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**Museum of
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PAGES 10 & 11

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El Al Chooses Boeing Amid Intense Pressure from United States

by Matthew Dorf

WASHINGTON (JTA)—The Clinton administration often pulls out all the stops to help U.S. companies compete for large contracts overseas.

Boeing is no exception—and this time it was Israel that felt the heat.

When Boeing faced off against its archrival Airbus for a multimillion dollar contract with El Al, top Clinton administration officials leaned on Israel's national airlines to buy American.

At the end of the day, El Al's board of directors voted unanimously to buy five commercial 737 jets from the Seattle-based manufacturer for \$180 million.

By choosing Boeing, Israel avoided a confrontation with the Clinton administration at a time of strained relations between Jerusalem and Washington.

It also revived the question of whether Israel is obligated to buy American because of the U.S. foreign aid it receives.

The purchase, relatively small by industry standards, took on greater importance because El Al has flown an all-Boeing fleet since Israel's founding.

The contract, meanwhile, dealt a stinging defeat to the

French Airbus, which also lost out to Boeing in recent deals with Saudi Arabia and Turkey.

Senior French officials had weighed in on behalf of Airbus, but with less success than their American counterparts.

The officials said the decision, issued one day later than expected, came after Boeing lowered its offer a reported 6 percent to come closer to the Airbus price.

Despite claims to the contrary, there was little doubt there had been significant U.S. pressure — from U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright on down.

Albright had raised the issue with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu during a recent meeting in Europe according to sources. Netanyahu, in turn, dispatched his finance minister, Ya'acov Ne'eman to address the El Al board.

Meanwhile, Stuart Eizenstat, the U.S. undersecretary of state for economics, was dispatched to Israel to plead Boeing's case.

"We lost no opportunity with everybody from the prime minister to the bell cap to mention the importance we attach to Boeing's continued participation with El Al," Eizenstat told a group of Israeli government of-

ficials and business leaders in Israel.

Although the United States never threatened the \$3 billion it provides Israel annually in foreign aid, Eizenstat recalled a 1992 agreement under which the United States provided \$10 billion in loan guarantees to assist Israel's resettlement of Jewish refugees.

Eizenstat said that as part of that program, Israel had made a commitment to "enhance in a substantial way its purchase of U.S. goods."

"That doesn't mean we're supposed to win every tender," he added, "but this would be an excellent way of underscoring Israel's commitment."

Zalman Shoval, who was Israel's ambassador to the United States at that time and helped negotiate the deal, supported Eizenstat's interpretation of the agreement.

Israel has "no formal obligation to buy American," Shoval said during a visit here recently. "But the spirit certainly was that we would try to give preference to American goods."

On the Israeli side, Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai also entered the debate. He warned El Al — whose

(Continued on Page 15)



'2.5 Minute Ride' Visits Providence

Lisa Kron wrote and performed '2.5 Minute Ride,' a story that weaves together three stories through which Kron gets to know her father, a Holocaust survivor. '2.5 Minute Ride' will be performed at Perishable Theatre, Jan. 21 to 25 and proceeds will assist the R.I. Holocaust Memorial Museum. (See story on Page 13).



Stamp Honors Chabad's Children of Chernobyl

The Chabad Children of Chernobyl choir shows a blow-up of the Chabad Children of Chernobyl postal stamp which was unveiled on Dec. 30, in a Knesset ceremony featuring Minister of Communications Limor Livnat, Chairman of the Knesset Dan Tichon, and Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert. The boys, who performed at the ceremony, are part of the 1,527 children from the contaminated Chernobyl region Chabad has brought to Israel on 32 flights over the past seven years. They live on special campuses in Kfar Chabad, where they receive medical treatment and education. (See page 16 for story)

Photo by Israel Sun

Illinois Boy Becomes Youngest 'Major Donor' to Holocaust Museum

by Peter Ephross

NEW YORK (JTA) — A 9-year-old boy from Illinois has become the youngest "major donor" to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Daniel Obeler donated the money he won in an international art contest for children to the museum.

Obeler won one of the first prizes in the Northwest Airlines-sponsored contest for his artwork titled "The Windy City," which depicts Chicago's landscape.

The airline donated \$5,000 in the name of each winner to his or her favorite charity — and Obeler selected the Holocaust museum in Washington.

"I wanted to give my award to a good cause that dealt with humanitarian issues and the Jewish people. The Holocaust museum does both," he said.

He recently presented the

money to the museum just before taking a private tour of the exhibits with a guide who was just a few years older than Obeler is now when she was deported to a concentration camp in 1944.

"I wanted to give my award to a good cause that dealt with humanitarian issues and the Jewish people."

Daniel Obeler

Obeler is helping "touch young people throughout the United States, only a few of whom share his intuitive understanding of the importance of our mission and message," said the museum's director of development, Marc Breslaw.

HAPPENINGS

Oriental Medicine at the Library

Dr. Tierney Tully, D.A., will give a talk on oriental medicine at the Barrington Public Library on Jan. 14 at 7:30 p.m. Tully will present basic information on acupuncture and other modalities of oriental medicine. She will also give a bit of history on the subject and will focus on the theory behind oriental medicine. The presentation will include the viewing of needles and other materials for "show and tell."

Tully's practice, East Bay Acupuncture, is located in Barrington. She and her husband moved to Barrington and opened East Bay Acupuncture in November 1997.

Cranston Historical Society Discusses Smith Castle

The vice president/managing partner of the Preservation Cooperative Ltd. will be guest speaker at the Jan. 20 meeting of the Cranston Historical Society, 1351 Cranston St.

Mary Packard Turkel will speak on "The Restoration and Conservation of Smith Castle," a 17th-century house/museum and a National Historic Landmark in North Kingstown.

Turkel is a member of the board of advisors and past officer of the board of directors of the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions based in Washington, D.C. She was a member and past vice chairwoman of the North Kingstown Historic District Commission and is a past president of the R.I. Alliance of Historic District Commissions.

She is also a member of the Cocomuscussoc Association which owns and operates Smith Castle.

A brief business meeting at 7:30 p.m. will precede the guest speaker. Refreshments will be served.

Here Comes the Girl Scout Cookie Sale

The Thin Mints are coming! After a year of not being able to get the cookies, it is once again Girl Scout Cookie time. Girl Scouts from Rhode Island area troops will begin taking orders on Jan. 17.

For \$3 per box customers can enjoy a variety of unique cookies which will be delivered the first week in March.

The cookie sale helps girls learn all kinds of important skills related to handling money, goal setting, teamwork, meeting the public, being safe, giving service and more. This year's cookie sale service project is Project Undercover — donating new underwear to needy children.

People not contacted by a Girl Scout who wish to order cookies may call the Girl Scouts of Rhode Island, Inc., Council at 331-4500, or (800) 331-0149, ext. 0. These orders are credited to the local troop that makes the delivery.

Calendar: January 8 thru January 17

- 8 "Jewish Life, Thought & Practice," Gerim Institute course for interfaith couples and those seeking introduction to Judaism, 22 sessions at Congregation Kehillath Israel, Brookline, Mass., 7 p.m. Call (978) 281-3878 for more information.
- Guided Walks with Audubon Society of Rhode Island throughout the month of January. Call for details 949-5454.
- 9 Newport Playhouse & Cabaret Restaurant presents "Wife Begins At Forty," a comedy by Arne Sultan, Earl Barret and Ray Cooney. For information and tickets, call 848-PLAY.
- Nature Works, interdepartmental show of Rhode Island School of Design student work inspired by nature, Providence. Call 454-6140.
- 11 Glass Invitational Show, Dodge House Gallery, Providence. A curator glass show, Jan. 11 to 23. Call 331-1114.
- 12 Women's Mentoring Program, organized by Career Moves at Jewish Vocational Service and Combined Jewish Philanthropies at 6 p.m., Boston. Call (617) 451-8147, ext. 104 for more information.
- 13 Israeli Ideals and American Realities. Temple Emanu-El's Adult Institute will open its eight-part winter lecture series commemorating the 50th anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel with this program with Itzhak Levanon, consul general of Israel to England. Levanon, who has studied at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and at McGill University in Montreal, will initiate the discussion of the ties between "Israeli Ideals and American Realities." He has represented Israel in Venezuela and Columbia, Paris and the United Nations. 9 p.m., Temple Emanu-El, 99 Taft Ave., Providence. This lecture series is funded by a 50th anniversary grant from the Endowment Fund of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island.
- Learn to Print, Jan. 13 to Feb. 5 at Mystic Seaport in Connecticut. Classes cover 19th-century letterpress and typesetting techniques. Enrollment is limited. Call for information or to register. (860) 572-5356.
- 14 Tu B'Shvat Workshop, 7 to 9 p.m. at the Bureau of Jewish Education, 130 Sessions St., Providence. Call 331-0956 to R.S.V.P.
- 15 "A Dialogue on Race: What Impact Has Race Had on Your Life?" at Community College of Rhode Island, Providence from 6 to 8 p.m. Call Robert Jones, the National Conference, 351-5120, for more information.
- American Cancer Society "Quick Quit" Clinic, 9 to 11 a.m., N. Kingstown. Get a fresh start by quitting smoking with this smoking cessation workshop. Call (800) ACS-2345 for information or schedule of upcoming workshops.
- 17 Big Screen Movie Series, feature film "Lawrence of Arabia," PPAC, call 421-ARTS.

Cranston Public Library Exhibits

Kristin DiVona exhibits her paintings in the Meeting Room Gallery at the Cranston Public Library, 140 Sockanosset Cross Road, through Jan. 29. DiVona recently won first prize in the Cranston Cultural Arts Juried Art Show.

Patricia Cousineau exhibits her nature still life photography in the Raer Gallery of the Cranston Public Library through Jan. 31.

Find Your Family's Roots

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston will present "Maps for Genealogy" on Jan. 18 from 1 to 4:30 p.m. at Temple Reyim, 1860 Washington St., Newton, Mass.

Using examples from the amazing material in the Harvard Map Collection, Don Lockhart will explain how to read and understand maps and their use in researching the world of your ancestors. In addition, all visitors will have the opportunity to see some of the historic maps of the Russian Empire from the 18th and 19th centuries and to ask the experts your geographic questions.

To complement the program, Martin Kessel of the JGSGB board of directors will offer the first of our new postscript talks: "Finding Your Shtetl." To access records or to understand your family's history, you must pinpoint the ancestral town.

For further information, call (617) 283-8003.

Week of Fun at Providence Children's Museum

Generous funding from Bell Atlantic enables Providence Children's Museum to offer free admission on the first Sunday of each month.

Throughout the week the museum offers hands-on exhibits and lively programs for kids and their families:

Time Travelers: Jan. 8, between 3 and 4:30 p.m., travel back in time to Manville, R.I., in 1867. Meet Theresa Guyon, a French Canadian mill girl in the museum's Coming to Rhode Island exhibit. Recommended for children 5 and up.

Preschoolers — Arts Smart: Jan. 9, the museum celebrates the anniversary of the invention of the drinking straw. Children ages 3 to 5 play games with straws, string straw beads and sip coffee milk through straws during 20-minute sessions from 9:40 a.m. to

1:30 p.m. Participation is on a first-come, first-served basis.

Spinning Lady: Jan. 10, between 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., the Spinning Lady uses a spinning wheel to spin wool into yarn, Colonial style. Children ages 5 and up card wool and spin it using drop spindles.

Puppet Workshop: Jan. 11, museum visitors will meet a puppeteer and see her puppets perform. During 45-minute workshops between 1:30 and 3:30 p.m., kids can make puppets and put on their own shows. Limited to children 5 and up.

Providence Children's Museum, located at 100 South St. in Providence's Jewelry District is open Tuesday through Sunday, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$4.50 per person. For directions or more information, call 273-KIDS.

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Brooks, Reservoir Ave.
Rainbow Bakery and Cafe, Reservoir Ave.

Providence and Vicinity

Barney's, East Avenue, Pawtucket
Books on the Square, Wayland Square (on Angell)
The Little Place, Hope St.
EastSide Marketplace, Pitman St.
EastSide Prescription Center, Hope St.
Rhoda's Judaica, Burlington St.

JEWISH COMMUNITY

Lack of Local Jewish High School Leads Some to Bus to Brookline

by Emily Torgan-Shalansky
Jewish Community Reporter

It's Friday afternoon, and 9th grader Sarah Pliskin looks tired. As a Pawtucket resident who commutes to the Maimonides School in Brookline, Mass. each day, she has just completed another long week.

"I get up at six, and the carpool picks me up at about 6:40," she said. "There are four of us, and the ride takes about an hour or an hour and fifteen minutes. We try to sleep in the car."

After a dual curriculum school day that runs between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., Sarah and the others get back in the car that will deliver them to their homes at about 7 p.m.

"On the ride home, we relax," she said. "We try to veg out."

But Sarah's schedule has convinced her parents and many other members of the local observant community that they cannot relax, for while they are pleased with the internationally renowned Maimonides School, they believe the distant institution can never replace the Jewish high school that Rhode Island needs.

At present, the only local Jewish high school option is an Orthodox four-year program for girls run by the New England Academy of Torah at the Providence Hebrew Day School, which closed its boys' division two years ago.

In order to provide their children with a Jewish education beyond the 8th grade level, observant families with needs outside of the PHDS girls' high school must send their sons and daughters to secular schools, separate cities or to Maimonides.

But because of the grueling commute and concerns about the Rhode Island Jewish community, even families who are very satisfied with Maimonides are supporting the efforts of Dr. Steven Schechter, a local surgeon who is at the head of one of two groups that are attempting to create

Congregation Ohave Shalom to Hold Art Auction

Works by some of the world's greatest artists will be soon be available in Rhode Island.

On Jan. 11 at 7 p.m. Congregation Ohave Shalom will hold a preview and auction of multimedia art to benefit the synagogue.

The auction will take place at the synagogue at 671 East Ave., and will feature limited editions signed on plate by Picasso, Chagall, Miro, Matisse, Norman Rockwell, Erte and many others from Brinkley's Fine Art in Happaage.

"I am putting together a collection of beautifully framed modern pieces of art," said Brinkley's representative Carmela Farhi. "Most of the works will cost between \$50 and \$500."

The complimentary event will also offer champagne, dessert and complimentary catalogues.

separate Jewish high schools on Providence's East side.

"Maimonides answers our educational needs, but socially,

our daughter to live away, Maimonides was the best option we had."

But the Pliskins do not want



MAIMONIDES STUDENTS Atara Sendor (left) of Sharon, Mass., and Sarah Pliskin of Pawtucket at the Pliskin residence.

Herald photo by Emily Torgan-Shalansky

it's difficult to have a child live in one city and commute to another," said Mrs. Pliskin. "Because we did not want to send

their son, Aryeh, now in the 8th grade at PHDS, to undergo the same time pressures.

(Continued on Page 15)

Anna Feinstein Herman Hits Hundredth Birthday

by Emily Torgan-Shalansky
Jewish Community Reporter

The new year is a big year for Providence resident Anna Feinstein Herman.

According to her daughter Susan Lapidus, Herman celebrated her 100th birthday on Jan. 5.

"I admire her for getting through," Lapidus said. "Life is not easy."

Before flying from her Los Angeles home to Rhode Island to celebrate with her mother, who lives at Highland Court, Lapidus contemplated her mother's long life.

Born Anna Feinstein in New York City in 1898, Hermanspent most of her childhood in Bridgeport, Connecticut, where her father ran a grocery and butcher shop.

After her marriage to William P. Herman, the couple moved to Rhode Island.

"My father, a self-taught mechanic and engineer, came to Rhode Island seeking opportunity," Lapidus explained. "My mother came to Rhode Island with him in 1933, when she was 35."

Shortly thereafter, Mr. Herman founded the Pawtucket-based Electrix Corp., a

tool and die manufacturing business, which came to employ about 40 people. From the very beginning, Herman was deeply involved in the company.

"My mother was the office manager, the book keeper, the accountant and the chief cook," said Lapidus. "She kept the business going while my father created and imagined."

The Hermans also had three children, Billy, Bobby and Susan.

"I am the third and only surviving child," Lapidus said. "My brothers died at ages 3 and 4."

After her loss, her mother threw her considerable energy into her work and community.

"To my mother, it was almost a shame to have free time," Lapidus remembered. "Through her work with the Council of Jewish Women, she formed a volunteer corps that cared for the needy. They visited local hospitals at least once a week."

Herman also volunteered at the Miriam Hospital Gift Shop through her 70s.

According to Lapidus, Herman loved to assist Jewish causes, and she continued her community involvement well after her husband's death in 1968.

(Continued on Page 15)

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OPINION

The Game of Torah

by Velvel "Wally" Spiegler

I've heard rabbis say many times and in many ways that Torah is our life. What could they have meant? Years ago, I decided to embark on a journey to find the meaning of that statement. At that time I thought life was about family, friends and making a living. Later on I discovered that beyond the obvious, life is a deep mystery; so deep in fact that it resembles the metaphor of the iceberg and its tip. Torah is the Jewish expression of the profundity of life which spans the scope between conscious knowing and mystical nothingness. Through the Torah we can delve into the mystery of our own lives to discover our true identity and the potential for a better, a happier and a more joyous life.

This all comes about through the study of Torah, the celebrated Jewish practice that has become alien to so many of us. Torah is the guide that parallels life, that poetically speaks about the miracle of life, which enables us to plumb the depths of our being.

The study of Torah is essential not only for the perpetuation of Judaism, but for its very existence. It transforms each and every one of us to fulfill our destiny as a nation of prophets and priests. Torah functions as a filter; it alters our beliefs and creates a world view of how life is lived with holiness, with beauty, with grace and elegance.

We need to take a fresh look at the Torah, one which would interest even the novice. We need new methodologies for learning which would make it pleasurable and interesting. Without pleasure, we quickly lose interest. Unless we have great discipline, Torah study will soon give

way to the secular media and other pastimes. It needn't be intimidating to those who don't have an extensive background. We just need to maintain our own level or pace of learning; there's no contest and no final grade. The goal is not to accumulate knowledge but to develop a spiritual practice that leads to wisdom and self understanding. This is comparable to the work of psychotherapy, which unfortunately doesn't quite go deep enough; its aim is to relieve apparent symptoms.

Torah is the Jewish expression of the profundity of life which spans the scope between conscious knowing and mystical nothingness.

One such method could be a game something like Go To The Head of the Class; a board game called The Game of Torah. Here are the rules!

Number of players... one or more players. The more the better. Equipment... you'll need a *chumash*, the five books of Moses or a source of Torah study of which there is plenty on the Internet. Just enter 'Torah' in your search engine and you'll find a large selection.

To begin play... start to learn anywhere — Torah portions related to holidays and Shabbat, the weekly Torah portion; the major themes: the desert, the Exodus from Egypt, the garden of Eden, Abraham's journey, the Revelation at Sinai are all good starting places. Decide how much material you can learn

daily (one aliyah from the weekly portion is about 15 to 20 lines in the *Hetz chumash*). When you have finished learning your daily quota, draw one or several question cards.

Question cards... any bit of Torah learning encourages questions which opens you to more questions. Learn to ask questions and keep asking them. Let your imagination run free. As a starter, write these questions on index cards and add new cards as new questions arise. How does this story, this verse, this sentence, this word, relate to my life? Precisely what is happening in these verses? What feelings go through me during a critical juncture in these verses? Is there something in these verses which seems contradictory or puzzling? What lines appear to be confusing, in need of further development or in need of more questions?

The answers to your questions are not the task of the sages and commentators of old. It is our responsibility to find meaning in the lines and in our lives. Always note in what ways the verses and stories relate directly to your life, a reflection of your inner self.

Object of play... to obtain some new insight into your life which will enable you to make positive changes. You will know when that happens because you will immediately experience a burst of energy, a high that feels so good that you'll want to keep on playing the game over and over again.

Have fun!

Velvel "Wally" Spiegler is a Certified Polarity Therapist and a student and teacher of Jewish Mysticism. For information, call (508) 252-4302 or e-mail <DSpieg5411@aol.com>.

Me And My Shadow

Shadows are awesome. As children, we chased our shadows or played shadow games where the point was to step on the other kids' shadows while making sure that they didn't step on ours.

As adults we learned that shadows can help us get our bearings even without a compass. Whether we're lost or simply trying to figure out which way is east (the direction toward which Jews to the west of Jerusalem traditionally stand in prayer), shadows can point us in the proper position.

Spiritual shadows are also awesome.

King David, in Psalms, taught that "G-d is your shadow at your right hand." The Baal Shem Tov explains this to mean that G-d has implanted a spiritual dynamic into the universe: Just as the movement of a person's body is reflected and magnified in his shadow, every step of our conduct in this world likewise arouses spiritual forces of incomparable power.

If we're outside on a sunny day, it's clear to us that every movement we make is accompanied by the movement of our shadow. Similarly, every positive action we take, every negative action we resist, every mitzvah we do, creates spiritual energy which we would best imagine as "shadows."

Like "regular" shadows, spiritual shadows have no corporeality. Although we may see the reflection of a mitzvah (light from a Shabbat candle, a charity box filling up with coins and

eventually used to purchase food for a poor person), we don't see, nor can we touch, the spiritual reflection and energy created by that act.

Spiritual shadows are also greatly magnified in comparison with the energy or effort expended in performing the mitzvah. What better example of this assertion can there be than Maimonides' statement that a small deed can tip one's personal "scale" and the global scale, bringing redemption to the entire world.

A distinction, however, between ordinary shadows and spiritual shadows is that our conduct is always producing spiritual shadows, even in the dark of night or the absence of light. For ultimately, the mitzvot we do create their own spiritual light which generates the shadow.

Every Jew can not only magnify his shadow but can even cast a giant shadow through bringing more Jewish learning and living into his life. In the '60s movie "Cast a Giant Shadow," American-born West Point graduate David "Micky" Marcus (who was one of the first generals of the fledgling Israeli army) asserts, "Life isn't a spectator sport, you've got to get involved."

You don't create shadows, ordinary or spiritual, by sitting around and talking about it. "Action is the main thing" Judaism teaches. Get involved. Don't be afraid of your own shadow!

Submitted by Rabbi Lauffer, Chabad House, Providence.

HAVE AN OPINION?

If you have an opinion about something in the Jewish community, why not express your opinion in the Herald?

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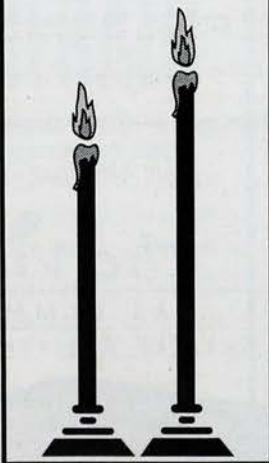
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Candlelighting
January 9, 1998
4:15 p.m.



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

Joseph's Passing

With this week's Torah reading, *Vayechi*, we conclude the book of Genesis. "And Joseph died... and he was put into a coffin in Egypt." At first glance this is a somewhat odd ending, especially in light of the dictum to "end on a positive note." Surely the book of Genesis could have concluded a few verses earlier with the narrative that Joseph lived 110 years, or that he merited to see great-grandchildren. Indeed, why doesn't the description of Joseph's passing appear at the beginning of the Book of Exodus instead?

The answer is that Joseph's passing is connected to the fundamental theme of the Book of Genesis. In Genesis we read about the Jewish patriarchs and matriarchs, the Twelve Tribes, and the preparation and prerequisite for the founding of the Jewish people. The other four books of the Torah, by contrast, relate the history of the Jewish nation once it was already established.

The book of Genesis begins with the story of the world's creation. This is significant, as

the Torah could have opened with the first practical Divine commandment. As Rabbi Yitzchak explained, however, it was intended to negate an argument the nations would one day level against the Jews: "If the nations of the world will accuse

Not so! the Torah declares at the very onset. "The whole earth belongs to G-d. "G-d created the physical as well as the spiritual realms. Indeed, the unique role of the Jew lies in imbuing the physical world with G-dliness and holiness.

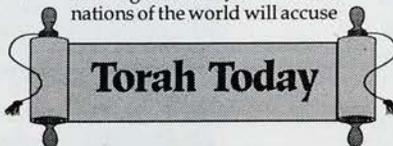
This same point is made at the end of the Book of the Genesis. The reason Joseph's coffin remained in Egypt (unlike Jacob, who was buried in Israel)

was to give the Jewish people the strength to endure the Egyptian exile. Joseph, who "was put into a coffin in Egypt (*Mitzryaim* — from the Hebrew meaning constraint), "is symbolic of the Jews' ability to survive and flourish despite the difficulties of exile.

Israel of being thieves for having conquered [the land of Israel], [the Jews] will counter: The whole earth belongs to G-d. He created it, and gave it to whomever he saw fit. With His will He gave it to the nations; with His will He took it from them and gave it to us." (This, of course, is only one explanation of many.)

Thus we see that the Book of Genesis ends on the same note as it began: the special quality of the Jewish people to unite the physical and spiritual realms into one entity — a process by which we will soon merit the Final Redemption. Adapted from *Likutei Sichot*, Volume 30. Submitted by Rabbi Lauffer, Chabad House, Providence.

In truth, the nations of the world recognize the Jewish people's uniqueness. However, they ask, how can Jews lay claim to a physical land, when they are not like all other peoples? Non-Jews concede that the Jews' task is to serve G-d, but they view this service as divorced from the world.





Remember Laughter

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

Why? People don't often ask you the reason for a few days off on your own, seeking a place in the sun. I like to turn a vacation into a pilgrimage. Otherwise, a tour gets me down in a doldrum. I even ask myself, why?

My mother's one single escape from routine, too late, was a cruise to the Bahamas. I have a couple of slides of a smiling figure in an ibis scarlet bathing suit, or a Madras blouse and khaki Bermudas with a straw hat. Yet when she came home, she felt ill, not well. Too much food, she complained. My mother passed away a season later. Melancholy as it may sound, I always wanted to check

couldn't resist the chance to grab three golden days at the brink of silver winter. I'll try to hit the highpoints of the trio of bitter-sweet adventures.

Day One

In Nassau with John Cox, my alumnus student host, who was in the hospital! He had cut his left hand with a saw, while crafting tables in his studio. His dad George and mom Setella came to fetch me near my big white boat. "Meet us 'round the corner at the horse and carriage stand," they said on the phone. I saw John just as he was emerging from surgery, groggy, otherworldly, beatific, in trac-

ions. It will take a while for his portfolio to catch on." John's collages cut and juxtapose photos, calligraphy, patterns, symbols, filling the spaces on stairwells and in niches with thoughtful imagery. Here recently took a group of these pieces to Hong Kong, where the gallery exhibit drew praise and rich response in the papers. "I know art by what it is not, leaving what it is to your imagination," he said in an interview there, like a true poet. John also teaches at Nassau College, making his mark with his work and with his charismatic personality.

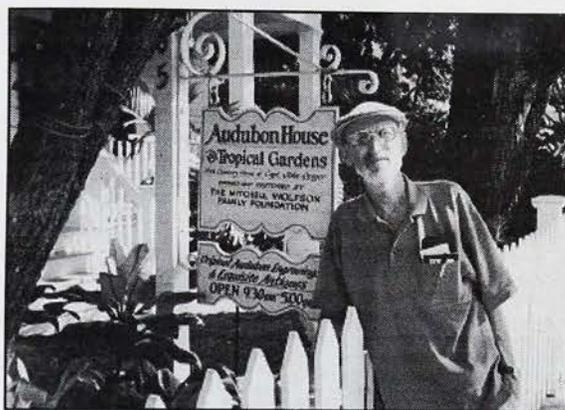
We moved along to the Cox town homestead, more luxurious and elegant than any residence the Duchess of Windsor could have designed decades ago. French windows catch the crossing breezes. Sweetly perfumed plank boards on floor and ceiling suit the tone of the island world. A large turquoise swimming pool centers the garden with its wild poinsettias. John's paintings and other local art objects grace the walls and alcoves. The pride and hope of today's Bahamas find expression. We touch base again with John in the hospital and go off to see the Atlantis aquarium on Paradise Island, where sharks and rays swim on one side of the bridge, and tourists cavort on the other side, under ceilings decorated with zodiac designs created by another local R.I.S.D. alum, John Beetle.

The major event of the day, prepared by John Cox, is a visit to the first lady in the Governor's Palace, Lady Turnquist, or Edith, who is a personal friend of John and his family. Dazzling in a crimson dress, she greets us on the terrace and asks us to explore the collection of paintings and sculptures which she has gathered under the chandeliers to celebrate Bahamian independence. "No, there is no trace of the time of the Duchess of Windsor," she says straight out. But grand photo portraits of the youthful Elizabeth and Philip still adorn the walls. Shortly after my mother's visit in 1964 the break from Britain began. Now the Bahamas are a commonwealth country, with only slim symbolic ties to England, that add a pleasant sense of decorum. John's large canvas takes up a prominent place under the great stairway.

As George makes our way back to my ship, he fills me in on the conditions of his country. "Yes, there is crime, theft, drug trade. There are so many tiny offshore retreats between the Atlantic and the Caribbean, it's hard to police." We drive past huge cylinders of rum like gas, and I think, there's little difference between yesterday and today, the age of piracy, of bootleg, of smuggling gold or people, whether you wear pantaloons and carry parrots or the jeans and nose rings of now. Or business suits and fedoras.

Day Two

My report will be much more brief. We went by pontoon to the private island of Coco Cay. You can lie in a hammock, an invention of the Bahamas, and stare through thin leaves of palm or scrub pine at a strong azure sky. Or you can take a lounge



SOUTHERN MANSION in Key West, saved by the Mitchell Wolfson Foundation.

chair, prop and stretch yourself, and gaze out at the turquoise and purple cove waterways. I was seeking a short sojourn of simple tranquility. A pair of tiny soft pastel doves came round my chair and circled in a wobbly dance—just the right gentle touch to soothe my spirit. Is this perhaps the very spot where my mother found her moment of happiness in sun and dappled shade? Is her soul with me between these mild little birds? They are not gaudy and gorgeous, but they are charming, almost mystical.

Day Three

Key West. The Sovereign of the Seas churns easily through the night and docks at the tip of Florida. My first errand is to wend my way to Audubon House. Now, you must meet Rabbi Joel with me. He likes good food and then plenty of exercise, sometimes a lot of both.

Audubon, the mysterious lost dauphin from Haiti who painted the birds and wildlife of America in high romantic drama. But how disappointed and hurt I had been to discover that he had quarreled so bitterly with the Rothschilds of England that he had condemned the Jewish people in general. It seems that some Rothschilds were patrons of the arts and specifically devotees of natural, botanical and ornithological studies. But others were more businesslike and matter of fact. Audubon met the wrong Rothschild.

And yet, in the fullness of time, it was a Jewish Russian immigrant who found the southern palace in ruins, fixed and redeemed it, and dedicated the garden and building to the achievements of the artist, collecting and displaying his prints and paintings. In the garret, a history of the Wolfsons themselves, in sepia portrait and



LEFT TO RIGHT: Rabbi Joel, Setella Cox, Lady Edith, the first lady, and Mike Fink at the Palace of the Governor General of the Bahamas.

Photos by Mike Fink

out the scene, to see what she saw in hopes there were some moments of beauty and peace.

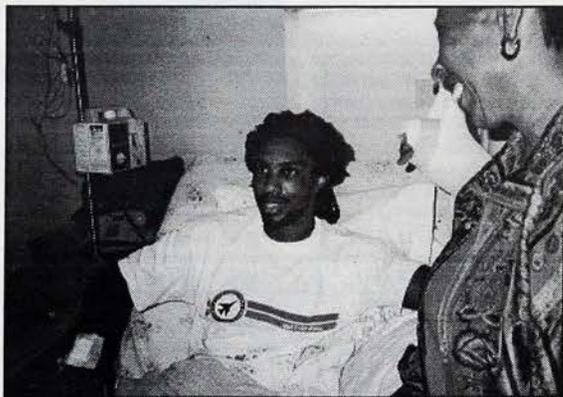
There are other examples of the sad splendor of Nassau, the futile regime of a former glittering Prince of Wales and King of England, later the wandering Duke of Windsor, sent into spectacular exile as governor general of a scattered group of islands at the edge of the Caribbean, at a safe distance from battle and trouble. With his racist attitude and stiff bearing he scored no hit with the natives—although truth to tell he lured tourists from Florida just by being who he was and wearing royal garb.

And then, I had a student, John Cox, who had illustrated a story I wrote set upon Narragansett shores, a Bahamian beachboy who mixed memory and immediacy and made the northern and southern Atlantic seashores look like siblings. His drawing and my paragraphs worked well together. I had planned to visit him, and the time came round just right.

Rabbi Joel Braude got a gig as a cruise chaplain aboard the Sovereign of the Seas, a Royal Caribbean ship. He urged me to come aboard as a professor-lecturer dealing with Jewish-Central American subjects. I

John is like another Prince of Wales, king and duke, in dreadlocks and African-style jewelry. John has graceful artist's fingers, long legs strengthened by biking all over his island realm, and a strong sense of belonging to his family and community, past, present and future. Rabbi Joel said a misha berach prayer of healing in Hebrew. An Anglican priest also recited the Lord's Prayer at the bedside within the magic circle of protective friendship shaped by visitors holding hands.

George Cox is an engineer. As he drives me in and out, over and through the capital city of the Bahamas, he points out the bridges, municipal structures, palaces and public buildings which he and his staff helped to put up. His own father came here in 1926, but other ancestors include Seminole Indians, Scottish immigrants, and out islanders. We make a stop at the summer seaside cottage he inherited, and currently loans to John to paint, sculpt, draw, and design. "Islanders here go for more pictorial work, more sentimental illustrations, the usual stuff. John has a fine reputation, but he is ahead of his time. His R.I.S.D. education makes him a leader, not a follower, of fash-



JOHN COX in Nassau hospital with his mother at bedside.

He has a jumpy, and exacting, nature, sending back dessert for more sauce, and restrained only because the headwaiter, Jacob, is in fact an Orthodox rabbi himself, selecting appropriate kosher items for our table. Now, as we check out bikes for our trek to the Audubon Museum, he moves out each one before making his choice. It takes a while and delays my tour. Meanwhile, the lovely estate is only a block away! But, I go along with things. You never know when you may learn something wonderful or have a great laugh. On the doorstep and gateway to the Audubon mansion you read that it was restored and refurbished by the Wolfson Family Foundation.

I recall as a boy being very drawn to the life of John James

script, adds their dynasty to the story. It was usual for captains to plant seedlings from the ports of the world upon their grounds. Audubon had admired some trees and herbs here. Meanwhile, the captain's sons would scan the rocky shoreline for wrecked ships whose bounty could be claimed, adding fancy items to furnish their rooms. The very word "wrecker" takes on new meaning here in Key West. Out in the brick path formal yard with its wrought iron white furniture you come across lavender orchids twisting round the trunks of giant trees.

Wolfson's obsession led the way to other restored mansions in Key West, the Hemingway House and Harry Truman's residence. I snapped some shots of

(Continued on Page 15)

THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

CJP Offers Jewish Options

The following abbreviated listing of programs and organizations was created by Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Boston. Their quarterly newsletter, *Options*, for young Jewish adults, includes a full listing of all programs and a calendar of upcoming events in the Boston and Southern Massachusetts area.

Alumot is an organization for young adults who have attended long-term Israel programs. Alumot offers a great way to stay connected to Israel and Judaism and is a chance to meet others who have shared similar experiences. Call Amy Warren at (617) 566-2408 or <aruthen@cjo.com>.

Anti-Defamation League has developed various forums to provide opportunities for new leadership, including Voices for the Future and the ADL leadership Institute. Call (617) 457-8800.

B'nai B'rith Impact Unit provides social and community service opportunities for young Jewish adults 22 to 35. Call the New England Regional office of B'nai B'rith at (617) 731-5290.

Facing History and Ourselves Young Leadership Network unites and empowers a diverse group of people in their 20s and 30s who are invested in the challenges of citizenship in a democracy. Activities include discussion groups and community service projects. Call Pam Hurd at (617) 735-1628.

Future Leadership of the Jewish National Fund is an organization of young professionals, 21 to 40, under the banner of the JNF, the primary land development agency of Israel. The JNF plants trees, creates water reservoirs and sponsors development projects in Israel. Call Mark at (617) 523-2200.

Hadassah Young Women's Group. New programming is planned for women in their 20s, including social, educational and social action events. Call Erica Rabinovitch at (617) 566-0666.

Jewish InterAction provides an avenue for people in their 20s and early 30s to connect with the Jewish community. Jewish InterAction offers programming in social justice, Jewish learn-

ing, personal enrichment and recreation. For information, call Lauren Tannen Zalkind, program director, at (617) 457-8666.

Keshet is a Jewish gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender young adult advocacy organization. Keshet advocates equality by forging alliances between straight individuals and organizations within the Jewish community with individuals and organizations in the gay, lesbian and bisexual communities. Call Jonathan at (617) 441-3038 or <Keshet_Boston@hotmail.com>.

Mosaic Outdoor Mountain Club is a mix of singles, couples and families over 21 who enjoy the outdoors. Their newsletter, *The Shofar*, contains a schedule of events. For information, call Nancy at (617) 275-0648.

New Israel Fund/Now Generations is for people looking for a link between their Jewish commitment to Israel and their commitment to progressive social change. Round-table discussions, fund-raising and study tours. Contact Rachel Kalikow at (617) 734-2771 or e-mail <letni@wn.net>.

Yachad, National Jewish Council for the Disabled, is a group for developmentally delayed and non-special needs young adults who participate together in educational and social activities. For information, call Nechama Chesnes at (617) 527-7967.

Young Business Connection is a group of professionals (25 to 39) affiliated with the New England-Israel Chamber of Commerce. A new marketing incubator for Israeli companies called the Market Gateway has been formed. Contact NEICC at (617) 753-7373 or <neicc@israeltrade.com>. Also, see <www.israeltrade.com.gateway>.

For a copy of *Options* or more information, call Combined Jewish Philanthropies at (617) 457-8597.



Professor Joshua Stein
Photo courtesy of Gloria Levitt

Temple Emanu-El Leisure Club

The Temple Emanu-El Leisure Club will hold their regular meeting on Jan. 11 in the Bohnen Vestry at 2 p.m. The guest speaker for the afternoon will be Professor Joshua Stein, who will speak on "The Role of Layman in the Survival of the Jewish Community."

Stein was raised in Brooklyn, N.Y. He attended the State University of New York at Buffalo, St. Louis University and Brown University. He holds a Ph.D. in history and M.A. in Religious Studies/History of Judaism. He authored numerous scholarly articles and five books, three of them on Jewish subjects (and a western civilization textbook and a book on American baseball parks). Since 1969 he has been teaching history at Roger Williams University, currently holding the rank of professor

and Presidential Scholar. He is also director of the university's honors programs.

A social hour will follow the program.

and Presidential Scholar. He is also director of the university's honors programs.

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United Methodist Retirement Center is soliciting proposals for architectural services for the moderate rehabilitation of 23 units of assisted living to include handicap accessible bathrooms.

Sealed proposals are due by 2:00 PM, Wednesday, January 28, 1998 at United Methodist Retirement Center, 40 Irving Avenue, East Providence, Rhode Island 02914. A pre-bid conference will be held on Wednesday, January 14, 1998, at 10:00 AM.

To receive a copy of the RFP, please contact Mary Cabral at United Methodist Retirement Center at (401) 438-4456, Ext. 38.

United Methodist Retirement Center is an EO/AA employer strongly committed to achieving excellence through cultural diversity. United Methodist Retirement Center actively encourages applications from women, persons of color, and other underrepresented groups.



Temple Emanu-El Hosts Community Sing

"Song of Freedom, Words of Hope," the Third annual Community Sing commemorating the birth of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., will be held Jan. 19, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Temple Emanu-El, 99 Taft Ave., in Providence.

Suggested donation is \$5 for adults, \$4 for senior citizens and students. Proceeds will benefit youth nonviolence training. Everyone who enjoys singing is welcome! For more information, call 456-4032.

Upcoming Community Events...

Jan. 18 — Judaism: Yours, Mine or Ours? with Avraham Infeld.

The Jewish Federation of Rhode Island invites you to a fascinating and inspiring presentation by Avraham Infeld, founder and chairman of the Melitz Center for Jewish-Zionist Education in Jerusalem. Melitz is a non-profit educational institute in Israel dedicated to Jewish education, respecting religious diversity and devoted to mutual respect. 7:30 to 9 a.m. Jewish Federation Board room 9130, Sessions St., Providence. No charge. Bagel breakfast will be served. Space is limited. R.S.V.P. to Carol at 421-4111.

Jan. 19 — Martin Luther King Jr. Day, A Program of Music. An inter-denominational, inter-ethnic program of music will commemorate the late Dr. Martin Luther King and the civil rights movement. Song leaders will include Bill Harley, producer of "I'm Gonna Let It Shine: A Gathering of Voices for Freedom," an album of freedom songs; The R.I. Feminist Chorus, and Conway Toliver, Sr. of Holy Cross Church in Christ. Participants in the Youth Leadership Academy of Nonviolence will speak. 7 to 9 p.m. Temple Emanu-El, 99 Taft Ave., Providence.

Jan. 20 — Messianic Hopes. Rabbi Lawrence, Ph.D., will speak on this topic as part of the lecture series of Temple Emanu-El's Adult Institute commemorating the 50th anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel. The series is funded by a 50th anniversary grant from the Endowment Fund of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island. Call 331-1616 for more information.

Jan. 21 — Mid-Week Potluck dinner and Conversation on Social Justice Issues. Join other graduate students and young professionals at this vegetarian potluck dinner and discussion. This is the first of a dinner and discussion series. Contact Alison at Perspectives, Young Jewish Adult Project, at 863-9357 to R.S.V.P. or to give a suggestion for the next topic. 7 p.m.

Jan. 22 — "2.5 Minute Ride" at the Perishable Theatre. "2.5 Minute Ride," written and performed by Lisa Kron is a story that weaves together three stories in which Lisa gets to know her father, a Holocaust survivor. The first is a visit to Auschwitz with her father, the second is their visit to Cedar Park, an amusement park in Ohio near their home and the third story is about how her brother found a bride through

the internet. "2.5 Minute Ride" will be at the Perishable Theatre from Jan. 21 to 25.

Jan. 22 — Creating Memories: The Wendy Adler Memorial Workshop. Methods of using the BJE Resource Center die-cut machine and other interesting materials to create scrap books, journals, and bulletin boards. 7 to 9 p.m., BJE, 130 Sessions St., Providence. Call 331-0956 to R.S.V.P.

Jan. 25 — The Joseph and Leba Zelnicker Conference for Jewish Educators. Rabbi Mark H. Levine, this year's Zelnicker scholar, is the author of *Learning to Teach Effectively*, an outstanding video library of teaching strategies. At this annual conference Zelnicker scholars meet with Rhode Island Jewish educators. 9 a.m. to noon, Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, 401 Elm Grove St., Providence. Call 331-0956 for more information and to register.

Jan. 27 — The French Aliyah. Maud Mandel, Ph.D., will speak on this topic as part of the lecture series of Temple Emanu-El's Adult Institute commemorating the 50th anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel. The series is funded by a 50th anniversary grant from the Endowment Fund of the JFRI. Call 331-1616 for more information.

Jan. 31 — Wine and Cheese and "Milk & Honey." Join the community for a performance of the first production of the JCCRI's Jewish Theatre Ensemble. The musical "Milk and Honey" by Jerry Herman and Don Appell, is particularly appropriate to kick-off the new program in the year of Israel's 50th anniversary as the story involves a group of single women traveling through Israel during the state's earliest days. The women are in search of "nice" Jewish men to marry and, as expected, their journey brings hilarious banter, upbeat music and a series of delightful song and dance numbers with something to suit every musical taste. JCCRI, 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence. 7 p.m., wine and cheese reception, 8 p.m. performance. Tickets, \$10. "Milk and Honey" performances will be at the JCCRI from Jan. 22 to Feb. 1.

Jan. 31 — Chanting Service at Congregation Agudas Achim. Chanting services include music, signing and a meditative atmosphere.

This is a different kind of Jewish worship that many find very meaningful. Join this congregation for an accessible, simple service that can change your day and your week. Congregation Agudas Achim is located at 901 N. Main St. in Attleboro. For more information, call (508) 222-2243. Additional Chanting Services will be on Feb. 28, March 28, and June 20.

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THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Starting the New Year Fit for Free!

The Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island invites the public to attend "Fitness & Healthy Lifestyles Day" on Jan. 18 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 401 Elmgrove Ave. on Providence's East Side. The day's events will include a variety of free sample classes, health screenings, and available information.

At the time of year when people are setting resolutions to get in shape, lose weight, and become more active, Bill Fagen, the JCCRI's director of Health & Physical Education, says, "The key thing is that people have to look beyond the immediate results to see fitness as a lifestyle as opposed to something they need to do a few times a week. An ideal healthy lifestyle should include all aspects of fitness — strength, flexibility, and cardiovascular enhancement — in addition to proper nutrition and wellness."

While commercial gymnasiums can offer state-of-art-equipment, the JCCRI Fitness Center, as a program of the larger center, has the ability to offer more. Fagen describes the center as a "Comprehensive Cross Training Facility," featuring weight machines for strength building; cardiovascular equipment, aerobic classes, gym, and racquetball courts for cardiovascular or aerobic endurance as well as flexibility, and a swimming pool with classes and open swims that also encourage cardiovascular benefit and flexibility.

The schedule for "Fitness &

Healthy Lifestyles Day" is as follows:

11:00-11:45 — Step Aerobics, with an AFFA certified instructor

11:15-noon — Aquarobics, with a Red Cross certified aquatic instructor

1:00-1:45 — Yeung Style Tai Chi

1:00-1:45 — Water Workout
2:00-02:45 Shaolin Kempo Karate, with a 3rd Degree black belt instructor

In addition, there will be the following ongoing screenings and evaluations from 11 am. to 3 p.m.:

Blood pressure check, at the Lifespan Health Care Booth

Computer Health Risk Assessment, at the Lifespan Health care booth

Nutritional Evaluations, with Lisa Starr-Dansereau R.D., L.N.D.

Therapeutic Massage, with Ann Marie Saadi, Licensed Therapist

Osteoporosis Program with Claire Bell, Health Education chairwoman of the RI Chapter of Hadassah

Fitness Testing, with Brian Callahan, JCCRI Fitness Instructor

Also in the works for the day's program are a stress reduction program; healthy back program; healthy choices (food) program; cholesterol screenings; and eye exams.

For more information, call Bill Fagen at 861-8800.

BBYO Plans Winter Events

The B'nai B'rith Youth Organization has scheduled the first program for its teen connection program. Teen connection is for sixth and seventh-graders throughout the Rhode Island area. A junior version of AZA and BBG, its goals are the same. Teen connection provides their members a chance to meet Jewish youth their age through the New England area. A new program will be planned by the professional staff once a month.

On Jan. 18, Teen connection will be busing to Amesbury Sports Park, Mass., for a day of snow tubing and fun. The cost of this event is \$35 that includes admission, transportation, and membership dues. Bring your own lunch or money for lunch and snacks. Transportation from selected points.

For further information, call the regional office at (617) 969-8455 or David Hochman, the state coordinator at 467-BBYO (2296).

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Kosher Meal Site Comes to Aquidneck Island

Temple Shalom in conjunction with the state of Rhode Island and Jewish Family Service recently announced the creation of a kosher meal site on Aquidneck Island. Beginning on Jan. 9 and continuing every Friday thereafter, a kosher hot meal will be served, prepared by chef David Just. This undertaking is an opportunity to bring seniors together for a meal and fellowship, beginning at noon and concluding at 1:30 p.m. Reservations are required and must be made with Pat Grossman at 841-5438.

For further information, contact Rabbi Marc S. Jagoliner at the temple office at 846-9002. The requested donation for a meal is \$2.50.



Ben Goldstein, Sarah and Alysa Redlich create cookie dough. (top picture)

Michael and Rebecca Rose prepare for the festivities. (right)

Families Join in Festivities

The Redlich, Adler, Frank, Gaffin and Rose families enjoyed crafts, baking and games at a Havurah Chanukah party hosted by the Goldstein family of Cranston.

Photos courtesy of Helen Goldstein.



Lunch and Learn With Jenny Klein

Pawtucket Hadassah will present an enriching meeting on Feb. 1 from 10 am. to 2 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center, Elmgrove Avenue, Providence.

The title of the program at this Lunch and Learn meeting is "Israel — Diaspora Relations." It will be a joint educational experience with attendees. The meeting is open to the public, and reservations are necessary by Jan. 22. The cost per person is \$3.50. To reserve a place, send a check to Mrs. Jan Ziegler, 58 Wilcox Ave., Pawtucket, R.I. 02860.

Jenny Klein, who is conducting this informative session, is well known in Hadassah and the Jewish community. She is a graduate of Columbia Teachers' College and the Teachers' Institute of the Jewish Theological Seminary. She is co-president of Pawtucket Hadassah, vice president of the Jewish Community Center, chairperson of the Rhode Island Holocaust Museum, and vice president of education for Rhode Island Chapter of Hadassah. With Jenny Klein leading this meeting, everyone will enjoy an informative and enriching experience.

A Midrash Montage

Expression, the Jewish women's spirituality and creativity conference, will be held on Feb. 1 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center, 333 Nahant St., Newton, Mass.

The Midrash Montage features:

- JoAnne Tucker and the Avodah Dance Ensemble. The nationally acclaimed Avodah Dance Ensemble is in motion — leaping past the "hora" to blend feminism, Bible and ritual — bringing to life biblical personalities. Avodah is recognized as a pioneer in the use of dance in Jewish education. Cantor Louise Treitman will be the featured soloist with the ensemble.

- Rabbi Sheila Peltz Weinberg. Rabbi of the Jewish Community of Amherst, Weinberg will help frame midrash from both contempo-

rary and traditional perspectives. Rabbi Weinberg had trained with Peter Pitzele, foremost practitioner of the craft of Bibliodrama. Sheila will guide the audience as they explore the lives of their ancestors.

- Author Anita Diamant. Prize-winning journalist and author of the novel *The Red Tent* based on the story of Dinah, Diamant offers fresh insight and new perspectives to this controversial biblical story.

Creative workshops will also be held, featuring: Marthajoy Aft, Matia Angelou, Sasha Bergman, Debra Cash, Rabbi Susan Silverman, Cherie Koller-Fox, Bonna Devora Haberman and Julie Levavitt Kutzen.

Workshop sizes are limited. Advance registration by Jan. 20 is \$45 and \$52 after that date. Lunch is included. To receive a registration form, call (617) 558-6442 or email: <Lsjcc@aol.com>.

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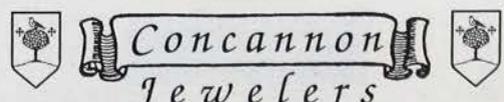
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HEALTHWISE

Colds: Nothing to Sneeze About

Most of us are familiar with the scratchy throat, watery eyes, stuffed-up head and out-of-sorts feeling otherwise known as the common cold. Did you know that the average adult catches two to four of them a year? The National Center for Health Statistics reports that more than 23 million days of work are lost annually due to the pesky common cold.

Experts say that by the time the symptoms kick in, your body's well on its way to shedding the virus and healing itself. The common cold takes about a week to 10 days to run its course.

There's still no cure for colds, largely because 200 or more different varieties of viruses cause them. But there are smart habits

you can adopt to avoid sneezing, wheezing and sniffing your way through another cold season.

Wash your hands frequently. It's the single most important thing you can do to avoid catching a cold or passing one on to others.

Although washing up with soap and water will usually do the trick, most doctors recommend using an antibacterial soap because it kills most of the bacteria we are commonly exposed to and also slows down the growth of bacteria that we pick up on our hands so we don't pass on "germs."

Use tissues. Once a handkerchief is used it remains contaminated until it's washed. Paper

tissues, however, can be thrown out immediately or, even better, flushed down the toilet.

Hands off your face. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth to prevent bacteria on your fingers from getting inside your body. Also wash your hands before inserting contact lenses.

Always cover your nose. And your mouth, too. This helps to contain the spray after you sneeze or cough. Again, don't forget to wash your hands.

Keep your distance. Try to stay at least three feet away from coughers or sneezers, which is how far airborne cold particles from a short-range cough or sneeze can travel.

Women & Infants' Center Hosts Health Education Programs

Yoga classes are still going on at Women & Infants Center for Health Education, 6 Whipple St., North Attleboro, Mass. Classes are held every Thursday from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. Participants will learn life-changing techniques to relieve tension and stress. The cost is \$60 for the six-week series. Preregistration is necessary.

On Jan. 14 and 21, from 7 to 9:30 p.m., the Women & Infants' Center will be offering the popular "Caring for You and Your Infant" class for all expecting parents. Discussions will include basic newborn care, personal care of mom and family adjustments. The cost of the two-night class is \$25 which is covered by some insurance companies.

The free program entitled "Beyond the Birds and Bees" is an evening for fifth- and sixth-grade girls and their parents(s) to discuss the emotional and physical changes accompanying puberty. It will be held Jan. 20 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Space is limited.

If you haven't taken your childbirth classes yet, register for Women & Infants' "All Day Childbirth Class." The class will be held Jan. 24 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Need a chance to connect with other mothers? The Center for Health Education holds a support group for new moms. The Mother's Group meets every Wednesday, 10:30 a.m. to noon. In January the center will be hosting monthly guest speakers.

All programs and classes will be held at Women & Infants' Center for Health Education, 6 Whipple St., North Attleboro.

Breastfeeding, CPR, childbirth, infant care, babysitting classes and free evening health lectures are all part of the programming at the Center for Health Education. A book and video lending library, plus a wealth of health information and pamphlets are available to those who visit the facility. To be placed on the mailing list, register or inquire about programs, call (508) 699-5454.

Volunteering From The Heart For Valentine's Day

The American Heart Association, R.I. Affiliate, is recruiting more than 100 volunteers who can work alone or in pairs to deliver vases and bouquets as part of its Hearts in Bloom campaign in celebration of Valentine's Day.

Volunteers are needed from all part of Rhode Island to deliver flowers and vases to businesses, schools and agencies who have signed up to participate in the program. Volunteers are needed to package and label orders from Jan. 20 to Feb. 6.

Vases will be delivered Jan. 26 to Feb. 10, between 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Flowers will be delivered on Feb. 13, with pickups beginning at 7:30 a.m. and deliveries being completed before noon. Convenient delivery routes are available. In preparation for the flower deliveries, several volunteers are also needed from 5:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. to help package and label flower orders. Early Bird Volunteers are needed from 4:30 to 5:30 a.m. to help unload the truck. Volunteers who drive a van or roomy vehicle are particularly needed.



Additional volunteers are needed to respond on the phone to requests for additional bouquets or vases, and to sell flowers directly at various sites throughout the state during the day. Volunteers must be reliable, able to carry light, but bulky boxes and read a map.

Hearts in Bloom celebrates Valentine's Day and February as American Heart Month. The exchange of pink tulip bouquets, with optional vase supports the research and education programs of the American Heart Association, R.I. Affiliate.

Anyone interested in volunteering should contact the American Heart Association, 728-5300.

Winter Hydration Tips For Healthier Living

Good hydration is especially important, though easily overlooked, during the winter months, because people are less thirsty. However, well-heated houses, illnesses like cold and the flu, and even that hot cup of coffee can be dehydrating. To help combat dry, cold weather, follow these hydration tips.

• Drink at least eight 8-ounce glasses of water daily. Drink

more if you are exercising or perspiring heavily.

• Have a "water plan." Space water consumption throughout the day. Keep a full pitcher, glass or water bottle handy to remind yourself.

• Increase water consumption if you are dieting or if you have a cold or the flu. You'll need more water in either case.

• Drink before you get thirsty. If you wait until you're thirsty, you're already slightly dehydrated.

• Drink extra water before, as well as after, vigorous activity or exercise. Figure on an extra 4 ounces for every 15 minutes of activity.

• Drink an extra glass of water for each cup of regular coffee or tea and each glass of an alcoholic beverage that you drink. Caffeine and alcohol dehydrate your body.

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HEALTHWISE

Change is Good!

Traditional dishes like meat sauce and pasta are regular staples of the typical American diet. Of course, such meat-heavy meals also contain a significant volume of fat that most of us could do without. Here's a simple suggestion on how to reduce the fat in your meat sauce without giving up flavor — add a meat substitute.

Hold-the-Meat Sauce is a delicious, one-skillet recipe that uses hamburger-style veggie patties in place of hamburger. This one simple substitution will cut the fat content in this traditional recipe down to one-third of what you would get in a typical meat sauce, while adding all the reported health benefits of soy protein.

In fact, you might try this simple substitution with your other hamburger recipes!

Hold-The-Meat Sauce

Yield: 4 servings

1 cup each chopped onions and sliced mushrooms
1 clove garlic, minced
1 tsp. olive oil
1 can (28 oz.) canned tomatoes
1/4 cup dry red wine
2 Tbsp. minced fresh basil or 2 tsp. dried basil
1 Tbsp. minced fresh oregano or 1 tsp. dried oregano leaves
Salt and pepper to taste
2 hamburger-style veggie patties (fat free)
8 ounces penne or rigatoni pasta, cooked

2 Tbsp. shredded Parmesan cheese, optional

Sauté onion, mushrooms and garlic in oil in non-stick skillet until onions are tender. Add tomatoes, wine, and seasonings; bring to boil. Reduce heat and simmer 20 minutes or until mixture begins to thicken. Heat hamburger-style patties in skillet until browned and hot; break into chunks. Add chunks of patties and cooked pasta or sauce; mix well. Sprinkle with cheese, if desired.



Sleep Disorders Center Opens at Roger Williams Medical Center

Roger Williams Medical Center recently announced the opening of a new Sleep Disorders Center, under the direction of Matthew Epstein, M.D.

The center, which provides help for people with sleep-related problems like apnea, insomnia and narcolepsy, uses an advanced computer system to collect data on a patient's sleeping patterns during an overnight stay. This information, which includes data on quality of sleep, dreaming activity, muscular movements, breathing characteristics and snoring, is carefully evaluated by Epstein who then prescribes the appropriate treatment plan.

Other services offered at the center include individualized patient support, multi-disciplinary treatment, and thorough education and counseling.

According to Epstein, roughly 40 million Americans suffer from some kind of sleep disorder. "An estimated 4 percent of middle-aged men and 2 percent of women suffer from sleep-disordered breathing, and the percentages are higher in the elderly," stated Epstein. When left untreated, he added, many sleep disorders can lead to other physical and emotional problems.

For more information about the Sleep Disorders Center at Roger Williams Medical Center, call 456-4812.



CHECK YOUR DOSAGE FIRST BEFORE TAKING YOUR MEDICINE.

Lifespan Plans January Events

From increasing physical activity to conquering stress, the Lifespan Health Connection is sponsoring a number of activities to help keep you healthy. The following are among the events slated for January:

Building Physical Activity Into Your Day

Experts from The Miriam Hospital's center for behavioral and preventive medicine will discuss innovative ways to incorporate exercise into a hectic schedule. The free program will be Jan. 19, from 7 to 8 p.m., at The Miriam Hospital's Fain Health Centers.

Stress: Control it Before it Controls You

Jan. 20, experts from The Miriam's center for behavioral and preventive medicine will teach participants how to relax and energize by controlling daily stress. The free, hour-long program starts at 7 p.m. in the lecture hall at The Miriam's Fain Health Centers.

CPR Training: Adult and Child

Learn cardiopulmonary resuscitation for adults, infants and children. The class will be held on Jan. 13, from 8 a.m. to noon at Rhode Island Hospital's Middle House classroom. There is a \$5 fee for materials.

Preregistration is required for all programs as seating is limited. To register or for more information and full schedule, call the Lifespan Health Connection at 444-4800 or toll-free, at (800) 927-1230.



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Health Fair at New England Tech

New England Institute of Technology in Warwick will hold Health Fair '98 on Jan. 21.

More than 50 health care providers will be present to answer questions about their services and products. Product demonstrations, health care checks, and seminars will be offered from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Admission to the Health Fair is free and the general public is invited to attend.

Large Print Library Open in Providence

In January, the American Academy of Ophthalmology sponsors National Eye Care Month, a public service program which promotes the awareness of the importance of regular medical eye examinations to maintain healthy eyesight. At the ophthalmology office of Stephen T. Richman, M.D., in Providence, a large print library is available to the local community. The books are borrowed and returned at the readers' convenience at no fee.

The large-print library is open during office hours Monday through Friday. For more information or to find out about office hours, call 831-3311.



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A WALK THROUGH
THE MUSEUM OF

Jewish
HERITAGE



The Museum of Jewish Heritage — A Living Memorial to the Holocaust is located on the waterfront of Battery Park City in Manhattan. The museum houses more than 2,000 photographs and 800 historical and cultural artifacts of Jewish heritage in the 20th century.

BY TARA V. LISCIANDRO, HERALD EDITOR
PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE MUSEUM OF JEWISH HERITAGE, N.Y.

IF YOU HAVEN'T BEEN TO NEW YORK CITY IN A WHILE, YOU MAY WANT TO CONSIDER MAKING A DAY TRIP, OREVEN SPENDING THE weekend. Just two weeks ago I visited the Big Apple, shining in all of its glory on a chilly and wintry day. After visiting family in New Jersey we hopped on a train, then the subway and soon enough we found ourselves coming out of a long system of underground tunnels and labyrinth-like paths. Rising slowly, we finally sprung out of the enormous World Trade Center and into the middle of the city's hustle and bustle.

It had been some time since I last visited the giant metropolis, but I had a special mission this time. Surely I would make a stop to visit

my brother who works for one of the oldest jazz clubs in the city but this time I also longed to see the city's newest creation, the Museum of Jewish Heritage — A Living Memorial to the Holocaust, located in Battery Park in Manhattan. I followed the museum's construction with great curiosity for months and finally I found the perfect opportunity to discover it for myself.

We walked with pep in our strides; it was chilly as we passed the promenade and followed the river. Great transformations have taken place along the river and in Battery Park. Old-fashioned lanterns hang high over red brick walkways, cozy wooden benches have been carefully placed for those who en-

joy gazing out across the river and enjoying the resonant views of the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island (which, by the way, is a quick trip on the ferry from Battery Park. The museum on Ellis Island is also worth a trip. The elegant and newly renovated museum traces and concentrates on those who came from Eastern Europe and immigrated to the United States). Directly across from Lady Liberty proudly sits the Museum of Jewish Heritage. The hexagonal, 30,000-square foot building is surrounded by water and the park — it's a tranquil setting for a building that holds such a powerful and moving history.

remembrance and a museum of Jewish heritage. There are no decorative pieces on the exterior, only the words "A Living Memorial to the Holocaust" in simple small steel letters have been placed on the granite walls. The six sides represent the 6 million Jews who perished during the Holocaust

BABY SHOE OF IRENE KATZENSTEIN. Irene was sent on a Kindertransport from Germany to safety in Britain. Her mother, Anna Katzenstein, followed soon after. Martin Katzenstein, Irene's father, unable to get a British visa, went to South America, taking this shoe with him as a memento. Gift of Irene Katzenstein Schmied.



Photo by Peter Goldberg.



DEAD SEA SCROLL FRAGMENT WITH PSALMS 137-139, from one of the oldest Psalm manuscripts discovered, found in a Judean cave in 1956. Land of Israel, mid-first century. Collection of the Israel Antiquities Authorities. Photo by Tsila Sagiv, Israel Antiquities Authority.

Kevin Roche, museum architect, designed the building in the winter of 1995, using six immense granite walls. Roche chose a bold and simple style for the museum. His design reminds visitors of the museum's two functions: a place of

as well as the Star of David, the sign of strength and promise.

Upon entering the museum's great bronze doors we were greeted by friendly staff people and an odd silence. The few visitors that gathered in the darkened entrance spoke in hushed voices and various tongues. (My husband even found one of our native Italian neighbors visiting from Palermo, Sicily, who was there to study the architecture and layout of the new museum!)

The museum is a self-guided tour, but special group and school tours are performed daily. Volunteer gallery educators can be found on every floor to assist with explanations of artifacts, photographs, videos and other materials. In some cases, original artifacts have been placed next to survivor video testimony or the owner's photo, creating a powerful understanding of what has remained and what occurred during that period. "We address universal stories," Lauren Perlmutter, public relations manager for the museum, told me as she pointed out the museum's highlights.

Throughout every corner of the museum visitors hear voices, see moving images and study still ones. More than 20 original documentary

films were made exclusively for the Museum of Jewish Heritage and are shown throughout the exhibits. Steven Spielberg's Shoah Visual History Foundation collection of survivor testimony and memories is also on display at the museum. Every floor is a link between the Jewish past and present. "Jewish Life A Century Ago," floor one, examines Jewish tradition and culture during the early 20th century. There is a special concentration on European and North African Jewish communities in this exhibit. Videos and artifacts demonstrate synagogues throughout the world, areas of employment, a real sukkah, a bride's dress and chuppah and other exhibits of traditional daily Jewish life. Toward the end of the first floor, visitors note conflicts are arising against the Jewish communities.

While the sleek steel escalator carries visitors to the second floor, the lighting is dimmed and the atmosphere is dreary and silent. "The War Against the Jews," is exhibited throughout this floor, which is the most moving. Enormous black and white posters show scenes of Nazi propaganda and terrorism. Visitors pass through the "gates" (enlarged black and white photographs) of



"HANUKKAH IN THE ATTIC," IN INK, BY 14-YEAR-OLD HELGA WEISSOVA was created in Terezin Ghetto, Czechoslovakia, 1943. Religious observances were forbidden in Terezin, but they often were held in secret. Helga chronicled a Hanukkah celebration in L410, a ghetto children's home. Photo by Peter Goldberg.

the Krakow ghetto and take a look at ghetto life. "Look, he's lying on the street!" said a young boy to his father. Watching the young man explain what happened to the little orphan boy in the ghetto, who was most likely the same age as his son, almost brought us to tears. Meanwhile, others were silent, serious and saddened as they stared at the Klarsfeld exhibit of 2,000 portraits of young Jews deported from France. Serge Klarsfeld organized their photos specifically for the museum and video testimony accompanied the photos.

The Museum of Jewish Heritage also highlights those who rescued Jews during the Holocaust such as, Schindler, Wallenberg, Sugihara, Trocme and others. Other unique exhibits include a dedication to the children of the Holocaust, Terezin, Kristallnacht, Jewish sport events and the St. Louis story.

The last steel escalator brings visitors to a brighter level of "Jewish Renewal," one of the museum's main themes. The third floor chronicles the rebirth of Jewish culture after the Holocaust. Maps and artifacts chart worldwide Jewish population after the war and dispersion to Israel, the United States and other countries. Exhibits and videos display the combat of anti-Semitism.

DRESS MADE BY FRANIA BRATT AT THE NEWLY LIBERATED DACHAU CONCENTRATION CAMP IN MAY 1945 to replace her striped inmate uniform, using fabric supplied by the U.S. Army. After the war, Frania Bratt Blum wore this dress on the anniversary of her liberation and on other special occasions.

Gift of Frania Bratt Blum. Photo by Peter Goldberg.



As we left the museum the doors from the third floor swung open to an amazing and picturesque landscape. Across the deep blue placid river stood the Statue of Liberty and next to her, Ellis Island. The giant room wraps itself around half of the

museum and allows visitors the perfect time and place to reflect.

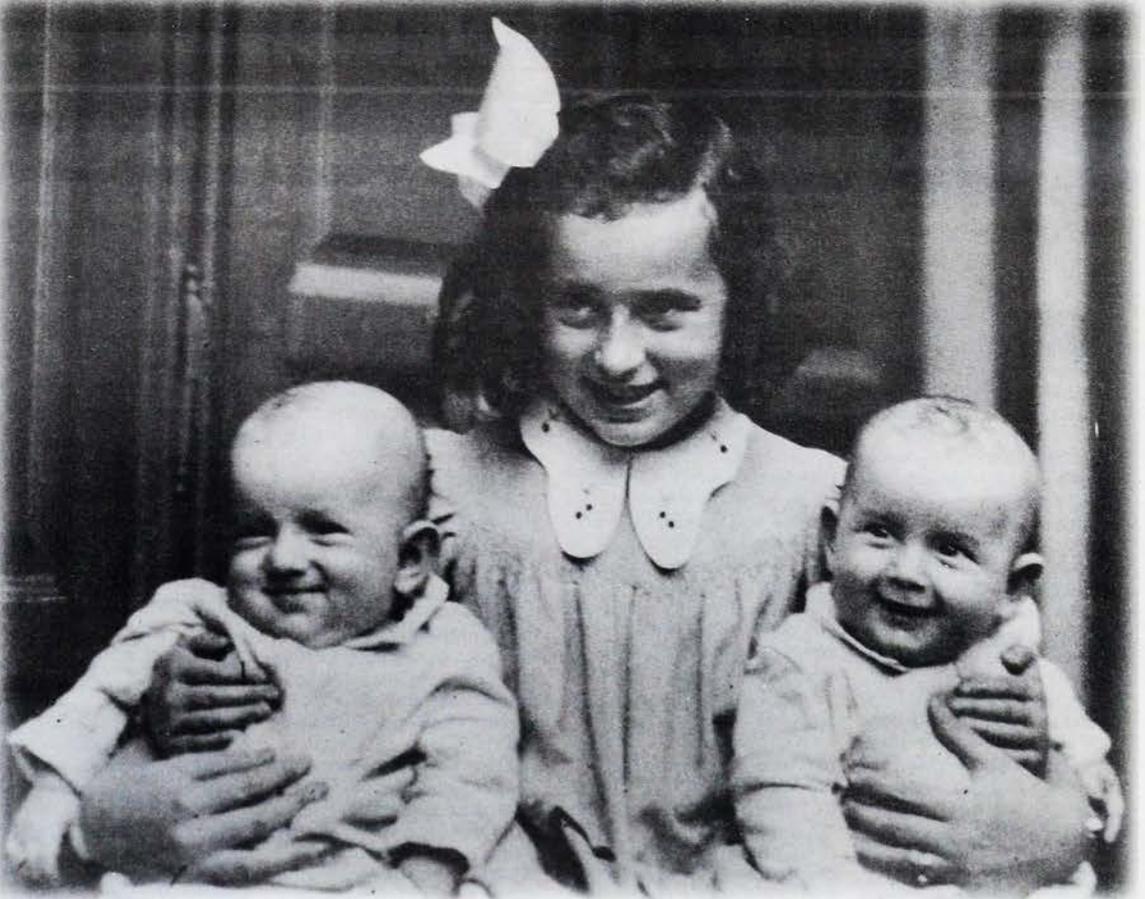
Exiting the building we were silent and once again, hours later, found ourselves back outside in the icy cold weather, surrounded by fast-paced cars, high sky-scrapers, and busy chatter. For a moment I looked back at the museum, which had left us with impressive ideas, images and thoughts. It looked so peaceful and quiet, sitting along the river, so different from the rest of the big bustling city.



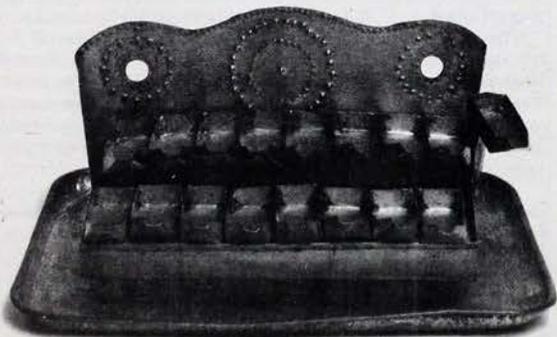
"LIBERTY" MENORAH. Brass candelabrum (menorah) for celebrating Hanukkah made by Manfred Anson, with English. New Jersey, 1985. Made for the centennial of the Statue of Liberty in 1986, the menorah

combines Jewish and American themes. The menorah is inscribed with major turning points in Jewish history from the Exodus from Egypt to the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948.

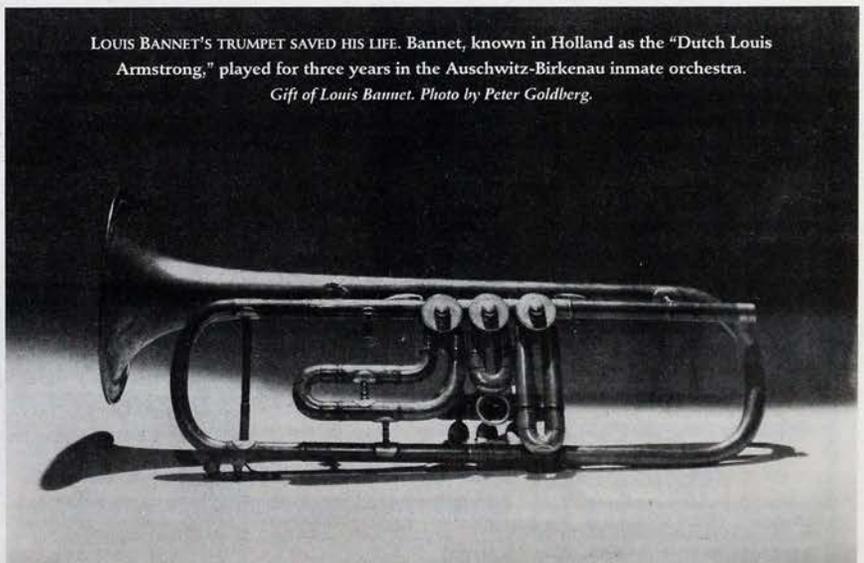
Loaned in honor of Saul and Esther Feingold. Photo by Norm Goldberg.



PHOTOGRAPH OF EVA HADL HOLDING HER TWIN BROTHERS PAUL AND GEORGE with the help of their mother Iren, Budapest, Hungary, August 1938. Iren Hadl and her three children all survived Auschwitz, where the boys were selected by Dr. Josef Mengele for his experiments with twins. Gift of Paul Heimler.



METAL, OIL-BURNING HANUKKIAH (HANUKKAH LAMP), USED BY KAROLINE BARTH HEIDELBERGER. FLEHINGEN, GERMANY, 1914-1918. The Heidelberg family lit this oil-burning lamp during World War I when candles were unavailable. Its two rows of eight cups let two families use it at the same time. Gift of Louis Heidelberg. Photo by Peter Goldberg.



LOUIS BANNET'S TRUMPET SAVED HIS LIFE. Bannet, known in Holland as the "Dutch Louis Armstrong," played for three years in the Auschwitz-Birkenau inmate orchestra. Gift of Louis Bannet. Photo by Peter Goldberg.

FEATURE

Being Jewish in Germany's Army: Experience Reflects Neo-Nazi Acts

by Regine Wosnitza
BERLIN (JTA) — When David Meyer asked whether he would be able to keep kosher and go on leave for the Jewish High Holidays while serving in the German army, the head of the recruiting board accused him of holding up the proceedings.

And the situation only worsened after the 19-year-old joined his unit in the army, known as the Bundeswehr.

Not only was no kosher or vegetarian food available, World War II helmets and photographs adorned some offices, and Meyer was punished when he asked to be excused from attending a Christian service.

"I really believed that the generational change had done away with Nazi attitudes and that the Bundeswehr could not afford such things to happen," he said. "But after the events of the past two months, my trust in the Bundeswehr has reached rock bottom."

Meyer's experience offers a personal lens on the recent neo-Nazi scandals that have rocked the German army.

Some 160 neo-Nazi events were reported this year in the German army, according to a parliamentary army ombudsman. Among them:

- Several amateur videos appeared, filmed by German soldiers, showing other soldiers demonstrating pro-Nazi actions, including shouts of "Heil Hitler";

- A German magazine reported that recruits in army barracks regularly celebrate Hitler's birthday;

- A 21-year-old who just completed his army service, Christian Krause, told a German tabloid in December that soldiers routinely made comments such as "the Jews must be gassed."

Krause also claimed it was easy in his unit to order right-wing propaganda material printed in Denmark and said some soldiers with whom he served were involved in other right-wing activities;

- German Defense Ministry officials have confirmed that a well-known neo-Nazi, Manfred Roeder, delivered a lecture at a German army officers training school in 1995.

With the support of Chancellor Helmut Kohl, the ministry has launched an investigation into neo-Nazism in the army. After conducting an internal investigation into Krause's charges, the ministry said it had found that only a few soldiers out of those it interviewed backed up his claims.

The ministry has also maligned Krause for not coming forward sooner.

Defense Minister Volker Ruehe argues that "these mistakes reflect neither the spirit of the troops nor everyday life in our armed forces."

Opposition politicians have charged that the government, through its attacks on Krause, is trying to discourage other sol-

diers from reporting neo-Nazi incidents.

For Meyer, the situation peaked when he asked for leave to celebrate Rosh Hashanah, and an officer told him that he should throw the application away.

"I was so furious about the way he talked because I could have been told in a friendly way," Meyer said.

In response, his father, Hans, wrote a letter to the defense minister, asking him to grant "those minimum rights that a German of Jewish belief is entitled to."

While army officials investigated the matter, David Meyer was summoned to two interrogations in which he was told to consider the future career of his superiors and retract his accusations.

The ministry's investigation into the matter showed that the local recruiting office had never passed on the directive that accommodations should be made to help Meyer practice his Judaism.

Michael Fuerst, responsible for army matters within the Central Council of Jews in Germany, attributed Meyer's experience to "ignorance" on the part of superiors.

In a letter to the Defense Ministry, Fuerst recently regretted that discussions about the sensitivity needed to be shown Jews in the military "do not seem to have got down to lower ranks."

(Continued on Page 15)

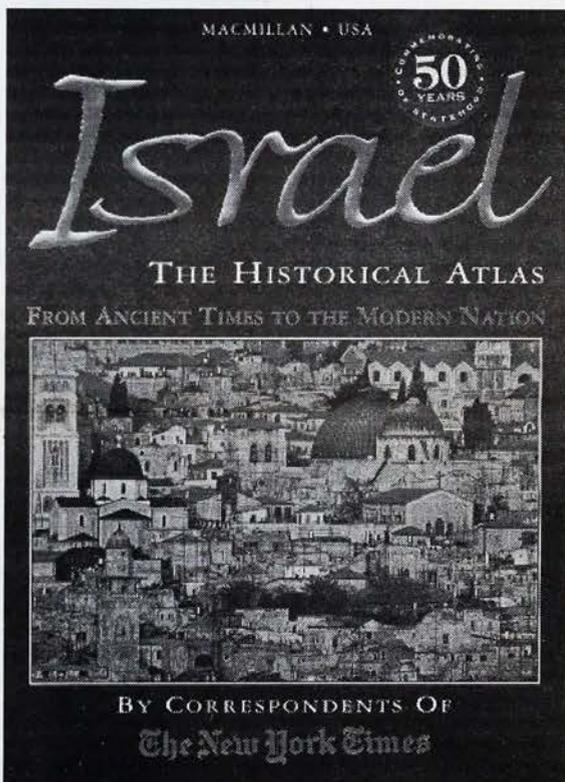
Historical Atlas Traces 50 Years in Israel

As preparations get underway to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Israel's statehood on May 14, Macmillan USA will recognize this milestone with the publication of *Israel: The Historical Atlas: From Ancient Times to the Modern Nation* (November 1997). This handsome special edition, written by nine *New York Times* correspondents, including five recipients of the Pulitzer Prize, highlights the places and events that have molded Israel's history along with key events in the nation's history as they were reported at the time in the pages of *The Times*.

Israel: The Historical Atlas is a complete volume that offers a journalistic history of the young

subjects. Evoking a sense of the historical past intertwined with contemporary coverage of history-in-the-making, *Israel: The Historical Atlas* examines the evolution of Israel as the nation faces its 50th anniversary of statehood. With journalistic objectivity and experience, the *Times* correspondents offer exclusive reports on such events as the Yom Kippur War, the invasion of Lebanon, the Palestinian intifada and the fitful course of the Oslo accords as the search for peace continues.

Complete with dozens of articles and photographs from *The New York Times* archives and elsewhere, as well as 50 specially commissioned four-color



Success and Write-fully So

There is no comparison to the exhilaration a writer feels the first time a story of theirs is published. Fifty Rhode Island students (two of whom come from Providence Hebrew Day School) experienced that feeling when they learned they won a writing contest open only to Rhode Island students. Their story will be included in this year's edition of *Mysteries, Monsters, Memories and More*.

In September, soon after school was back in session, more than 400 schools in the

state were invited to submit stories written by their students to Majestic Books, a local publisher, for their sixth annual writing contest. Sixteen hundred entries were received by students ranging in age from 6 to 17. The stories were judged against others from the same age group and 50 entries were selected to be published in the soft-cover book. Even the cover features the artwork of a Rhode Island student.

The publisher started the contest in an effort to encourage

children to write and to inspire them to possibly become one of the great writers of tomorrow. Each student that enters the contest receives an award to commend their effort.

The winners of the contest will receive a copy of the book during a special presentation to be held on Jan. 10 at 11 a.m. at the Gorton Jr. High School Auditorium, in Warwick. A Jan. 17 snow date at 11 a.m. has been arranged in the event of inclement weather. The public is invited to attend.

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Jewish nation from ancient biblical times to the present combined with the most up-to-date maps by leading historical cartographer Malcolm Swanston. Featuring maps that reflect Israel's changing borders, conflicts and settlements over the past five decades, *Israel: The Historical Atlas* provides eyewitness accounts of the events that have shaped Israel.

The nine writers who contributed new articles for this book have served as *New York Times* correspondents in Israel and the Middle East since the 1948 War of Independence or have written widely on their

maps, 40 photos, profiles of Israel's leaders, an almanac, and historic *Times* front pages, *Israel: The Historical Atlas* offers comprehensive, in-depth history by the world's leading journalists as well as handsomely rendered maps defining the changes that have taken place in Israel over the past 50 years.

More than just a geographical reference or historical almanac, *Israel: The Historical Atlas* captures the trials, triumphs, setbacks and challenges that will fascinate all who have watched this nation grow from a mere dream to a thriving regional superpower.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Winter Classes Take the Stage at ACT

The All Childrens Theatre Winter Session classes for children 3 to 17 years of age will begin on Jan. 20. Classes run for eight weeks and are held at the ACT Studios, 1 Allens Ave., Providence. A variety of classes developed to enrich children's lives with theatre arts education while simultaneously building self-confidence and self-esteem are offered in the afternoons and evenings by professional theatre instructors.

New this year is ACTing I — Improvisation, geared for ages 11 to 14. Participants will learn vocal techniques, pantomime/movement, and basic improvisational skills to create characters and scenes on the spur of the moment. ACT also continues its Storybook Theatre classes with Magic and Mystery! — a class for 6- and 7-year-olds to learn basic acting skills and create a story about magic and adventure.

Also new this 1997-98 season are two creative classes designed to provide children with hands-on experience in an actual ensemble production. Costume Design for the Stage, geared for children ages 11 to 17, introduces the process of research-

ing, designing, making and fitting costumes for a theatrical performance. Technical Theatre for ages 13 to 17 provides students with the opportunity to work with the technical director, stage director, stage manager and crew of another ensemble production. Participants will design and build sets, develop lighting cues through Tech Week, and act as stagehands for several performances.

One of ACT's most popular classes for 8- to 10- and 11- to 14-year-olds is Lights! Camera! Action! Students will become familiar with the ins and outs of the TV/film business through introduction to auditions, résumés, and contacts. Participants will also learn on-camera acting skills and will rehearse scenes from television shows.

Stage Combat is another recent addition to ACT's class session. This class provides the actor with physical skills as well as the knowledge that stage combat allows even the smallest of actors to appear powerful.

For brochure, class schedule or more information, call 331-7174 or e-mail <ACTinProv@aol.com>.

Bump, Set and Spike at the YMCA

The Pawtucket Family YMCA will host a four-player, co-ed volleyball league starting Jan. 15.

The league lasts for 10 weeks, plus playoffs, and is limited to six teams. Games are played on Thursday evenings at 6:30, 7:30 and 8:30 p.m.

There is a registration fee of \$100. Each team must also pay a \$6 referee fee prior to each match.

Teams are encouraged to have at least five or six players on their roster, just in case one or more players are unable to attend on any given week.

All of the rules of volleyball will be enforced. According to coed rules, a female player must touch the ball at least once before the ball goes over the net. Therefore, teams must have at least one female player on the court at all times.

For registration information, contact Chris Duffy at the Pawtucket Family YMCA, 20 Summer St., Pawtucket, R.I. 727-7900.

RISD Museum Exhibition Focuses on Anniversary of Lithography

The Rhode Island School of Design Museum's "Working the Stone: Process and Progress of Lithography" celebrates the 200th anniversary of the invention of the printmaking process of lithography with 100 works drawn almost exclusively from its permanent collection.

On view through April 5, the exhibition traces the evolution of technique from its experimental beginnings around 1800 to the culmination of its technical progress in the late 1980s. While arranged in five sections that follow a loose chronological order within the context of art historical theme and subject matter, "Working the Stone" emphasizes several significant trends peculiar to the medium, including its dual identity from inception as both a commercial and fine-art process, and its need for a technical partnership between artist and experienced printer. A range of works by artists Benjamin West to Sandro Chia are displayed as well as artwork by Richard Bonington, Jasper Johns, and Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec.

Lithography, which literally means "writing on stone," was invented by the Bavarian playwright and actor Alois Senefelder between 1796 and 1798, primarily as a method to reproduce sheet music and play scripts. Senefelder laid the groundwork for the most revolutionary innovation in printmaking since the invention of the printing press more than 300 years earlier. Lithography has evolved into one of the most established of all printed forms, transforming both commerce and the fine arts along the way.

According to Lora Urbanelli, RISD Museum curator of prints, drawings, and photographs, "Because of complexity of producing lithographs, many artists collaborated with trained printers in their production."

She added that "the history of artistic achievements in lithography could not be told without the exhibition also noting the establishment of great printing housing and workshops."

Lithography begins with a flat, smooth, dense, and porous limestone (although a metal plate is more commonly used today). On the specially prepared surface, the artist creates marks with any combination of greasy crayon and ink, or other oily substances — even a fingerprint. Through the application of the chemical solution, the greasy image is absorbed into the stone. The stone is cleaned of any surface residue, leaving an image. The stone is then sponged with water, which soaks into areas of the stone where there is no grease and is repelled by areas where grease of the drawing has set. An oil-based ink is applied with a roller while the stone is still wet. A sheet of paper is laid across the inky stone, and paper and stone are run through the press. Each time a new impression is "pulled" from the stone or plate, it must be wetted down and re-inked.

For hundreds of years, printmakers had carved, engraved, and etched wood blocks and copper plates in an attempt to suggest the subtle tone variations seen in nature. Finally, by drawing on and manipulating a limestone surface — "working the stone" — artists could reproduce the exquisite variety of gesture and tonal range available from freely manipulated tradition drawing implements like crayons, pens, and paint brushes. Its invention marked the resolution of a search that had been underway for centuries; a quest that would not be completely resolved for another 40 years with the invention of photography.

For more information, call 454-6100.

Lisa Kron Rides Into Providence

Trinity Repertory Company, under the artistic direction of Oskar Eustis, and Perishable Theatre, under the artistic direction of Mark Lerman, will jointly present performance artist Lisa Kron in "2.5 Minute Ride," Jan. 21 to 25, in Trinity Rep's Downstairs Theater. The Jan. 21 show will be a benefit for Perishable Theatre and the Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum (an educational resource center).

This is Lisa Kron's third visit to Rhode Island. She was first seen on a Trinity stage in 1995, as part of Perishable Theatre's "Big Night" salute to Iona Dobbins (former director of the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts). Last year, as part of Perishable's 1996 Ma and Pa Series, Kron returned to do "101 Humiliating Stories" for a sold-out five-night run.

"2.5 Minute Ride" refers to "the

Mean Streak," a roller coaster at Sandusky, Ohio, amusement park, which her elderly father convinces her to ride with him just after he pops a nitroglycerin tablet for his heart condition! Terrified that her father's fascination with these thrill-machines will do him in, she clutches his arm throughout the harrowing 2 1/2 minutes. She holds onto him just as tight, but for different reasons, when they walk the barren fields of Birkenau together and visit the crematorium at Auschwitz, where his parents died 50 years before.

Kron's one-act storytelling performance piece swings back and forth between her reactions to that wrenching trip to Poland and tongue-in-cheek descriptions of her family's annual excursions to the amusement park. With biting humor, she pauses frequently along the way for

sharp-witted sketches of family members and insightful reflections about family relationships.

But she is also intent on documenting a central theme in her father's life: as he so often put it to her, "If it weren't for the good fortune of being born a Jew, I might have become a Nazi." Tackling such a tough issue with candor and sensitivity, Kron tells part of her father's story, relates another part in his own words and then lives a final chapter with him, when they visit the concentration camps.

Tickets for all performances of Lisa Kron are on sale at the Trinity Rep box office, 351-4242. Tickets for the benefit performance are \$36 for the show and post-performance discussion with Lisa Kron and \$50 for center seating, show and reception with Lisa Kron. For more information, contact Steve Dubois at 331-2695.

Voices From Theresienstadt

The Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center of Greater Boston will host the Dybbuk Theatre Oslo on Jan. 24 at 8 p.m. and Jan. 25 at 2 p.m. The theatre group will present "Farewell Cracow" and "Voices From Theresienstadt" with Bente Kahan. "Farewell Cracow" recounts the story of Kazimierz, the Jewish quarter in Cracow, through the songs by Mordechai Gebirtig, a leading composer of popular Yiddish music. Accompanied by two exceptional musicians, Kahan conveys Gebirtig's songs with warmth, lyricism, folksy humor and enormous dramatic talent. Her powerful voice moves with ease from laughter to tears while expressing the deepest and most profound drama of life.

"Voices from Theresienstadt" is about survival through art and music. Five fictional Jewish women — all acted by Kahan — of different ages, social background and countries, share the same floor in Theresienstadt's Hamburg barracks. Cabaret, banned in Germany, flourished in Theresienstadt through work of prisoners like Ilse Weber, who continued to write and compose during her internment. Kahan presents a selection of Weber's songs in the show.

This marks the debut of Norway's Dybbuk Theatre in the United States. Through her remarkable voice, Kahan brings to life the extraordinary music of this period.

For tickets or information, call (617) 965-5226.

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OBITUARIES

DR. GEORGE A. BRESSLER
PAWTUCKET — Dr. George A. Bressler, 86, of 616 Pontiac Ave., Cranston, died Dec. 29 at Memorial Hospital of Rhode Island, Pawtucket. He was the husband of the late Evelyn (Levene) Bressler.

Born in Bayonne, N.J., a son of the late Isidore and Anna (Friedman) Bressler, he had lived in Florida for many years, moving to Rhode Island in 1979.

He was a 1932 graduate of Ohio School of Podiatry. He was a past chancellor of the Knights of Pythias and a 32nd Degree Mason of Siwanoy Lodge in New Rochelle, N.Y. He was a former member of Temple Torat Yisrael and the men's club of the temple.

He leaves four daughters, Gail Romine of Clearwater, Fla., Carole Lalli of Eastchester, N.Y., and Marilyn Bressler and Betina Ragless, both of Cranston; a brother, Leon Bressler of Miami, Fla.; a sister, Joan Kliman of Leonia, N.J.; two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He was the brother of the late Phoebe Solomon.

The funeral was private. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

LEONARD CORT
PROVIDENCE — Leonard Cort, 80, of 40 Othmar St., Narragansett, died Jan. 3 at Rhode Island Hospital. He was the husband of Ethel (Golden) Cort.

Born in Providence, a son of the late Hyman and Dora (Cooper) Cort, he lived in Narragansett for 17 years.

He was a member of Redwood Masonic Lodge, the Rotary Club and the Touro Fraternal Association. He was a Shriner.

Besides his wife, he leaves two sons, Harold Cort of Manchester, Conn., and Bruce Cort of Windham, Maine; two daughters, Donna Perelman of Narragansett and Susan Rosen of Woodbridge, Conn.; eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held Jan. 4 in the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

LAWRENCE J. PATRICK' GORDON

MIDDLETOWN — Lawrence J. "Patrick" Gordon, of 386 Green End Ave., president of Gordon Company International and vice president of the former Gordon Chevrolet, died Dec. 30 at home. He was the husband of Jennie (Pirri) Gordon.

Born in Providence, a son of the late Abram "Al" and Beatrice (Kaplan) Gordon, he lived in Middletown for 26 years. Besides his wife, he leaves a daughter, Erika Dawn Gordon, and a brother, Michael Gordon, both in Connecticut.

The funeral was held Jan. 4 at Temple Shalom, Middletown. Burial was in Trinity Cemetery, Portsmouth. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

SAMUEL J. HOCHMAN
NEW BEDFORD — Samuel J. Hochman died Jan. 1. He was the husband of Virginia (Rosen) Hochman.

Besides his wife he is survived by two sons, Michael B. Hochman and Robert Alan Hochman and a daughter, Elissa Ann Salvatore.

Funeral services were held Jan. 4 at Tifereth Israel Congregation, New Bedford. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

DR. LOUIS PAJENSKY

EAST PROVIDENCE — Dr. Louis Pajensky, 92, Health Havens Nursing Center, a dentist for 50 years, retiring six years ago, died Dec. 30 at the center. He was the husband of the late Merlin (Moses) Pajensky.

Born in Poland, a son of the late Wolf and Libby (Epstein) Pajensky, he lived in Providence for five years, previously living in the Bronx, N.Y.

He was a 1929 graduate of Tufts University School of Dental Medicine and a member of the New York Dental Association.

He leaves a son, Dr. Lawrence Page of Providence; a daughter, Emily Page of Carmel, Calif.; a brother, Al Page of Aventura, Fla.; five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He was the brother of the late Harold Page and Sophie Pajensky.

A graveside service was held Jan. 2 in Beth Israel Cemetery, Woodbridge, N.Y. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman

Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

HELEN SALTZMAN
WARWICK — Helen Saltzman, 95, of the Pawtuxet Village Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, died there Jan. 3. She was the wife of the late Israel Saltzman.

Born in Bronx, N.Y., a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Morris Breitman, she had lived in Providence for many years before moving to Warwick three years ago.

She leaves two sons, Norman Saltzman of Warwick and Howard Saltzman of Merrick, N.Y.; five grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held Jan. 4 in the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

SIDONIA WEINSTEIN
WARWICK — Sidonia Weinstein, 89, of the Pawtuxet

Village Nursing and Rehab Center, a teacher in Ocean County, N.J., before retiring in 1977, died Jan. 2 at the center. She was the wife of the late Matthew Weinstein.

Born in New York City, a daughter of the late Leib and Riva (Tabachnick) Rapp, she lived in Warwick for 10 months, previously living in Holiday City, N.J.

She was a graduate of Farleigh Dickenson University and was a member of the Holiday City Social Group.

She leaves a son, Barry Weinstein of Georgetown, Mass.; one daughter, Carole Blanche of Warwick; two sisters, Blanche Danksy and Evelyn Berger, both of New Jersey; six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Graveside services were held Jan. 5 at Beth Israel Cemetery, Woodbridge, New Jersey. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

Judge Orders Deportation of Former Nazi Camp Guard

by Mitchell Danow
NEW YORK (JTA) — A Philadelphia man who served as a guard at the Auschwitz and Buchenwald concentration camps has been ordered deported to his native Slovakia.

A federal immigration judge issued the deportation order recently against Johann Breyer, 72, who admitted that he served in the Nazi SS at the two camps in Nazi-occupied Poland.

The United States will "seek to have Johann Breyer removed from this country as expeditiously as possible," said Eli Rosenbaum, director of the Justice Department's Nazi-hunting Office of Special Investigations.

Rosenbaum said that when Breyer was a guard at Auschwitz between May and September 1944, at least 500,000 people were killed by the Nazis, including some 100,000 children.

He added that guards like Breyer, who was ordered to shoot prisoners attempting to escape, were an "integral part of the Nazi apparatus of mass persecution."

In granting the OSI's deportation request, the immigration

judge ruled that Breyer's wartime service as an SS guard constituted membership in a movement hostile to the United States, which rendered him ineligible to immigrate to the United States.

Breyer, a retired tool and die maker, admitted in a sworn interview with OSI attorneys in 1991 that he was an SS guard at Buchenwald beginning in February 1943 and at Auschwitz starting in May 1944.

He also admitted that while at Auschwitz, he was aware that women and children were imprisoned there and that he "saw smoke rising from the crematoria where bodies were being burned," the OSI said.

Breyer was stripped of his citizenship in 1993, a decision that was later upheld on appeal. Deportation proceedings were launched against him in January.

To date, 60 former Nazis have been stripped of their U.S. citizenship as a result of OSI investigations, and 48 have been deported, according to Rosenbaum's office.

Some 300 suspected war criminals remain under investigation.

Extremist French Leader Le Pen Convicted For Holocaust Remark

by Douglas Davis
LONDON (JTA) — French far-right leader Jean-Marie Le Pen has been convicted for saying that the Nazi gas chambers were "a mere detail" of World War II.

Le Pen, 69, was not present when a court in a suburb of Paris ordered him to pay about \$50,000 to finance publication of the judgment in 16 newspapers. He was also ordered to pay symbolic amounts to 11 different human-rights and anti-racist organizations.

The charges stem from remarks Le Pen made in an address in the German city of Munich on Dec. 5. "When you pick up a 1,000-page book on

World War II, concentration camps take up two pages and gas chambers 10 to 15 lines — in other words, a detail," he said.

Le Pen, who denies that he is anti-Semitic, made the remarks while sharing a platform with Franz Schoenhuber, a former Waffen-SS officer and president of Germany's far-right Republican Party, who has just published a book in praise of Le Pen.

The charges against Le Pen, leader of the National Front Party, were brought under a 1990 French law that forbids the denial of crimes against humanity.

Similar remarks by Le Pen to French radio and TV interviewers in 1987 elicited strong public

(Continued on Page 15)

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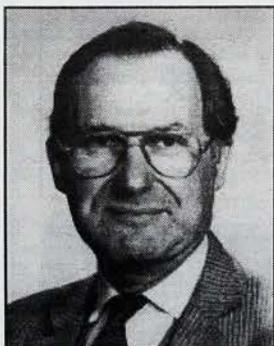
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Remember Laughter

(Continued from Page 5)

the famous felines, the six-toed cats Ernest kept and named for the great ladies of silver screen associated with his career. I got Dietrich, Ida Lupino, Ava Gardner, among the plump pets asleep on tables and chairs, or on the landings of the stairwells leading to the writing rooms where the author could work in his own lair. Hemingway was the opposite kind of writer from my favorite role models—all that macho posturing! Still, his era, the deco depression, wafts its aura of nostalgia here upon his estate.

I bought a few items to take home, some aloe vera, a basket, lime cookies, sketches by Frances Wolfson, and went back to the Sovereign for the ceremonies of Chanukah and dinner.

To sing for my supper I gave three short talks. I covered what I could of Jewish legends of piracy in the Caribbean. Without a nationality, some of the pirates were hidden Jews, actually helping their coreligionists find a safe haven among the islands. Most famous of course, Jean Lafitte. You can find glorious synagogues among the shores of Central America, or secret graveyards. I told a group of Isaac Singer stories for Chanukah. And I interpreted the Wolfson gesture of respect for Audubon. "Jews love the Americas. They joined, saved and cherished the traditions of this hemisphere."

Meanwhile Joel and I were like a pair of rogues ourselves, seeking solace. Rabbi Braude stands and smiles, making an amiable appearance among the latkes, speaking a fluent and easy Hebrew with the Israelis, charming the Jewish grandparents treating their mishpocha to a cruise reunion, and responding to their questions with zest and poise. He lit the candles, sang and handed out midrashic puzzles and riddles, and blessed glasses of kosher wine or grape juice. The rooms were filled with Jewish passengers from South Africa to Canada. It was a merry midChanukah with an exquisite sunset behind the menorah. Another cruise chaplain, Father Bill, in Santa cap and sandals, conducts a midnight mass and joins us for cocktails on deck. We're all trying to fit some R and R into our routines. A cruise ship can work for you or not. In some ways the Sovereign is a floating mall, with casino and shops, elevators and lounges—not the Titanic. But it holds a small library, a useful conference room, and a staff of waiters in uniform who are more aristocratic, exotic, and elegant than us plain tourists dressed catchas catchcan. One Portuguese waiter asks me further questions about Chanukah. "It tells of the violation of a great synagogue, and of his restoration, just like what happened in Portugal." "Yes," he says, "to my own family."

Rabbi Joel really wants to do a good job and make a good case for his rabbinate. I think of a theme in Torah, from Jonah to Balaam. We have a message to deliver from on high, a spiritual story to tell. We wind a crooked way out of it, but the fish, the burro, the voice within and be-

yond bring us back to the straight way. Just so, Joel found his path at the point when others are thinking of how to get off the road and retire. I returned home from a thoughtful journey with a sense that Rabbi Joel has a mission. Like the art of John Cox, it can be defined only negatively. It is not a usual mission, but it is a quest for his own kindly truth.

I liked the Bahamas better than I had expected. I touched my mother's hand in memory by sharing her experience. I saw my student's world, fabulous and fragile. I shared the podium with a rabbi. Somehow it all came together and made me think of the famous closing line in a Thurber story written in nearby Bermuda. "Remember laughter. You'll need it even in the blessed isles of Ever After."

Being Jewish in Germany's Army

(Continued from Page 11)

Still, Fuerst said: "You cannot say the Bundeswehr is anti-Semitic because we have anti-Semitic incidents."

Although Germany has a draft army, Jewish citizens are exempted from service if their parents or grandparents are Holocaust survivors.

However, with the recent surge in the German Jewish population and a growing sense that Jews will be able to live safely in Germany, some young German Jews are choosing army service.

The Jewish community is negotiating with the army about the possibility of offering recruits kosher meals as well as the services of an army chaplain.

Meanwhile, Meyer's request to be transferred to the military unit in his home town of Muenster was eventually granted, and he describes the situation there as more tolerant.

Nevertheless, he counts the days until April, when his military service will end.

Le Pen

(Continued from Page 14)

criticism and a fine of about \$1.5 million.

A recent opinion poll indicated that the anti-immigration National Front Party would win the support of 16 percent of French voters in next March's regional elections, which would be the highest percentage the party has received.

EI Al

(Continued from Page 1)

largest shareholder is the Israeli government — that rejecting Boeing could affect Israeli-U.S. defense relations.

Mordechai reportedly told EI Al that Israel could be hurt in the U.S. Congress at a time he is seeking funding for defense projects.

He also said it could jeopardize deals with McDonnell Douglas, a Boeing partner that supplies jets to the Israeli air force.

American Jewish organizational officials also weighed in on behalf of Boeing.

EI Al should "take into account" that Israel's relationship with the United States is different from its relationship with France, Malcolm Hoenlein, executive vice chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, said he told EI Al officials.

For its part, Boeing had launched its own campaign to win over the Israeli flying public.

In a commissioned survey of Israeli "experienced travelers," the company found that more than 70 percent of Israeli passengers would prefer to fly aboard a Boeing jetliner for international travel.

Boeing also created an Internet site that hailed 50 years of EI Al-Boeing cooperation.

From the first transport plane sold to the new state to the airlift of Ethiopian Jews, Israel has used Boeing, the Web site boasted.

And just in case Israelis forgot that Boeing acquired McDonnell Douglas last year, the company's site said the arms manufacturer is under contract to build 25 F-151 military aircraft for Israel.

Meanwhile, the next battle between Boeing and Airbus for EI Al's business is already brewing. EI Al is scheduled to purchase another batch of commercial planes this year.

Hundredth Birthday

(Continued from Page 3)

Lapidus thinks her mother's long life may be partially due to her clean living.

"She's the purest, cleanest-thinking person I've ever met," said Lapidus.

Lapidus said that although her mother is now a grandmother of two and a great-grandmother of two more, she has retained both her sharp mind and the characteristic modesty that led her to decline to comment on her birthday.

"Still, it's really something to say 'Mazal Tov' about," Lapidus said.

Jewish High Schools

(Continued from Page 3)

"That's why I will work very hard to establish a Jewish school in Providence," Pliskin said. "I will make my son, Aryeh, a guinea pig in a new school, where there will be kinks to work out."

Providence resident Rena Jurkowitz, whose 9th grade daughter, Adina, makes the daily trip to Maimonides with Sarah, also believes that Rhode Island needs a Jewish high school.

"I feel that Adina is getting a good education both Jewishly and academically," she said. "The only problem is that it's exhausting for her."

According to Jurkowitz, the commute to Brookline is not for everyone.

"I am very much in favor of the Providence school," she said. "My daughter is commuting 2 1/2 to 3 hours a day, and I think you need a very motivated child to go through that very long day and then do homework afterwards."

At present, Schechter and others are raising funds for the proposed school, which would be under the Halachic guidance of Rabbi Mitchell Levine of Congregation Beth Shalom in Providence.

Although the new Jewish school has not yet finalized its agreement to rent classroom space from the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, Schechter has said that an informal arrangement already exists.

"The plan is slowly becoming a reality," Schechter said. "At the end of January, we plan to have a big meeting to fully update the public."

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The Rhode Island Jewish Herald is currently looking for a new editor. Qualifications for applicants include: strong writing, reporting and communication skills, knowledge of Jewish life and community and good organizational skills.

Serious applicants should call the Herald for an appointment, (401) 724-0200.

Virtual Tour of Uriah Levy Exhibit Launched on Web

Museum president Edward D. Blatt, of the National Museum of American Jewish Military History, recently announced the launching of a new and exciting venture into the world of cyberspace, a first for America's only Jewish military museum. Available through the website of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A., a virtual tour can be viewed of the NMAJMH's exhibit titled "An American, A Sailor and A Jew: The Life and Career of Commodore Uriah P. Levy, USN (1792-1862)." The address of the virtual tour is: <http://www.penfed.org/jwv/levy/ulhome.htm>.

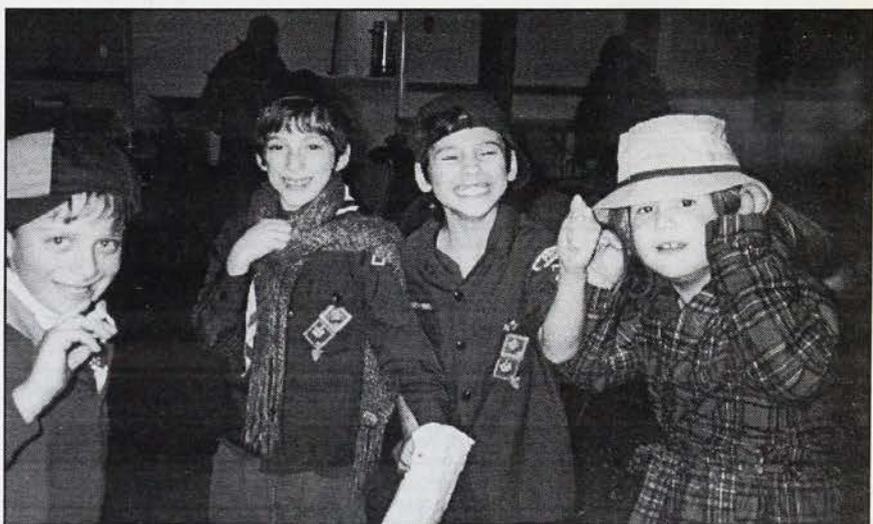
The visitor to the virtual exhibit will be able to read the text of the exhibit, exactly as displayed throughout the actual exhibit. Reproductions of photographs and engravings from the exhibit are also available on the web tour, as well as pictures of items and artifacts. As development continues on the virtual tour, the visitor will be able to actually walk through the exhibit in short video clips, hear narrated quotes and readings, and see actual photos of the exhibit itself.

The virtual exhibit focuses on Commodore Uriah P. Levy, one of American Jewry's greatest patriots and a hero of the U.S. Navy. Levy is known for lead-

ing the effort to have corporal punishment banned from use in the Navy and creating the apprentice system. He was also a great admirer of Thomas Jefferson, and after the death of the founding father, Levy purchased and restored Monticello, Jefferson's home, and opened the home to the public. He is considered in some circles as the father of historic preservation. Levy was honored by the Navy by having a cruiser named after him during World War II.

Past exhibits of the NMAJMH have centered on Jewish chaplains in the military and Jewish soldiers during Operation Desert Storm. Exhibits on the end of World War II and the liberation of concentration camps have been included as well. Future exhibits will focus on the role of Jewish women in the military and Jews in the Civil War, along with Jewish Medal of Honor winners.

The NMAJMH, under the auspices of the JWV, with its exhibits, archives and library, documents and preserves the contributions of Jewish Americans to the peace and freedom of the United States, and informs the public concerning the courage, heroism and sacrifices made by men and women of the Jewish faith who proudly served in our nation's armed forces since its founding.



Reports From Cub Scout Pack 104

The Cub Scout Pack 104 enjoyed the recent pack meeting. Cub reporters (shown above) made the following comments: "Our cub scout den burned down a good conduct candle and earned an ice cream party. We all invited guests to the party. Abby Berin invited Rabbi Becker and I invited Rabbi Nissel" — Yosef Nissel. "We had a family circus and the bears did a few skits called 'The Rescue'" — Charles Chicky Winkleman. "I ate ice cream and drew Gabe a placemat" — Anthony Adams. And finally Abby Berin stated, "We went to the family circus and had a great time." For more information on Pack 104 contact Joe Winkleman at 751-8323.

Photo courtesy of Esta Yavner

Israel Government Unveils Postage Stamp and Honors Chabad's Children of Chernobyl

In a Knesset ceremony during December, the Israeli government unveiled a postal stamp honoring the work of Chabad's Children of Chernobyl, an Israel-based organization that provides relief to child-aged victims of the Chernobyl disaster.

"With this stamp, the Israel Postal Authority has immortalized the way Chabad fulfills the Jewish moral obligation of our responsibility to one another," said Jerusalem's Mayor Ehud Olmert.

Olmert joined Minister of Communications Limor Livnat and Knesset chairman Dan Tichon in the Knesset ceremony, together with Rabbi Yosef

Aronov, chairman of Israel's Chabad Youth Organization, and Yossie Raichik, director of Chabad's Children of Chernobyl.

"The issue of this stamp is a special recognition for an uncom-



mon and exceptional effort," said Livnat before unveiling the stamp. "This is an exceptional trib-

ute to the holy work of Chabad's Children of Chernobyl. Rarely has the Postal Authority given such recognition to a private non-governmental organization."

Minister Livnat recalled the historic United Nations ceremony in April where 21 nations unveiled postal stamps honoring Chabad's Children of Chernobyl. "Israel now joins the international effort to highlight the plight of these Chernobyl children and to praise Chabad for providing a light at the end of the tunnel for the more than 1,500 children they have saved," she said. "[Chabad] has brought honor to the State of Israel, home of this humanitarian project, and demonstrates Israel's continued role as a home and refuge for Jews who are in danger."

The afternoon ceremony included songs by the Children of Chernobyl boys choir, a presentation of flowers by two Chernobyl girls to Minister Livnat, and the lighting of the menorah by eight children, each representing a contaminated city in the Ukraine or Belarus.

"This stamp honors not only Chabad's Children of Chernobyl, but all the Jewish communities and individuals around the world who have responded to the pleas of these Jewish children and their parents," said Yossie Raichik, director of the program. "It is because of them that Chabad's Children of Chernobyl has been able to create the only Jewish response to the Chernobyl disaster."

The colorful stamp depicts children debarking from one of the 32 flights Chabad has brought to Israel, for a total of 1,527 children. New flights continue to arrive regularly, the most recent on Dec. 19, 1997. Since 1990, more than 1,000 families have moved to Israel because of the Chabad Children of Chernobyl program.

In addition, Chabad's Children of Chernobyl has helped thousands of families of every ethnic and religious origin by sending tons of medical supplies, medicines and food into the contaminated areas.

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