Russia and Ukraine will be receiving professional training in Israel in fields such as electricity, automobile mechanics and drafting.

- Na'aleh-16 — a high school study program. At present, there are 3,500 participants from the region in this program. About 2,000 have already graduated from high schools in Israel. Another 3,000 will join the program in September.

Said the mother of an 18-year-old son from the Siberian city of Irkutsk who went to live and study in high school in Israel two years ago: "The economic future seems to be uncertain, the crime in the [Russian] army has skyrocketed.

"I cannot describe how hard it was for me to part with my only son, but I feel this is the best solution for our kids."

Similar to Israel, military duty, for two or three years, is obligatory for young men in Russia.

The demand for such programs is much higher in provincial Russia, where the economic situation is more difficult, than in Russia's biggest cities.

In Moscow, the decrease in aliyah was 17 percent, and in St. Petersburg 9 percent.

In the Far Eastern city of Khabarovsk, however, the rate rose 160 percent; in Ekaterinburg, located in the Ural Mountains, 38 percent.

According to one agency official, there are two things that prevent many Russian Jews from emigrating to Israel — employment and housing problems.

"If you have a job, all other problems could be solved," said Michaela Glasman, head of the Moscow office of the agency's repatriation and absorption department.

To meet the demand for information about job opportunities in Israel, the Jewish Agency held its first job fair in Moscow recently.

More than 800 Jews from the Moscow area — ranging from college students to pensioners — attended the two-day fair to find out about employment and retraining opportunities offered by the Israeli Labor Ministry and employers, including hospitals,

hotels, construction and high-tech companies.

"I wanted to find a job that would correspond more or less to my education," said Alexander, a 28-year-old electrical engineer from a small town near Moscow.

"I just found retraining courses for me in Israel. Now I know I can find a decent job there."

Unlike earlier immigrants, Jews living in the former Soviet Union now can get direct information about life in Israel from friends and relatives already residing there.

Many of those who are considering emigrating have been to Israel themselves.

"People know exactly what they want. They can get information not only from our emissaries but also from relatives, ex-neighbors, ex-classmates," Chesler said.

"If the majority of those who recently went to Israel succeed, their success would be reflected back in Russia."

Repairing the World

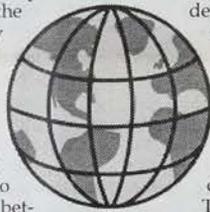
Tikkun Olam (repairing the world) is one of Judaism's most important ideals. Giving back to the community in which we live is one way to make the world a better place. As Jewish culture specialist, Ailene Gerhardt felt it was important to share with the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island campers the importance of community service.

This summer the JCCRI camp will be working together to make Providence a better place. Throughout the summer the camp will be collecting toiletries (i.e., toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, soap, etc.) and old linens (that are still in usable

condition) from our homes and dispersing them to agencies in the area that are in great need. There will be collection boxes in the lobby of the JCCRI.

In addition, the camp will be assembling "Welcome Baskets" for new nursing home residents working with Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island. If you have any baskets in your home that you are not using, the JCCRI camp would appreciate basket donations as well.

The JCCRI camp thanks you for your participation in this project. If you have any questions or need more information, contact Ailene Gerhardt at 861-8800, ext. 148.



Hadassah's Vanguard Sponsors N.Y. Mountain Retreat

Why should kids have all the fun? Now adults can enjoy summer camp, too, thanks to Vanguard, Hadassah's premiere group for active, Jewish civic-minded singles. On Aug. 22 to 24, 100 Jewish singles in their 20s and 30s will steal away for a weekend of outdoor fun in upstate New York. Located in a scenic pine grove in the Hudson River Valley, Camp Young Judaea at Sprout Lake offers hiking, swimming, tennis, volleyball, arts and crafts, singing around a campfire and dancing under the stars.

In addition to outdoor activities and comfortable cabin accommodations, Vanguard also offers spiritual and intellectual discussion groups and prayer services. This year's Scholar-in-Residence will be Rabbi David Ackerman. Awarded numerous prizes in Jewish history, theology and biblical studies, Rabbi Ackerman is on staff at Tiferet Beth Israel in Blue Bell, Pa., and is pursuing a doctorate in Jewish studies at the University of Pennsylvania.

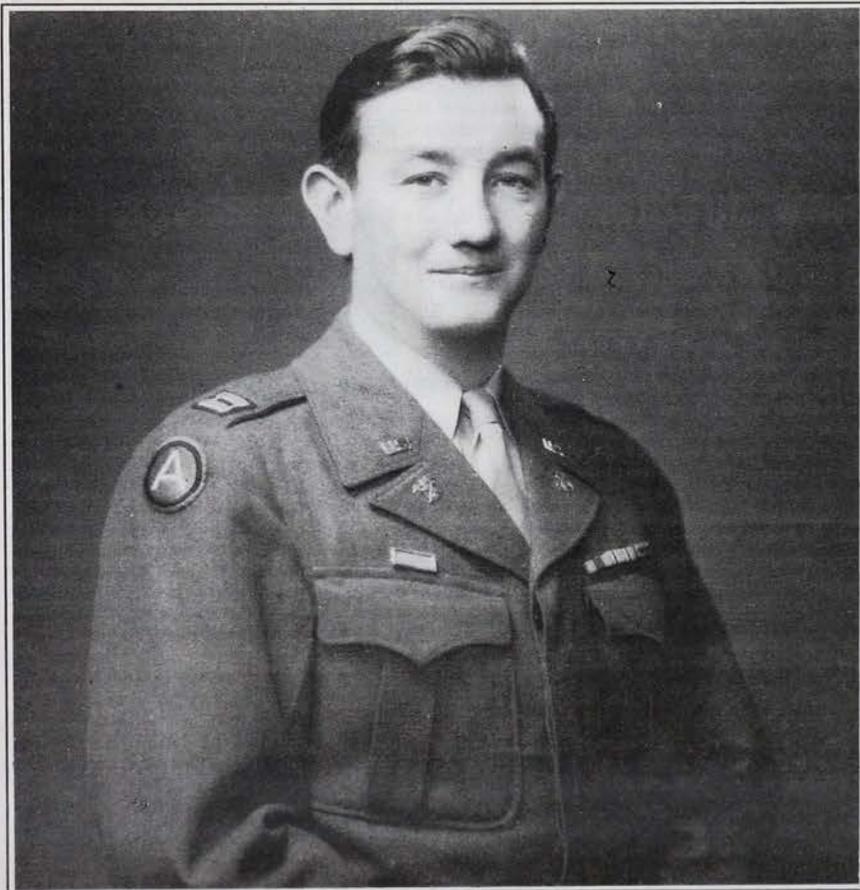
"Vanguard events create a natural and comfortable environment for learning, sharing common interests, making new friends and feeling connected to the Jewish community. Members create and plan their own activities to meet their own needs and interests. One chapter lobbies on the Hill, one holds a weekend bike and beach day, another volunteers at the local hospital," said Barbara Reitzes, Vanguard co-chair.

Since its inception, Vanguard events have brought together numerous couples resulting in marriages. Today, more than 2,000 singles nationwide are involved in Vanguard's social, educational and community volunteer activities.

Retreat cost for Vanguard members is \$205 and \$230 for non-members, and does not include transportation.

To make plane reservations, call (212) 303-8128. Early registration is recommended as space is limited.

Registration deadline is Aug. 13. For additional information, call (212) 303-8061.



Can You Help Us?

Can you identify this photograph of a young man, a 1st lieutenant in the United States Army? There is one clue. This photograph was discovered lying between the backing and a photograph of Sen. Claiborne Pell in a glass frame. The senator had given his portrait to the late Aaron Roitman. When Roitman sold his building, he donated several photographs to the archives of the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association, including Sen. Pell's portrait. If you know who this is, please call the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association, 331-1360.

THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

New England Celebrates Small-Town Jewish History

by Tara V. Lisciandro
Herald Editor

This past fourth of July weekend brought about a special celebration for the town of Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Established in 1630, Portsmouth was a successful seaport and housed shoe makers, dress shops and breweries as well. The waterfront, multi-ethnic neighborhood, known as Puddle Dock in Portsmouth, has become a 10-acre site to the Strawberry Banke educational museum. Puddle Dock became a depressed area and was to be demolished in the late 1950s but the local community didn't allow the historic site to be destroyed. There is a collection of more than 40 preserved buildings, gardens and homes as well as costumed role-players which tell the 300 years of history of one of America's oldest continuously occupied neighborhoods. The Strawberry Banke Museum depicts the history of the area from the 1600s through the mid 1900s. Just recently, the museum celebrated its newest restoration, a Russian-Jewish immigrant home, the Shapiro House.

While the Jewish community of America is commonly thought of as coming to and settling in parts of Boston, Chicago and New York, few are aware that at the turn of the century, said Strawberry Banke curator Susan Montgomery, almost a quarter of the 23 million immigrants chose to live in smaller towns and communities. The new immigrants looked to escape poverty and prejudice. Most came from Europe and hoped to find freedom, safety, work and a brighter future for their family.

In 1898 Shepsel Millhandler (later named Samuel Shapiro) moved from the Ukraine and came to the United States. He was 26 years old and began a "chain migration," as his brother

Abraham then followed in 1903. It was Abraham Shapiro who decided to settle in Portsmouth in 1904. By way of an arranged marriage, Abraham married Shiva (Sarah) Tapper in 1905, she, too, was from the Ukraine. They had one daughter, Molly, in 1909. At the young age of 24 Molly died after she gave birth to her son.



THE DINING ROOM TABLE of the Shapiro House is set for Shabbat.

Herald photo by Tara V. Lisciandro

The family moved to Puddle Dock after Molly was born. Abraham worked in shoe factories and, for approximately three years, ran a pawn shop. The home he bought for \$400 was paid off over seven years. The five Shapiro brothers were founders and leaders of Temple of Israel which still stands today, only two blocks from Shapiro's house, in Portsmouth. As active Zionists they assisted in raising money for various causes and charities. Upon his arrival, Abraham had only \$12 in his pockets but within only a few years of hard work and dedication, "Abraham was financially successful, kept his faith and culture while becoming an American," stated the museum.

Becoming Americans: The Shapiro Story 1898-1928 opened

to the public on July 4. Crowds of curious visitors huddled in front of the Shapiro House to hear museum staff and invited guests speak. "It's a typical American story actually," stated U.S. Senator Judd Gregg, "their contribution was of hard work, faith and family." Almost 60 surviving relatives of the Shapiro family were present at the opening-day ceremony. Their excitement filled the air as the dedication of the Shapiro House was made. There are a number of other Shapiro family relatives in the nearby area as well as in other parts of the United States.

It is also pleasant to see the "preservation of cultural heritage" taking place, said Senator Gregg. The senator stressed the pride that the Shapiro House, as a part of Strawberry Banke, showed for the state of New Hampshire. Senator Gregg then recognized the vice-president for development of Strawberry Banke, Stephen A. Kokolos. He directed Strawberry Banke's \$6.5 million campaign which raised over \$577,000 for *Becoming Americans: The Shapiro Story*. A generous grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, private foundations and individual donors made *Becoming Americans: The Shapiro Story* possible.

The Shapiro House was restored to appear as it did in 1919. Mrs. Shapiro appears at the entrance of the home. In her kitchen she prepares kosher meals and speaks about the "current" situation in Europe. "Have you heard what they're doing to the Jews in Poland?" Shapiro asked a group of guests. Some respond and converse with Mrs. Shapiro while others move on throughout the rest of the home. The role-play of Mrs. Shapiro adds to the life-like history displayed and heard throughout the home. Several of the fur-

AN INTERPRETATION of Mrs. Shapiro in her kosher kitchen.
Herald photo by Tara V. Lisciandro



nishings and possessions are original to the home such as the teffilin which are laid out on Mr. Shapiro's bed upstairs. The mirror of the family's living room gives a false identity as it transforms into a screen through which a CD-ROM tells the story and displays a variety of antique photos of the Shapiro family and their dwelling. While seated, relatives of the Shapiro family and guests listened, learned and sat mesmerized by the magic mirror.

Appropriate to the July 4th celebration and opening of the Shapiro House, 20 new immigrants from New Hampshire were sworn in at noon by Judge Joseph A. DiClerico Jr. of the Federal District Court. The naturalization ceremony was performed at Puddle Dock and was the first naturalization that took place outside of a courthouse. Senator Gregg greeted and congratulated each new citizen.

With the restoration of the Shapiro House has also come the development of teacher institutes, educational programs and time-travel workshops.

"We have to spread the understanding of human conflict and tolerance," stated Sharon Kotok, Shapiro project outreach coordinator. Kotok, like all museum staff, is anxious about the Shapiro Story's future and educating those who visit. It is estimated that more than 12,000 schoolchildren will visit annually. Although the museum closes in November (and reopens in April) a Candlelight Stroll is offered for the first two weekends in December; it will be during this period that the Shapiro House will celebrate Chanukah and special workshops and tours for school groups will be held.

A visit to the Shapiro House will prove to be an interesting and intriguing experience for anyone. "It explodes the myth that all of these old New England locations were then populated only by descendants of the Mayflower," stated Kotok. Simple and white, the home has captured the ordinary lives of modest Russian-Jewish immigrants who, like thousands of others, became Americans.

Rabbinical Student, Former Lawyer Finds JERI Fulfilling

During his first week, rabbinical student Tom Alpert found out how rewarding the Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island program can be. "I went to Cedar Crest Nursing Centre one day and spent hours there with one person after another. It was so fascinating I just couldn't tear myself away. I had assumed there would be some interesting stories, but I hadn't realized the variety of them, the lives people have led."

Rabbi Alpert will be interning full-time with the JERI program this summer. He will lead regular Friday services and some Saturday services at nursing homes in the greater Providence area. He said, "What I provide when I visit, apart from conducting services, is an opportunity to listen and care. If there are concerns, I can make

sure they are taken care of." He adds, "Our obligation as Jews to our fellow Jews is to make sure they don't feel lost and abandoned by the Jewish community. JERI is a great way of demonstrating that, a model the rest of the country can learn from."

Rabbi Alpert is a graduate of Yale and received his law degree from Harvard. After nearly 15 years of practicing law at a private firm and in the Massachusetts attorney general's office, he chose to make a career change. He said, "After long conversations with my wife, the rabbinate seemed to be the career. I've always had a substantial interest in social justice and Judaism has always been a core part of my life. Devoting time to study was always a goal, and keeping the Jewish people going." He is about

halfway through his rabbinical studies at Hebrew Union College Jewish Institute of Religion in New York. Living in Boston, going to school in New York and working for the summer in Providence means a lot of commutator miles.

"I'm really excited about this job; it's a wonderful learning experience. It's going to help me grow," said Rabbi Alpert, "I hope I'll give something back to the residents. They need to feel that not just their families, but the Jewish community as a whole cares for them."

For information about Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island, call director Penny Faich at 621-5374. The JERI outreach program is funded by the Jewish Home Corporation and the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island and is administered by Jewish Family Service.

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HEALTHWISE

How Much Fluid Should You Drink For Exercise?

by Dr. Amy Westrick, D.C.
Dear Doctor:

I like to exercise outdoors when it's warm out but I'm concerned about becoming dehydrated. How much should I be drinking and what should I be drinking?

Dear Outdoor Exerciser:

In order to maximize your workout, staying hydrated takes high priority. Fluids act as the transport system for sending fuel to muscles and carrying away metabolic waste. Fluids also help keep the body cool in the form of sweat. One way to determine if you are drinking enough fluid is to check the color and quantity of your urine. If it is frequent and is light yellow or clear in color, then you are drinking an adequate amount. If it is dark and scanty, you are concentrating metabolic waste and should be drinking more fluids.

Another way to determine if you are drinking enough is to weigh yourself before and immediately after a workout. For every pound you lose, you should drink 2 cups of fluid.

The amount you should drink before, during, and after you exercise is dependent upon your body size. Thirst is not an indicator for when you should drink. In general, you should consume beverages up to 2 hours before your athletic event. This will give your body the opportunity to process the liquid and eliminate the excess. Drink 1 to 2 cups of water 15 minutes before your workout.

During exercise, especially in hot weather, drink as much and as often as you can. For every 15 to 20 minutes of strenuous exercise, drink 8 to 10 ounces of fluid.

Ideally, you should drink cold water, especially during hot weather. However, watered down electrolyte replacement drinks, decaffeinated iced teas, and juices are acceptable. Try to avoid caffeinated or alcoholic beverages since they cause increased urination thus increasing water loss.

Dr. Amy Westrick is a chiropractic physician in private practice at Eastside Chiropractic Center.

Popular Arthritis Program Returns

Lifespan will repeat its very popular arthritis workshop in July. The free session will be held July 12 from 8 a.m. to noon in Sopkin Auditorium at The Miriam Hospital.

Top physicians and physical therapists will present the latest treatment and management of bone and joint pain due to arthritis. Topics include recent surgical contributions, the role of behavioral medicine in arthritis pain management, current treatment methods and rehabilitation options. There will also be an opportunity to question the experts during a panel discussion.

The workshop is presented in cooperation with the Arthritis Foundation.

The first arthritis workshop in May filled very quickly, and space is limited, so register early by calling the Lifespan Health Connection at 444-4800 or toll free (800) 927-1230.



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Nutrition for Women: What You Need to Know

The question no longer is "So you want Italian food, Chinese or French?" The question today is "Will that be takeout, delivery or drive-thru?"

Many people don't take the time to sit down to a nutritious meal three times a day. But even if you ate enough food to get all the vitamins and minerals you need, your food would take up two places at the table and you'd need a longer lunch hour.

Between dieting, child-bearing and living a hectic lifestyle, women have a difficult time getting all the nutrients they need. While the nutritional needs of men and women are different, so are their nutritional needs at different stages of life.

Women often consume lesser amounts of vitamin- and mineral-rich fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and calcium-rich foods. Poor intake of essential nutrients found in these foods can result in numerous health problems — from fatigue to mood swings — undermining the quality of life.

Before, during and after preg-

nancy, a woman's nutritional needs are at an all-time high. Since some pregnancies are unplanned, maintaining optimal nutrition during these years is critical to the health of the mother and for the birth of a healthy baby.

Bone degeneration escalates in the years after menopause. Prevention through optimal nutrition as a growing teen and later during and following menopause is paramount to maintaining optimal health in later years.

A well-balanced multiple vitamin with minerals lays the foundation for most people's supplement programs. The following list highlights the nutrients most likely to be low in the diet and/or needed in extra amounts during various life stages.

Women Age 19 to 50 — vitamin B6, folic acid, calcium, antioxidants, iron, magnesium and zinc.

Women Age 51 to 65 — magnesium, calcium, vitamin D and antioxidants.

Perinatal — iron, folic acid, calcium and magnesium.

Calcium is essential for the development and maintenance of strong bones and teeth. In connection with a healthy diet, it also reduces the risk of osteoporosis later in life. It helps maintain muscle contractions, nerve transmission and blood clotting.

Iron and folic acid are both used for red blood cell formation and oxygen delivery to tissues and the brain.

Magnesium helps nerves and muscles function.

Zinc is an essential part of more than 100 enzymes involved in digestion, metabolism, reproduction, taste and immune function. It also helps maintain healthy skin and hair.

Vitamin D enhances calcium absorption and helps to build bone mass.

Vitamin B6 is essential for energy metabolism, maintenance of all tissues, including nerve tissue.

Best-Dressed Salads Offer Great Taste

More than ever before, people today are interested in good food, good nutrition and good health. Is it possible, however, to eat a delicious meal that is healthy and nutritious? The answer is yes.

Salads have become one of the most popular foods in America. Many restaurants feature a salad bar, although some may be much more elegant than others.

Whether served as a side dish or a meal, salads are very popular for many reasons. First of all, they are the perfect dish for those watching their weight or just trying to eat healthier meals. Along with lettuce and tomatoes, which tend to be the main components of a salad, almost anything goes. The selection of foods that can be used is unlimited. Alfalfa sprouts, cold cuts, beans, spin-

ach, beets, sunflower seeds, raisins, croutons, tuna and olives are just a few ingredients that can be added to make a salad taste great. Additionally, these fixings can be found in the supermarket year-round.

Salads also taste good.

They can be topped with just about any type of store-bought or homemade dressing to suit individual tastes.

Try making mealtime fun by adding some creativity and daring to your dressings. Toppings like horseradish, mustard, salsa and ketchup can be added to any dressing to suit even the fussiest taste buds. The Association for Dressing and Sauces offers the following ideas to enhance any salad:

- To four parts Thousand Island dressing, add one part blue cheese. Serve over molded vegetable salads.
- To six parts cole slaw dressing, add one part cubed Swiss cheese.
- To two parts Italian dressing, add four parts mayonnaise and one part shredded Parmesan cheese to accompany tossed salads.
- To two parts salad dressing, add one part sour cream and a little chopped green onion. This makes a

wonderful potato salad dressing.

- To one cup salad dressing, add 1/3 cup shredded, drained cucumber and 2 tablespoons each chopped parsley and horseradish.

Cool Sunshine Salad

Serves 6

Dressing

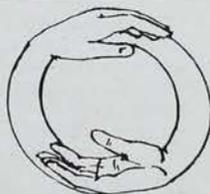
- 1/2 cup light French salad dressing
- 1/4 cup creamy Italian salad dressing

In a small bowl, whisk dressings together until smooth. Cover and refrigerate for at least 1 hour before using.

Salad

- 1 head romaine lettuce, washed and thinly shredded
- 6 slices cantaloupe
- 6 strawberries, stems and caps removed
- 1 cup blueberries, rinsed and stemmed
- 6 ounces sharp cheddar cheese, grated

Divide shredded lettuce equally among six plates, mounding lettuce in center of plates. Arrange cantaloupe slices along edges of plates. Halve strawberries, and place a half at each end of cantaloupes. Arrange a cluster of blueberries and a small mound of shredded cheese on edges of plates opposite the cantaloupe. Drizzle dressing lightly over all.



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HEALTHWISE

What You Should Know About CTS

Carpal Tunnel Syndrome is a repetitive stress injury that affects the nerves in the hands.

If you have CTS, you might feel some or all of these symptoms:

- pain, tingling, and numbness in the thumb, index, middle, and ring fingers
- tingling in your entire hand
- pain that shoots from the hand up the arm as far as the shoulder



- a swollen feeling in your fingers — even though they may not be visibly swollen.

You may also notice that your symptoms are worse at night and your hands feel weak in the morning.

Causes of CTS

Causes of CTS may include an injury such as a blow to the wrist, arthritis-related diseases, or work activities and hobbies that require highly repetitive wrist or finger motion,

especially in combination.

- Some examples are:
- Construction or carpentry
 - Supermarket cashiering and scanning.
 - Needlework or knitting
 - Typing or working at a computer keyboard

If you suffer from any of the symptoms of CTS, it's important to see your doctor.

Even minor changes in the way you work can help reduce the threat of and relieve the symptoms of carpal tunnel syndrome. These can include taking more frequent breaks, using sharper tools or padding the floor.

For Long Life, Eat Right

"Grow old along with me, the best is yet to be" — if you eat a nutritious diet. Growing older can mean changing your lifestyle, especially when it comes to what and how you eat.

According to recent studies, older adults have unique nutritional needs. A decline in the body's ability to correct nutritional imbalances can put them at a disadvantage, while increased use of medication can change nutrient absorption and the sense of taste. Another factor affecting appetite is the declining number of tastebuds. Due to the role diet plays in diseases of later life, many older adults become concerned about eating a nutritious diet.

Getting ample nutrients remains essential to good health. Here are some tips on how to get what you need:

- Limit fat intake. Thirty percent or less of your total calories should come from fat.
- More than half of your calories should come from carbohydrates such as fruits, vegetables, cereals, sugars, breads, beans and pasta.
- Include five or more servings of vegetables and fruits, especially green and yellow vegetables and citrus fruits, in your daily diet.

- Make poultry, fish, beans and smaller portions of lean meat part of your diet.

• Calcium increases bone mass and reduces the rate of bone tissue loss. Increase calcium intake by including low-fat milk products in your diet.

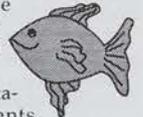
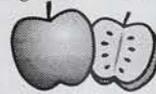
• To improve calcium absorption, increase the Vitamin D in your diet with fortified milk and milk products, as well as liver and some fish, including herring, salmon and sardines.

• Discuss vitamin supplements with your doctor.

• To make up for a diminishing appetite, enhance the flavor of foods by using sugar, onions, salt, butter flavoring, reduced stocks, herbs, garlic, wine and flavored vinegars.

• To make meal preparation less work, prepare meals in advance. Take advantage of opportunities offered by community organizations to enjoy meals in the company of others.

• Physical activity can help you increase your energy levels, build and strengthen muscles, improve the health of your circulatory system and bones and keep arteries clear of fatty deposits.



Tips on Dealing with Stress

Believe it or not, there are times when stress is good — such as when you have to dodge a speeding car or leap from a burning building. However, stress — your body's instinct to defend itself — can lead to health and mental problems when it is triggered too often or too easily by day-to-day events.

The many signs of stress include anxiety, back pain, stiff neck, constipation, depression, diarrhea, insomnia, headaches, heartburn, upset stomach, shortness of breath and weight gain or loss. A family physician can help you recognize stress and figure out what in your life is causing it. Your family physician also can help uncover any hidden, and potentially serious, health problems that can cause stress-like symptoms.

Since you can't always avoid stressful events, people, or situations, take the following steps:

Stop worrying. You can't control some things, like the weather.

Take control. Set realistic goals for yourself and rank them. Place the highest priority on things that you must do and like to do.

Assess. Why do some things upset you so easily?

Talk. Share concerns with close friends and family. Try to solve conflicts with other people.

Ask for help. Friends, family, and professionals can help.

Escape. Get away from daily stresses through leisure activities, such as hobbies, sports, reading, or social events.

Pace yourself. Don't overbook your life and don't let others overbook it for you.

Exercise. Release pent up

energy and get in shape at the same time.

What's missing from this list? Medication. That's because stress reduction is a skill — it doesn't come in a bottle or a pill. Other techniques to deal with stress include: meditation, relaxation training, stretching, and deep, relaxed breathing.

Ask your family physician for advice on treating or recognizing the symptoms of stress. Your family physician can suggest ways to cope with stress and relaxation techniques to help you deal with daily stress.

For a free copy of *Stress, How to cope better with the challenges of life*, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: American Academy of Family Physicians, c/o Main Street Department, P.O. Box 19326, Lenexa, KS 66285-9326.

More Americans Are Vegging Out

Veggies are in! More than 66 million Americans are eating meatless meals more often than they were one year ago.

According to *Vegetarian Times* magazine, the change is happening for a variety of reasons, but mostly to heed medical research which shows that vegetarians are at less risk for heart disease, diabetes and various cancers.

The American Dietetic Association and the federal government even acknowledge the benefits of a diet focused on vegetarian foods. If you're cutting back on your meat intake or you would like to, *Vegetarian Times* recommends the following tips to make sure you get optimum nutrition from the switch.

For Protein

Consume plenty of nuts, beans and soy foods. Vegetarians get their protein from foods

such as cheese, eggs, lentils, milk, oatmeal, peanut butter, tofu and yogurt.

For Iron

Vegetarian foods that are high in iron include beans, dried fruits such as raisins, green leafy vegetables such as spinach and kale, grains such as quinoa and rye flour, and herbs such as sage and alfalfa. Not only iron intake but also iron absorption is important. Vitamin C greatly enhances our ability to absorb iron, so a breakfast that includes raisins and orange juice is a great way not only to take iron, but maximize absorption.

For Calcium

Vegetarians who consume dairy products get calcium that way, but those who don't can still get plenty of calcium from plant-based sources including broccoli, kale, turnip greens and spinach. Also, as with iron, it's

important to consider absorption as well as intake. Those on a meat-based, high-protein diet absorb less calcium because protein from animal sources has been shown to inhibit calcium absorption.

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ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Siege of Fort at No. 4

The 250th anniversary of the repulse of a siege by French and Indians of a fortified English settlement on the Connecticut River will be reenacted July 25 to 27.

More than 400 reenactors will converge on the authentically reconstructed Fort at No. 4 for three days of musketry, cannon fire, encampments, bagpipe and fife music, and more, honoring the 1747 victory which helped assure that northern New England would remain in British control. The event offers a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to glimpse life on the New England frontier at a time when great European powers were struggling for control of a continent.

Festivities will actually begin two weeks earlier, at the Old Fort on St. Helen's Island in Montreal, when a party of raiders departs to retrace the attackers' route to No. 4. Their arrival at the fort, just across the Connecticut River from Springfield, Vt., will begin the three-day event.

Opening ceremonies are set for 10:30 a.m. on July 25. Throughout the three days, reenactors portraying the French and Indian attackers will bring the fortified settlement under fire while the 50 settler defenders reply. The siege will continue until late in the third day when, as 250 years ago, the French and Indians, short of food and having taken casualties, will withdraw.

"Our goal, as always at the fort, is historic authenticity, but we are also aiming to make this event a great deal of fun," according to Jeffrey Miller, fort research administrator. Three full days of history and entertainment are planned. Reenactors will conduct demonstrations of European infantry tactics and give cannon firing demonstrations. Indian and French encampments will be set up. A naval engagement between Indian canoes and settlers' boats will be staged on the Connecticut River. Tours of the besieged fort will be conducted. Sutlers will sell 18th-century wares, puppeteers and magicians will perform, jigs and reels will be danced, and there will be concerts of bagpipe and fife and drum music. Children will be invited to join in a "children's muster."

A blueberry festival, parade, several church suppers, musical performances, craft fair, and many other events will be held in Charlestown village, located on the original site of the fort at No. 4. The authentic reconstruction of the fort, begun a half century ago less than a mile from the original site, and the scene of the siege reenactment, will near completion with the dedication of two newly reconstructed buildings within the fort's stockaded walls.

The fort is easily accessible, just off Interstate 91 at Springfield, Vt., about 2 1/2 hours from Boston. For ticket information or directions, call (603) 826-5700.

Dine Out With a Don

City Nights Dinner Theatre announces production of the crime comedy "Death of a Don." The show is produced by David Jepson. It opens July 26 and runs all Friday and Saturday evenings through Aug. 17. In addition, there will be a Thursday evening performance on Aug. 14 and Sunday matinees on Aug. 10 and 17.

The show is directed by Ernest J. Medeiros and stars Emilietta Theroux, Janette Gregorian, Neil Santoro, Carl DeSimone, Jason Ereio, Ray Daponte, Heather Vieira and Erin Casey.

Godfather Don Giovanni clings to the traditions of a bygone era as he battles a pudgy daughter who wants to be a rock star (she envisions herself as an incarnation of Marilyn Monroe), a "sissy" son who wants to write poetry, an older son who thinks the "family" should invest in a 900-number and an older daughter he's arranging a marriage for. Even his wife is tired of black dresses, no vacation and bloody laundry. When the don is murdered at the nuptials we encounter a reluctant groom, a missing will, secret passageways and the wackiest Italian wedding in history!

City Nights is located at the center of downtown Pawtucket at 27 Exchange St. (next to the *Pawtucket Times* Building with easy access from Route 95 by Exit 29). The theater is at the intersection of Exchange and Broad streets on the left-hand side. There are four parking lots within a half block of the theater.

Tickets for the dinner and show total \$22 a person. The meal is a complete roast beef dinner with tossed salad through dessert and coffee and is served family style.

Tickets for City Nights are by reservation only. Call the box office at 723-6060. City Nights Dinner Theatre is now fully air-conditioned.

Pulitzer Prize-Winning Author Comes to Providence

The Providence Public Library will welcome Pulitzer Prize-winning author Frank McCourt to the Westin Hotel on July 21 at noon. The library will hold a luncheon followed by a lecture and book signing. Tickets are \$35, \$45 and \$100. Limit 2 signings per person.

Angela's Ashes is McCourt's autobiographical tale of poverty, suffering and strength. Born to poor immigrant parents, Malachy and Angela, in depression-era Brooklyn, McCourt saw an infant sister die when he was 3 years old. A year later, his family moved back to Ireland only to find conditions worse. "We begged from people on welfare... I never felt full; the first time [I did] was when I was hospital-

ized with typhus at 10." Within a few years of moving back to Ireland, McCourt's two-year-old twin brothers died of pneumonia. His father was overcome with sorrow "...he went out and got a white coffin, and I saw him at the pub with the man who drove the carriage. They had their pints on top of the coffin: It was one of the most disturbing moments of my early life."

However, McCourt manages to tell his family's horrific story with wit and wisdom. *Angela's Ashes* isn't simply another story of a gloomy childhood, but a tale of hardship and suffering told with love and affable candor: "I tell [my father] we're all hungry and he lets out a crazy laugh. Hungry? he says. Och,

Francis, your wee brother Oliver is dead. Your wee sister is dead and your wee brother is dead. He picks me up and hugs me so hard I cry out..." McCourt says, "If it hadn't been for alcoholism, he would have been the perfect father... I'm haunted by the possibilities of what might have been."

In addition to the Pulitzer Prize, *Angela's Ashes* won *Time* magazine's non-fiction Book of the Year (1996), The National Book Critics Circle Award, the *Los Angeles Times* Book Award and has been at the top of best-seller lists across the country.

For information about this event, call the Providence Public Library's public relations office at 455-8090 or 455-8055.

Concert Series Features Klezmer Band

Bresler's Klezmer Hotshots to Perform on July 17

"Cool Nights in a Hot City," The Rhode Island Historical Society's summer concert series, continues next week with a performance by Bresler's Klezmer Hotshots on July 17 at 6:30 p.m. The concert series will be held on the lawn of the society's John Brown House at the corner of Power and Benefit streets in Providence. Concerts are free to members of The Rhode Island Historical Society and \$4 per person, with a family maximum of \$10, for non-members. The series will run every Thursday evening, concluding on Sept. 4 with the Northeastern Navy Showband. In the event of rain, this week's show will be held at

Aldrich House at 110 Benevolent St.

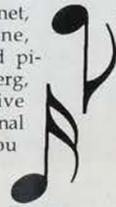
"Michael Bresler's klezmer band will present Eastern European Jewish celebration music featuring clarinet, accordion, trombone, flute, mandolin and piano," stated Al Klyberg, the society's executive director. "This emotional music will leave you laughing and crying. Last year's performance by Bresler's Klezmer Hotshots was one of the highlights of the summer series and delighted the crowd."

Upcoming concerts in the series include: Wickford Express on July 24, Jim Burke & the Dixie All Stars on July 31, Magnolia on Aug. 7, The Ivo Pires Band

on Aug. 14, Fourth Street String Band on Aug. 21, Trio Anoranzas on Aug. 28, and the Northeastern Navy Showband on Sept. 4. This year's series is sponsored in part by Hospital Trust, a Bank Boston Company.

"Bring your lawn chair, bring your blanket, bring a picnic basket, and, most importantly, bring yourself to this exciting concert series," added Klyberg. The society will also keep John Brown House, one of the finest house museums in the East, open until 6:30 for free tours for concertgoers on these nights.

For further information, call The Rhode Island Historical Society at 331-8575, ext. 123.



Prepare for Summer Fun at River Island Park

Mayor Susan D. Menard announced a summer full of events at River Island Park, sponsored by the City of Woonsocket and the Northern Rhode Island Council of the Arts. Admission is free for all listed events.

July 12 from 2 to 4 p.m. — Paul Getti's Dixieland Band.

July 20 from 2 to 4 p.m. — Second annual Jazz on the Blackstone, with food and refreshments sold by the Woonsocket Lions Club.

July 26 from 2 to 4 p.m. — Whompers three-piece acoustic band playing traditional and Celtic music.

Aug. 3 from 2 to 5 p.m. — Dick Pillar Band Polkabration, with Polish food prepared by the St. Stanislaus Ladies Club.

Aug. 9 from 2 to 4 p.m. — Fifth Avenue String Band jazz music and Fiddle-Dee-Dee.

Aug. 16 from 2 to 5 p.m. — S-Country Rounders country and western music.

Aug. 21 from 6 to 10 p.m. — Entertainment, food and drink, French Canadian music and fireworks as part of the Jubile Franco-American III Gala Festival.

Aug. 30 from 2 to 4 p.m. — Pandora's Mandolin Quartet.

Sept. 6 from 2 to 4 p.m. — Navy Rhode Island Sound Band, six-piece jazz band.

Sept. 13 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. — French Farmers' Market with music, dancing and an open-air market.

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Time Flies at Cranston Library

In keeping with the Summer Reading Game theme, Reach for the Stars, Read!, the William Hall Library, 1825 Broad St., has planned several events for children. Telephone registration is accepted for any of the programs. Children entering grades three and up can "Reach for the Stars" on July 28, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. when they hear stories about stars and create their own constellation. Those entering grades four and up are invited to "Take Flight" on July 31 at 10

a.m. by folding several styles of paper airplanes and competing in a "fly-off."

Storyteller Sparky Davis will present "Wonders of the Night Sky" for children entering grades one and up, on July 29, at 6:30 to 7:15 p.m.

Also, Talespinners, a program of stories and discussion for children entering grades one and up, meets on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. Call the library at 781-2450 to register for any of the programs.

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT



Newport Makes Music in July

The 29th annual Newport Music Festival will run from July 12 to July 27. The Newport Music Festival presents unique chamber music programs, American debuts, world-class artists and special events in the grand mansions of Newport. Selected works from the 19th century chamber music, vocal repertoire and the Romantic era piano literature combine to create one of the most extraordinary festivals in the world. Fifty-four concerts will be presented in Newport's famed summer cottages and various mansions. The following is a brief schedule of events.

Pre-festival concerts are on July 11, 12 and 13.

Box Lunches and Buffets are July 12, 16 and 24 to 26. For those music lovers who appreciate alfresco dining in spectacular outdoor settings, the festival offers three box lunch concerts, July 12

at Oceancliff is the traditional festival opener entitled "Festival Prelude." July 16 at The Elms is a program, "Valse nobles et Sentimentales." July 24 under a tent at Rosecliff is the annual Mozart love-fest, entitled "Amo, Amas, Amadeus." Programs begin at 11 a.m. and include creative lunches by Oceancliff and Kathleen's Fantastic Foods. World-renowned Belcourt Castle will be the site July 25 and 26 for a special musical buffet luncheon. Come early for the afternoon concerts at 2 p.m. and relax with the optional buffet pre-concert!

"Beethoveniads" run from

July 12 to 27. The popular retrospectives of major composers will continue with a two-year presentation of "Beethoveniads." This season, 16 afternoon programs will be devoted to the complete chamber music, piano works and songs, both well-known and rare, of German composer Ludwig van Beethoven. The St. Lawrence String Quartet and the Raphael Trio will be featured in several "Beethoveniads."

Concert Cruises — "Serenades at Sea I and II" are on July 14 and 21. Enjoy a festival tradition on the Bay Queen Line's motor vessel Vista Jubilee for two Narragansett Bay concert cruises, departing the dock at Goat Island Marina at 11 a.m. sharp. The cruises include the return, by popular demand,

ride the authentic carousel next door, and visit the Newport Aquarium downstairs.

Midnight Concerts will be performed July 13, 19, 25 and 26. The popular midnight concerts at Marble House and Ochre Court will feature a bouquet of music by Chopin with the return, by popular demand, of legendary Italian pianist Sergio Fiorentino, July 13; Beethoven's "Hammerklavier" sonata performed by American debut artist Giovanni Bellucci, July 19; Beethoven's diabolic "Diabelli Variations" with Marc-André Hamelin, July 25; and Franz Schubert's poignant song cycle "Die Schöne Müllerin" with Austrian baritone Peter Edelmann, July 26. All four concerts will be preceded by receptions courtesy of Champagne Louis Roederer.

Concert and Dinner Gala at Rosecliff on July 23. Relax amidst a magnificent ocean setting

with a pre-concert champagne dinner party under a colorful tent on the grounds of Rosecliff. The concert will be preceded by cocktails and dinner under a tent on the Rosecliff grounds, overlooking the Atlantic Ocean.

Ticket buyers are reminded that the capacity of all concert venues is limited. Therefore, early reservations are advised. Phone orders are accepted and are available by phoning 849-0700. Tickets are also available at the Newport Gateway Center, 23 America's Cup Avenue in Newport. For more information, call 846-1133.

of Boston Brass and a piano program of music by the incomparable Franz Liszt, performed by resident festival artists. The concerts include a champagne brunch with magnificent Narragansett Bay as the backdrop.

Children's Concert (for kids of all ages) will be performed July 15. The annual children's concert will feature musical fun for the whole family with a concert, entitled "Children's Hour," at the First Beach Rotunda. Productions of "Babar the Elephant" and "Paddington Bear" will be presented. After the concert, take a walk on the beach,



Johannesburg, Pretoria and Cape Town

Join educator Lynn Rakatansky for a look at her journey to South Africa, taken in November 1995. Rakatansky will present a slide/travelogue called "Johannesburg, Pretoria and Cape Town: a South African Sojourn" that tells the story of her experiences there. This presentation will be given at the Barrington Public Library on July 17 at 7:30 p.m.

While in South Africa Rakatansky attended a conference called "An Initiative for Education, Science and Technology" that attracted doctors,

scientists, lawyers and business people from around the world. In connection with this conference she visited schools in the three South African cities mentioned in the title of her talk. In addition, she took more than one "photographic safari" in various wildlife reserves; the largest reserve she visited was Pilanesberg National Park.

Rakatansky has just completed her 21st year teaching mathematics. She has received several awards including being chosen three times for *Who's*

Who Among American Teachers, where honor students are asked to choose one teacher who influenced them the most. In 1994 she was a state level winner of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching Mathematics. Rakatansky has attended conferences around the world where she has visited schools and taught teachers as well as students, in such places as Canada, Russia and Belarus and this trip to South Africa.

All programs in the Summer Travel Series are free and open to all.

Cinderella Visits New Bedford

Mix one glass slipper with a beautiful girl, add Prince Charming and a friendly mouse named Mortimer. What do you have? "Cinderella."

This elaborate full-scale musical will be presented by American Family Theatre, the nation's oldest and largest touring theatrical company. "Cinderella" is part of its Broadway for Kids series which has entertained millions season after consecutive season.

Watch Cinderella sing and dance her way from her mean-spirited stepmother and step-sisters into the arms of Prince

Charming. Along the way she gets a little help from a special friend, Mortimer Mouse. This is a feel-good, upbeat production full of spirit and positive messages.

A total of 12 songs (six per act) are performed by all the major characters and the costumes and sets are lavishly decorated.

Sponsored by the Greater New Bedford Community Health Center, tickets are only \$5. All shows are on Wednesdays and begin at 2 p.m. Discounts are available for 10 or more people. Tickets can be purchased at the Zeiterion box

office, at all Ticketmaster locations, or by calling Ticketmaster in Mass. at (508) 931-2000 or at 331-2211. For more information, call the Zeiterion box office directly at (508) 994-2900.

The Zeiterion Summer Youth Series is funded, in part, by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, and with funds from the council administered by the Cultural Councils of Acushnet, Freetown, Lakeville and Marion; and also with support from the National Endowment for the Arts. The theater is located at 684 Purchase St. in New Bedford.

Women's Resource Center Plans Summer Fund-raiser

The Women's Resource Center is anticipating raising much-needed funds in collaboration with the Newport Music Festival. On July 24, there will be a reception at one of Newport's most beautiful and architecturally interesting homes, "Belle Rive," located at 244 Ocean Drive.

It is an exciting opportunity for people to see this beautiful home before the concert "In a Night," an evening of nocturnal fantasies at The Breakers, all while helping to end domestic violence. The reception will be from 7 to 8:30 p.m., allowing time for the 9 p.m. concert at The Breakers.

"We are delighted to collaborate with such a prestigious organization. This demonstrates

how two non-profits can work together to benefit the community," said Jeanette Janik, executive director of the Women's Resource Center.

Tickets are \$60 per person or \$100 per couple. They can be bought by calling the Women's Resource Center at 846-5263. "This is a magical synergy, an event that incorporates culture and a social service agency; it shows we are working together to better the community in which we live," said Kim Shea-Alzheimer of the women's Resource Center, the event planner.

The Women's Resource Center is an agency that provides free services to the victims of domestic violence in Newport and Bristol counties.

Be an Actor... at the All Children's Summer Theatre Academy

Don't waste your summer, invest it in the future by learning the craft of theater arts. The ACT Summer Theatre Academy is not just another summer camp. It offers a unique, dynamic approach to theater study for the young, motivated, aspiring actor. At this intensive training program, participants work with professional artists to develop natural talents.

This two-week theater conservatory program will focus on developing skills of concentration, ensembling, movement, pantomime, improvisation, characterizations and play production. At the end of each week there will be an informal presentation for family and friends.

Extras include a backstage tour of Trinity Rep, chatting with other professional actors dur-

ing break time, and an optional trip to a professional theatrical production. Each academy participant will receive an ACT T-shirt upon completion of the program, as well as an invitation to become a member of the award-winning, All Children's Theater Ensemble.

Session II runs from July 21 to Aug. 1 and Session III runs from Aug. 4 to 15.

ACT also offers early drop-off/late pick-up for working parents.

Additional classes from ACT this summer include Bag & Box Players for the 3- to 5-year-olds and Storybook Theater for 6- to 8-year-olds for four weeks in July from 4 to 6 p.m.

Call for a brochure or information — class space is limited — 331-7174.

Trinity Rep Celebrates Love

Engagements, Weddings, and Anniversaries in 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'

William Shakespeare originally wrote his beloved comedy about ardent lovers, secret elopements in the woods of Athens, and tribes of fairies with love potions, in honor of a noble wedding. To carry on this delightful tradition, Trinity Rep will pay tribute to the nuptials, engagement or anniversary of a different couple during each of its 42 public performances of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" from Sept. 5 through Oct. 19. The couple will be seated in complimentary "box seats" in Trinity Rep's Upstairs Theater, saluted and toasted effusively by the cast, and showered with flower petals during the course of the play. Couples are also

being offered the opportunity of holding a reception in the lobby.

To be eligible, interested persons should write a few words describing why they want to celebrate their engagement, wedding, or anniversary at Trinity Rep. They should send their paragraph — along with their name, address, day and night phone numbers, and preferred performance date(s) — to "Wedding at Trinity Rep," 201 Washington St., Providence, RI 02903. (Note: there are no Monday performances.) The deadline for entries is July 15. Couples chosen to participate will be notified by phone by July 31. For information, call 521-1100, ext. 224.

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FEATURE

Music For The Eyes

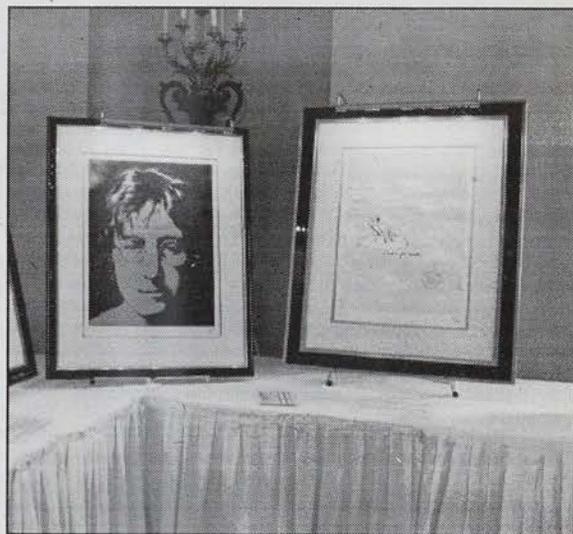
by Tara V. Lisciandro
Herald Editor

For only four days last week, the artwork collection of the late musician and artist, John Lennon, was on exhibit at the Providence Biltmore. The exhibition was made possible by Lennon's wife, Yoko Ono and LASCO Productions. The 17th floor ballroom made for an elegant display of the late artist's signed works. Rows of golden, wooden and metal frames

showed off the signed sketches, drawings, song lyrics, original film cels from the Yellow Submarine and black and white photos of Lennon. Each one told an intimate and moving story of his life as an artist, Beatle, husband and father. "The connection to him is universal and encompasses all age and gender groups," said Larry Schwartz, executive producer of LASCO Productions. The art depicted much of Lennon's private life of

which very little has been written. "He used his art to express his innermost feelings about love and his devotion to his family," said Schwartz. All of Lennon's signed works were on sale and ranged in price from \$550 to \$10,000. Many of the artist's works were limited, rare and last editions. Donations were raised during the exhibit and went to the Rhode Island Community Food Bank. Just this year Yoko's donations for AIDS research and other foundations have exceeded more than \$1 million.

Lennon's works have been touring the United States and an average of one to two exhibits are held every two months. As a part of a silent promise made to the memory of Lennon's unfulfilled desire for a serious exhibit of his artwork, Yoko has arranged for many showings of her late husband's works. "Yoko selects the sites for the exhibits and always ties in a local foundation where she can donate money. She is especially interested in foundations that deal with hunger," said Steven Schwartz of LASCO Productions, "These exhibits allow Yoko to show the world that John was an artist too." Yoko does not make an appearance at any of the exhibits as she believes it would take away from



the art being displayed. "The people appreciate the exhibit a lot," said Schwartz.

It was Yoko who asked her late husband to chronicle his life through art when they married. He, in return, presented her with the *Bag One Portfolio*, a group of wedding and controversial sketches that would later be confiscated during shows in London and Chicago. The *Bag One Portfolio* of 1969 was also on display at the Biltmore and ranged from \$5,000 to \$10,000 each. It also is a part of the permanent collection of the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

The tall glass elevator of the Biltmore was busy taxiing guests to the grand ballroom. A variety of people filled the room during the weekend, some were art collectors others were admirers and fans of Lennon's art and music. While guests enjoyed *Music for the Eyes*, the well-known songs of Lennon played in the background and made lips and feet move almost unconsciously. (For those who were unable to attend, Yoko and LASCO Productions are planning their next exhibit for the fall in the Boston area, call (707) 526-8991 for information).



THE ART WORK of John Lennon was on display at the Biltmore in Providence during the Fourth of July weekend.

Herald photos by Tara V. Lisciandro

Life in a Shtetl Opens at Yad Vashem

Luboml, a Jewish shtetl destroyed in the Shoah after 600 years of thriving activity, lives again in an exhibition of photographs and memorabilia in the Valley of the Communities at Yad Vashem. The exhibition, "Luboml, A Small Jewish World," opened on July 1, and will continue through March 1998. The date also marks the publication, by KTAV Publishing House, of *Luboml: Memorial Book of a Vanished Shtetl*, the English translation of the *Yizkor Book* of this community, created by its former residents, many of whom live in Israel. "For those of us who trace our roots to Eastern Europe, Luboml could have been our past. Blessedly, it is newly accessible in so many ways," said Michael Berenbaum, president of the Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation in Los Angeles, California.

The Yad Vashem exhibition of more than 100 photographs

and 40 documents and artifacts is underwritten by the Aaron Ziegelman Foundation and organized in cooperation with the Luboml Exhibition Project, of New York City. Fred Wasserman, a professional museum curator and director of the Luboml project, has assembled a collection of more than 2,000 photographs and memorabilia of Luboml. The exhibition includes excerpts of a unique historical motion picture taken by an American tourist in Luboml in 1933. A computer terminal allows visitors to access a list of all the martyrs of the Shoah who lived in Luboml, and to view the Luboml project's Internet website (<http://www.jewishmuseums.com/luboml.htm>).

The core exhibit simulates the marketplace of Luboml with life-size photos, Shabbat candlesticks, embroidery, lacework, liquor labels from a Jewish distillery and other objects are displayed in the "windows" of

buildings on the market square. A memorial section features backlit portraits of individual townspeople. "When we mourn the martyred communities destroyed by the Germans in their blood frenzy," said noted author Cynthia Ozick, "we mourn not only those murdered Jewish populations — we also mourn the murder of a luminous civilization."

The Luboml project and the translated *Yizkor Book*, are a tribute to the vision and effort of Aaron Ziegelman, whose childhood was spent in Luboml. Although he emigrated to America in 1938 with his widowed mother and sister, Ziegelman retained a great fondness for his home town. Records of the Jewish community extend back to the 14th century. When the Ziegelmans left, the town's 4,000 Jews constituted 90 percent of the population. Only 51, now scattered far and wide, survived the Holocaust.

For many years, Aaron Ziegelman believed he and his immediate family were the only Ziegelmans left alive. An article about his childhood in Luboml led to contact with a distant relative, and soon he learned of more than 100 relatives around the world. Eventually, Ziegelman, a successful American real estate entrepreneur, created a family reunion, bringing over 350 relatives, their spouses and children together for a five-day party in New York, at his expense. At about the same time, he was impelled by the movie "Shindler's List," to assemble everything he could find to document and give life to his

(Continued on Page 15)

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The Face of Hunger in Rhode Island

Many thoughtful and concerned people, dedicated to the eradication of hunger, have written in testament to the real need here in our state. We share with you excerpts from their letters in order to make their words known. They lend voice to a crying human need — the need for food security for every child, woman and man in our community.

"Our bi-weekly food distribution at Assumption parish begins at 8:45 A.M. but many people are in at 6:00 A.M. in spite of bitter cold, intense heat, driving rain and freezing snow... A large number of those who come to us are inappropriately dressed for the weather, and children are clinging to their parents for stability and security. Each adult receives one bag of food that will provide three meals for one day. When I began working in the Assumption Food Ministry in 1992, the food line consisted of 40 people who needed assistance. Presently that figure has escalated to 150 to 200, and it continues to rise consistently. In the past month our statistics show that food was distributed to 540 families, representing 1,638 individuals. I would like readers to witness, as I have, a totally blind person climbing precariously up the stairs with a seeing eye dog to claim one bag of food. I would like everyone to observe several people in wheelchairs who have struggled across busy streets several blocks away for a bag of food. Can anyone seeing this, in conscience, still doubt the existence of hunger in Rhode Island?"

• **Sister Mary Caffrey, R.S.M., Pastoral Assistant,**
Assumption Parish, Providence.

"According to the Food Research and Action Center, approximately 11,000 children under the age of twelve are hungry or at risk of hunger in the state of Rhode Island."

• **Christine Vladimiroff, O.S.B. Ph.D., President and CEO**
Second Harvest National Food Bank

"Twice this decade we have sponsored surveys designed by eminent academics and researchers to understand the extent, causes, and effects of hunger on children from low-income households. Our findings suggest that several million young children in this country miss enough meals on a regular basis that it affects their health, development, and ability to learn. Consequences like these suggest that initiatives like Rhode Islanders for a Hunger-Free State are worthy of widespread support."

• **Robert J. Fersh, President,**
Food Research and Action Center

"As one whose professional social work career spanned nearly forty years in two states, more than half as assistant director and director of what is now the R.I. Department of Human Services... I see only increasing need due to high housing costs, low wages, and unemployment and the myriad of human social problems confronting our community... It is not only inadequate public funds but too limited income, earned and unearned, and too many cost of living drains which causes hunger here and elsewhere... We have both the obligation and capacity to alleviate hunger here in Rhode Island."

• **John J. Affleck, Board Member, R.I. Community Food Bank**

"This is the total number of people we have helped feed from January 1, 1997, to May 30, 1997: 5,552 people — 2,081 adults, 2,752 children. A single mother with two children has an income of \$554. Her rent is \$369. She has been cut off food stamps. Now she has \$185 for the month which has to take care of food, utilities, clothing and laundry. A senior couple has high medical bills. They are unable to get assistance. When there are sufficient funds they buy prescription meds for heart conditions. These are just two examples."

• **Connie Brochu, Blackstone Valley Emergency Food Center, Central Falls**

"Sadly poverty is real and very much alive in Rhode Island. Its existence threatens many single parent families who cannot make ends meet. It threatens our elderly, who after paying rent and utilities have very little left over to buy food. It threatens the lives of the children, some of whose parents are addicted to drugs or alcohol. They sometimes go without food for days because of their parents' vices."

• **Rosanna I. Grello, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Providence**

"The evidence shows that the causes of hunger are economic — recently unemployed families, households whose breadwinners have been 'downsized' in jobs which formerly paid \$19 and now pay \$8. The Center for Disease Control data indicate that at least 500,000 U.S. children are seriously malnourished... Another body of evidence now shows that even mild undernutrition impairs cognitive function in children, damage which can last a lifetime. Hunger impairs children before they can enter the school doors, thereby jeopardizing not only young minds but public investments in education and workforce productivity."

• **J. Larry Brown, Tufts Center of Hunger,**
Poverty and Nutrition Policy

"We find when money gets tight the first thing that is reduced is the amount of food in the house. We have a family where the husband is a truck driver and the wife just got laid off from her work. They have four children ages one to six years. Because of the decrease in their income, we are helping them with their food which helps them keep up with their rent and utilities and not worry about being put out of their home. The need is definitely there."

• **Paul Kavanagh, St. Raymond's Church**
St. Vincent DePaul Society, Providence

"680 Food Baskets, 2,273 people fed, 27,893 meals provided. By any standard, that's a whole lot of hunger. That's what we provided last year at the Bradford Johnnycake Center."

• **Granville Oakes, Treasurer,**
Bradford Johnnycake Center

"Over the past twelve years I have come to learn that hunger is a real problem in Rhode Island. I serve as the Chairman of the West Warwick School Committee. We have instituted and expanded our breakfast program because of the high number of children coming to school hungry every day."

• **Thomas V. Iannitti, Director of Human Services**
Town of West Warwick

There is much we can do together to solve this problem in our state.
If we strive to do it, to eliminate hunger and help all those truly in need,
we could become the country's first hunger-free state.

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OBITUARIES

SYLVIA COKEN

WARWICK — Sylvia Coken, 91, of 425 Meshanticut Valley Parkway, Cranston, died June 30 at Kent County Memorial Hospital, Warwick. She was the widow of Irving Coken.

Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Joseph and Sarah Barash, she moved to Cranston 40 years ago.

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

She leaves two sons, Gerald M. Coken and Myron L. Coken, both of Cranston; five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. She was a sister of the late Harold Barash, and Rose, Ester and Helen.

The funeral service was held July 2 at Temple Sinai, 40 Hagan Ave., Cranston. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

GLADYS HANDLER

PROVIDENCE — Gladys Handler, 70, of the United Methodist Health Care Center, East Providence, died July 5 at Miriam Hospital, Providence. She was the wife of the late Allen D. Handler.

Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Benjamin J. and Lena (Morein) Bromberg, she had lived in Cranston and Warwick before she moved to East Provi-

dence in February.

She leaves two daughters, Shelley Stravato of Cranston and Arnell Wilson in New York; a son, Bernard J. Handler of Cranston; a sister, Irene Visnick of Rockport, Mass.; a brother, Milton Bromberg of Baltimore, Md.; and four grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Madeline Sofro and Ethel Copeland.

A graveside service was held June 7 in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. Service was coordinated by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

MYNA PRESCOTT

FALL RIVER — Myna Prescott, 92, of Royal Crest, Building 11, Apt. 12, Fall River, died June 30 at home.

Born in Poland, a daughter of the late Harris and Tillie (Kaplan) Prescott, she lived in Fall River most of her life.

She was a member of Congregation Adas Israel.

She leaves a sister, Grace Prescott of Fall River, with whom she lived; and two nephews. She was a sister of the late Joseph, Asa and George Prescott.

A graveside service was held July 2 at Agudas Achim Cemetery, Newhall Street, Fall River. Burial followed. Service was coordinated by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

CECILE REDLICH

PROVIDENCE — Cecile Redlich, 59, of 391 Whipple St.,

Fall River, died June 30 at Women and Infants Hospital in Providence.

A lifelong Fall River resident, she was a daughter of the late William and Eleanor (Mieirowitz) Giflin.

She leaves a daughter, Beth Redlich Mattos of Pineville, N.C.; three sons, Mark Redlich of Sharon, Mass., Alan Redlich of Philadelphia, Pa., and Samuel Redlich of Tempe, Ariz.; a sister, Lois Parnes of Windsor, Conn.; and seven grandchildren.

The funeral was held July 1 at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

ALAN ROSENBERG

PROVIDENCE — Alan Rosenberg, 55, of 19 Lafayette St., Pawtucket, an assistant principal viola player for the R.I. Philharmonic orchestra for many years, died June 28 after suffering a cardiac arrest while driving on the Route 10 and 6 connector in Providence. He was the husband of Elisabeth (Trostli) Rosenberg.

Born in Providence, a son of the late Ralph and Barbara (Chase) Rosenberg, he lived in Pawtucket for the past two years, previously living in Cranston and Providence.

He attended Florida State University and graduated from Rhode Island College in 1972 with a degree in music.

He was a Mason and a member of the R.I. Federation of

Musicians. His hobbies included photography and tennis.

The funeral was held July 1 at the Max Sugarman Memorial

Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in the Rhode Island Veterans Cemetery, Exeter.

Burials and Burial Places

In the town of Dartmouth, Massachusetts

The Historical Commission and the Cemetery Commission of the Town of Dartmouth, Massachusetts, announce the publication of *Burials and Burial Places in the Town of Dartmouth, Massachusetts*. This volume will be of use to genealogists, historians, and family members seeking their ancestors.

This publication identifies 80 cemeteries, large and small, public and private, located within the boundaries of the present town of Dartmouth. These cemeteries are described and located by street address so they may be easily found. A brief history of each burial ground and/or the persons buried there is included. Also listed, both alphabetically by name and geographically by cemetery, are the roughly 8,000 persons buried in these cemeteries, along with death and birth information inscribed on the burial markers.

A resident of Dartmouth for the last 30 years, the author,

Judith Lund, has an undergraduate degree from Wellesley College and a master's degree from Yale University. She has served the town as Town Meeting Member for most of those years, as a member and former chairman of the town's historical commission, and is currently chairman of the town's cemetery commission. Professionally, she is the curator of the Old Dartmouth Historical Society-New Bedford Whaling Museum in New Bedford.

The cost is \$25 per volume plus \$3.50 handling and mailing and may be ordered by mail from the Dartmouth Historical Commission, Town Hall, Room 308, 400 Slocum Road, Dartmouth, MA 02747.

It is also on sale at the Office of the Town Clerk, Dartmouth Town Hall, Slocum Road, at local bookstores and historical societies.

For information, contact Judy Lund at (508) 997-0046, ext. 18.

Program for Women Promotes Co-Existence

An innovative Joint Distribution Committee program aiming to raise the status of women in Israel's Arab sector has helped promote co-existence between Arabs and Jews in Jerusalem.

As members of both a minority community and a traditional patriarchal society, Arab women in Israel are doubly disadvantaged. As part of its commitment to help the weakest sections of society, JDC-Israel has developed a leadership development project for Jerusalem's Beit Safafa neighborhood as one of several programs to empower Arab women and promote the development of women's leadership in the Arab sector. Twelve women, who will serve as a leadership nucleus for the wider community, attend weekly workshops on self-empowerment, women's status in Arab society, women's rights and planning of community projects.

The group's first project was a joint effort with a similar leadership group for women in the adjacent Jewish neighborhood of Gilo to help strengthen the connection between the two communities. Together, the two groups organized a series of lectures on women's health issues. The lectures, attended by 50 to 70 women, are given in both Hebrew and Arabic and are held every three weeks. For their second project, the Beit Safafa women will work with the pupils of their local elementary school, teaching about environmental issues.

The program's goal of ensuring the representation of women in the community's decision-making forums is already being realized, with members of the group now participating in several of the previously all-male neighborhood administration committees.

Israeli Civil Rights Group Decries Official Neglect of Arab Citizens

by Naomi Segal

JERUSALEM (JTA) — An Israeli civil rights group has charged that the Jewish state continues to neglect the needs of its Arab citizens.

Issuing its annual report, the Association for Civil Rights in Israel said that unequal treatment of Israeli Arabs remained one of the primary civil rights violations.

The association said that while Arabs make up 17 percent of Israel's population, they receive only 2 percent of its services.

"There was a major cut in budgets across the board this year," ACRI President Ruth Gavison told a Jerusalem news

conference. "It's easier to cut allocations to groups that are weak, and the group that's weakest in our community is the Arabs."

The most serious areas of discrimination were in housing and education, the report said. The report called on Israel to adopt affirmative action measures to "narrow the gaps."

The report also criticized treatment of the foreign labor force, which it said had been brought in to reduce the number of Palestinians working in Israel. Some 200,000 foreign workers are in Israel.

It also commented on the friction between Jewish religious

(Continued on Page 15)

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Prague Shul Holds First Brit in 40 Years

PRAGUE, Czech Republic (LNS) — The Jewish community recently celebrated the first ritual circumcision to take place in Europe's oldest synagogue in more than 40 years.

Rabbi Manis and Dinah Barash, Chabad-Lubavitch emissaries to the Czech Republic, hosted some 150 guests at their son's brit milah in the 800-year-old Alte-Nue Shul, including Chief Rabbi of the Czech Republic Ephraim Sidon, Lubavitch emissary and Chief Rabbi of Slovakia Baruch Myers, and Rafael Gur, Israeli ambassador to the Czech Republic.

Tears flowed freely as elderly community members were

reminded of scenes long in the past. "This is a very special day for us here in Prague," said Victor Inerlich, long-standing cantor of the Alte-Nue Shul. "The last brit that I can recall in the synagogue was more than 40 years ago."

The celebration also focused attention on the sad legacy of four decades of Communist rule — the fact that many Eastern-European Jewish men did not have the opportunity to be circumcised. Rabbi Glick, the mohel who flew in from London to perform the brit, promised to come back and perform "the many other Brit Milahs which, please G-d, will fol-

low..."

The celebration, which was followed by a festive meal in the Jewish town hall with music and dancing, brought the entire official Jewish community together.

The newborn was named Menachem Mendel, after the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson, of righteous memory.

Summing up, the baby's mother, Dina Barash, said, "We cannot imagine a more appropriate way to enter the covenant of Abraham than this. We hope that Menachem Mendel will continue to bring light to the Jewish community of Prague for many healthy years to come."

Israeli civil rights

(Continued from Page 14)

and non-observant populations, saying that a proposed bill which would set in law the Orthodox monopoly on conversions in Israel would infringe on religious freedom.

A government-appointed committee began work last week to seek a solution to the divisive conversion issue.

In its evaluation of the General Security Service, the report questioned what it said was the continued use of irregular interrogation methods, including sleep deprivation and exposure to extreme temperatures.

Some 250 Palestinians are being held without trial under administrative detention orders, according to the report.

Life in a Shtetl

(Continued from Page 12)

memories of Luboml. The result was the Luboml Exhibition Project. At his invitation, 200 of Aaron Ziegelman's family and Luboml landsmen will gather for the Yad Vashem opening, some from as far away as Brazil. The man who 12 years ago thought he had no family has found a very extended mishpacha.

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Requests for Proposals for Learn and Serve America community-based service-learning funds are available from the Rhode Island Commission for National and Community Service. A limited number of grants, \$5,000 to \$20,000, will be awarded to non-profit organizations for the development and implementation of community-based service-learning programs for children and youth between the ages of 5 to 17.

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Keep glare out of photos: When taking photos of water on sunny days, glare can ruin a picture. You can get rid of it by moving slightly, shifting the angle of view.

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Conversion

(Continued from Page 1)

Although he rejects any proposal that would "equalize" Orthodox and non-Orthodox converts on identity cards or other public documents, Yahalom said he is willing to work with non-Orthodox Jews on educating prospective converts.

Yahalom said he might consider a proposal based on what he called the "Denver Model."

Although the arrangement is no longer in effect, several years ago, Reform, Conservative and Orthodox rabbis in Denver formulated a set of mutually acceptable conversion criteria.

Prospective converts from all streams of Judaism went before a joint committee, which in turn referred appropriate candidates to the Orthodox religious court.

"The idea is that all streams will agree on two institutions, the beit din [rabbinical court] and an educational body," Yahalom said. "In addition to accepting the authority of the Orthodox beit din, the streams will establish an institution that will deal with all conversion candidates and teach them about Judaism."

One non-Orthodox insider said that the Denver model was too politically volatile to be considered a credible solution in the short term.

Ravitz of United Torah Judaism said he would also consider an educational role for the non-Orthodox movements within a strictly Orthodox conversion process.

Ravitz added, however, that he would never sanction a conversion process that does not require complete adherence to the commandments.

"The first thing a convert must say is, 'I want to accept the Torah, I want to be a part of you, the Jewish people.' True, a lot of Jews don't keep the mitzvot, but converts must be held to a higher standard," he said.

Like Yahalom, Ravitz flatly rejected any compromise based on the concept of religious pluralism.

"The Jewish religion is a religion of absolute truths. Everyone can provide their interpretation of the Jewish religion, but if we accept pluralism they will say 'accept us as one color or one part of pluralistic Jewishness.'"

By agreeing to a multihued Judaism, Ravitz said, "we are agreeing that Israel will be open to different expressions of Judaism. How can this be, when we view the Reform movement not as a religious movement at all?"

In contrast to the Orthodox parties, Reform and Conservative leaders say their committee representatives will push for full equality under the law.

"Under the ideal solution, the government will treat all streams of Judaism equally," said Philip Meltzer, president of the Association of Reform Zionists of America. "Conversions will be recognized regardless of whether they're performed by a Reform, Conservative or Orthodox rabbi."

Despite the wide gaps between the Orthodox and liberal movements, the Reform and Conservative leaders are looking forward to the upcoming dialogue.

"We don't have a specific preference as to a specific compromise, but we'd like to sit down and dialogue with our Orthodox colleagues," Meltzer said.

The fact that an Orthodox representative will sit on the seven-person committee is already a step in the right direction, according to those close to the conversion issue.

The formation of the committee "was not done without consultations with the Orthodox leadership," said Bobby Brown, the prime minister's adviser on Diaspora affairs.

"We delayed an explosion and hopefully created a possible framework with which to sort problems out now, and possibly in the future," said Brown, who was a key participant in the negotiations with the non-Orthodox movements.

While he was unwilling to predict whether a mutually acceptable solution could be found, Brown said he believes that the crisis and the spirit of cooperation that ultimately occurred bodes well for the future.

"We've hopefully begun a period during which Jews will be speaking to Jews," Brown said.

"That has been one of the greatest victories," he said. "People will be talking to each other."

A Jeweler Who Won't Let You Settle For Less Than Perfect

by Sara Wise
Herald Editor

There's a new jewelry store in historic Pawtucket Village that offers a lot more than just what's in the cases. Concannon Jewelers, which opened June 30, is an outgrowth of Richard Concannon's appraisal business in Pawtucket that has earned him a devoted clientele. Concannon is hoping that his new store will expand his client base to include retail customers. "I have a standing inventory now, so people can come in and look and buy on impulse," said Concannon. "But I will still do appraisals, design and custom work."

Located at 2190 Broad St., the new store is tastefully decorated with soft pastel colors and inviting display cases that draw browsers in towards the center of the room. Concannon worked hard on the aesthetics of the store because he feels strongly that people need to feel at ease when buying jewelry. "The idea was to create an atmosphere where people can come in and feel comfortable and know that they're not being pressured to buy; they can ask questions and I'm going to give them straight answers."

Concannon also likes to be sure that his customers know as much about their purchase as possible. "Most people buy jewelry on impulse, they look at it and they like it because it looks pretty. But there can be big differences in the quality of two items that look the same. I like to tell them everything about it, so at least they're making an informed choice."

With numerous certificates from the Gemological Institute of America and more than six years of experience at Ross-Simons Jewelers, Concannon is

certainly well qualified to inform people about their choices. Although he claims he got into the business "by accident," when he took a sales job at a jewelry store in Lincoln Mall after graduating from college, Concannon pursued his career earnestly, apprenticing himself to a leader in the field, Sidney Ross, founder of Ross-Simons Jewelers. "He was a mentor to me. He taught me

learning by reading gemology magazines, attending appraisal seminars, and keeping up on new techniques. "I need to continue to learn, if I stop learning I stagnate."

Concannon also has a bachelor's degree of Fine Arts in acting and directing and draws clear links between theater, which he still participates in locally, and the jewelry business: "My love of selling is certainly theatrical and there is, of course, an artistic element to jewelry display and store layout

als and entire estate appraisals.

Select pieces of consignment jewelry are available at the store, but Concannon is choosy about what he puts in his consignment case. "I'm very particular about the pieces I take in. I pick pieces according to what I think my clientele will like."

Concannon is excited about his new location in Pawtucket. Although he lives in Lincoln, his mother grew up in Edgewood, so he's familiar with the area. "It seems to be a quaint, close community, so it will take a while until people really get to know me. I'm looking for it to grow from here, little by little." He aims to treat all customers with same amount of respect, unlike some places that have different standards for customers spending a lot of money.

But what's most important to him is that people feel comfortable with their purchase. "Jewelry is an intensely personal

item, it is a reflection of who people are, and what outward statement they want to make, so they generally put a lot of thought into it." Instead of carrying tons of inventory, Concannon said that he prefers to go out and find exactly what people want. "I like to talk with people and find out what their needs are, what their price range is, and then I go do the research to find the best possible product for them."

If he cannot find a customer exactly what they want, he will refer them elsewhere, even if that means losing a sale. "The short-term sale is not the whole picture, it's about developing trust. I'd rather be up-front with people," said Concannon. "My goal is ultimately that people look at it and say, 'yes, this is what I want, this is beautiful.' There's nothing more enjoyable than seeing someone put on the piece that they love and light up and say 'Wow!' That's a great reward."



RICHARD CONCANNON, owner of Concannon Jewelers in Pawtucket Village.
Herald photo by Sara Wise

more than I ever would have learned in school and I can't thank him enough." Although he has been working on his own for 16 months, Concannon keeps

that relates to set design. It's all about how to utilize space."

In addition to jewelry, there are handsome clocks on one wall and cases containing elegant pens and two lines of watches. Concannon plans to carry silver and crystal in the future. He will also continue doing appraisal work, since many people have jewelry that they don't know what to do with. He gives advice on how to sell it. "First you need a fair market appraisal to find out what this is worth on the open market," and then he gives the client their options, like advertising privately or putting it on consignment. He also does formal insurance apprais-

Yankee Crafts For The Family

The South County Museum will hold the annual Yankee Crafts and Skills Weekend on July 12 and 13 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Come see demonstrations and hear discussions about old-time Yankee crafts and skills at the South County Museum, Narragansett.

Demonstrations will include quilt making, rug hooking, tatting, rug braiding, doll making, flower arranging, spinning, potpourri, weaving, basketry, pottery, carpentry, blacksmithing and bee keeping. Ride on the Side Hill Farm haywagon, pulled by two Percherons, Luke and Blue.

The Steve Gillette Duo (Steve Gillette and Gary Potter), noted

for their sounds of acoustic and electric guitars, will play old-time American music on July 12 from 1 to 3 p.m. and on July 15 from 11 to 2 p.m.

Special demonstrations will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. daily.

Children can have a floral wreath woven for their hair.



Children's activities will include old-time games, stilt walking and more.

Admission is free, donations are welcome.

The South County Museum is located on Route 1A with the entrance opposite the Narragansett Town beach pavilion.

The museum is handicap accessible. For information, call Peter Gardiner 783-5400.

Poetry at the Library

Registration has begun for a series of Poetry Writing Workshops to be conducted by local writers Catherine Boisseau and Ingrid Wild Kleckner at the Barrington Public Library. Registration begins at 9 a.m. at the library's reference desk in person or by phone.

The Session II workshop, Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m., Aug. 5 through 26, will explore writing poetry based on emotion, experience, and fantasy in non-traditional ways.

Participants are encouraged to read these poems in class. If desired, take-home assignments can be given out.

Public readings for Session I and Session II will be held in early September. The emphasis of the workshop is on fun and the unexpected! Call 247-1920 for information.

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