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Local Theater Remembers Kindertransport

by Tara V. Lisciandro
Herald Editor

"It's a story of survivors and the cost of surviving," said Steven Pennell, director of NewGate Theatre's newest production, "Kindertransport," written by Diane Samuels, which begins April 22 and runs through May 16.

The Kindertransport was created after Kristallnacht during the second World War and allowed thousands of German Jewish children to be brought by train to England in 1938. Children were forced to leave their belongings, homes and families in order to be rescued. Many of the children were adopted and for those whose parents escaped the Nazi terror, they were given to foster families and allowed weekend visits with their real parents. Children from the Kindertransport were used as servants and cheap labor in many English families. Most of the children were sent to schools or educated in their new homes, some had wonder-

ful experiences, while others met difficult struggles.

The "Kindertransport," production was first brought to England's Cockpit Theatre in April 1993, one year later it came to New York and has traveled throughout the United States since then. Pennell selected the production for several reasons. First, he was looking for a unique, timely piece. He learned that Holocaust Remembrance is celebrated during the month of April and found "Kindertransport," very suiting. "It's a brilliant piece of literature," he added, "It's carefully crafted and contains a beautiful narrative which draws the audience from past to present."

The play focuses on 7 year-old Eva Schlesinger, who was put on board the train with only two gold rings and a Star of David hidden underneath her shoe, these are the only things that link her to her parents who are left behind and never seen again.

After four decades, her past

and present collide as Eva's daughter discovers a box of documents and other letters about her mother in the attic of their Manchester home. The truth about Eva and the story of her survival are brought to light once again. "Kindertransport"

The Kindertransport was created after Kristallnacht during the second World War and allowed thousands of German Jewish children to be brought by train to England in 1938.

tells of the miracle amid the horror of the Holocaust and probes into complex emotions of those who lost everything they loved in order to survive. However, in order to truly be alive, Eva is forced to face her past. Eva's daughter knew that her mother had been adopted, but the documents that she discovers tell the

rest of her mother's experience. As mother and daughter discuss the papers and Eva's childhood struggle, the play flashes back from past to present. "Eva is haunted by her experience," said Pennell, "She's afraid to walk into a train station. She's scared when she sees a policeman. The play's about what it means to survive."

Pennell added that the play was based on a number of stories that came together in a collection of written accounts from the children survivors several years ago. The playwright took all of the stories and recreated the children's experiences through Eva.

After extensively researching the Holocaust Museum of Rhode Island, Pennell continued his studies for the production at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. There he completed his background study about the Kindertransport and the Holocaust. The director also spoke with several RI survivors of the Holocaust and Kindertransport. "It's a different story and touches on other issues about

the Holocaust," said Pennell about "Kindertransport". The director believes it's a story that some don't know too much about and hopes to educate the community with his production.

Pennell has gained the support of the University of Rhode Island, Providence campus, RI Holocaust Memorial Museum, The Langston Hughes Performing Arts Center, Westminster Senior Center, Cellar Stories Book Store and Cranston High School West. Together they will assist in featuring other unique Holocaust Remembrance services from April 22 through May 16. (See "Kindertransport Special Events").

"I wanted to do more with this production, and work with the interfaith community," added Pennell, who has organized special discussion groups for not only the public but high school and college students as well. A unique studyguide for students was also designed by Pennell and the panelists, including Albert Silverstein and Peter Wagner. The booklet includes questions for discussion,

(Continued on Page 11)

Jewish Split Over Policies Spills Over to Public Arena

by Matthew Dorf

WASHINGTON (JTA) — An aggressive lobbying campaign to warn against American pressure on Israel has led to an unusually bitter and public split in the American Jewish community over both policy and tactics.

The effort, which resulted in a recent flurry of congressional letters, has also sent competing signals to the Clinton administration as it grapples with what to do next to revive Israeli-Palestinian talks.

Following a lobbying blitz by the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, 81 senators last week sent a letter to President Clinton, siding with Israel's effort to prevent an American peace plan. More than 150 members of the House signed a similar letter.

The letters came after U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright had specifically urged American Jews to stop "portraying us as if we are shoving something down Israel's throat" and had promised not to go public with an American plan to revive Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

The letter campaign prompted an angry response from the

Clinton administration, members of Congress and some in the Jewish community.

The latest activity shifted the focus back to Washington amid efforts to find the seemingly elusive formula to restore Israeli-Palestinian dialogue.

Clinton recently decided to send Ross, the administration's point man on the peace process, back to the region when Passover concludes.

It is at this critical juncture, with the administration running short on patience and also grappling with what to do next, that Jewish activists stepped up their efforts to be heard.

While divisions in the Jewish community about the flagging peace process and the proper U.S. role are not new, it is against this diplomatic backdrop that the debate over the congressional letters became especially significant.

Testifying to the lack of consensus in the Jewish community over the issues, the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations did not endorse the Senate letter opposing pressure on Israel.

The letter, which evolved from an initiative by the Republican-aligned National Jewish

Coalition, was sponsored by Sens. Connie Mack (R-Fla.) and Joseph Lieberman (D-Conn.).

But the Conference of Presidents, in an effort to strike a middle ground, decided to take action.

Without endorsing the Senate letter, the umbrella organization decided to thank the senators for standing up for Israel. At the same time, the group decided to send a letter to Clinton, supporting the administration's continued role in the peace process and accepting the administration's assurances that there will be no ultimatum, formal plan or effort to "second-guess Israel's security," according to a Jewish official involved in the process.

But the letters are likely to do little to quiet a growing anger on Capitol Hill and a sense of embarrassment among many in the organized Jewish community.

The push for the Senate letter marked the first time that AIPAC, the pro-Israel lobby, has launched a major lobbying effort on the peace process since the Clinton administration came up with a plan to ask Israel to withdraw from a further 13 percent of the West Bank.

(Continued on Page 19)



Learning Holiday Baking

Tanya Plungyan and Matthew "Gus" Roth at the Hamantashen Bakery. (See related story on Page 7).

Photo courtesy of Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island

HAPPENINGS

Amici Musicae Spring Concert

Amici Musicae will present a free concert, "Courtly Music of the Renaissance," on April 26 at 3 p.m. at the Cranston Public Library, 140 Sockanosset Cross Road. The concert will feature music by the Italian composers Francesco Landini and Vincenzo Ruffo as well as works of the English composers Henry Purcell and John Adson. Much of the English music developed from the English masque at the Royal Court.

Cathleen Calbert, Poet, Comes to Cranston Library

Cathleen Calbert, author of *Lessons in Space*, will be the guest poet at the annual William L. Bergeron Memorial Poetry Program to be held April 23 at 7:30 p.m. at the William Hall Library, 1825 Broad St.

Calbert, an associate professor at Rhode Island College, will read from her works. Her poetry has appeared in *The Best of American Poetry of 1995* and *The Paris Review*.

The program is open to the public. Refreshments will be served at the end of the program.

Cranston Historical Society Meeting

A furniture maker who specializes in 18th-century American designs will be guest speaker at the April 21 meeting of the Cranston Historical Society, 1351 Cranston St.

Jeffrey P. Greene of Newport will speak on the design and construction of a Newport-style highboy. He is the author of the book, *American Furniture of the 18th Century: History, Technique, Structure*. Greene has been chosen to replicate the furniture in the collection of the Newport Historical Society, including those pieces on display at the museum of Newport History.

A short business meeting will precede Greene's talk. Refreshments will be served.

RISD Offers Culinary Excursion

Take a tour of Pokanoket Ostrich Farm — one of Southeastern New England's most unique agricultural establishments — near Padanaram Village in South Dartmouth, Mass. Offered through the Rhode Island School of Design's Division of Continuing Education, this excursion is scheduled for April 26 from 4 to 7 p.m.

After visiting the farm and learning about its amazing livestock, participants will tour Anne Webb's Apponagansett Bay Vineyards, which supply grapes to distinguished wineries such as Sakonnet Vineyard. Then, the group will take the scenic causeway across Padanaram Harbor to Worden's 7 Water Street, where Chef Steve Worden will prepare a feast.

Anyone interested in this tasty culinary excursion, should call RISD's Division of Continuing Education at 454-6200. Tuition is \$55 per person.

Calendar: April 16 thru April 26

- 16 **Human Machines**, noon to 3 p.m., for children ages 5 and up. Explore simple machines, gears and pulleys and find out how the human body works in similar ways. Providence Children's Museum, call 273-KIDS.
Narragansett Bay Basics, a one-hour program introducing children to Narragansett Bay at William Hall Library, 1825 Broad St., 1:30 p.m. For information, call 781-2450.
"Five Women Weaving The Same Dress," contemporary comedy by Alan Ball at Community College of Rhode Island, Lincoln campus, April 16 to 18, 8 p.m., April 19, 3 p.m. Call for reservations, 825-2219.
Landscape architect speaks at University of Rhode Island, Kingston, 7:30 p.m. at White Hall Auditorium. Laurie Olin will discuss "The Challenges of Preserving the Past While Providing For The Future." Call 874-2116.
- 18 **16th Annual Spring Antiques and Crafts Marketplace**, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., South Kingstown High School, Wakefield. Call 789-5327.
Rhode Island School of Design student spring sale, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Benefit Street, Providence, free admission. Call 454-6342.
Water Fire Providence, first installation for spring, 7:30 p.m., Water Place Park.
- 19 **RAMble Walk-A-Thon**, URI Hillel, Kingston. Proceeds benefit UJA and MAZON. Registration is at noon at Hillel, 34 Lower College Rd. Call 874-2740.
URI Hillel presents Klezamer at Quinn Auditorium, Kingston, 8 p.m. Call for tickets or information, 874-2740.
Jewish War Veterans and Ladies Auxiliary general membership meeting, 9 to 11:30 a.m., Temple Am David, Warwick. Breakfast will be served. Call 467-3434 or 434-9446.
- 20 **Introduction to Yoga**, Pawtucket YMCA, 7 p.m. This is a six-week class. For more information, call 727-7900.
Cranston-Warwick Hadassah annual meeting, 7:15 p.m. at Cranston Senior Center. Call 785-1486.
R.I. Holocaust Memorial Museum reservations for Museum of Jewish Heritage, New York, due. The bus will leave May 5 at 7:15 a.m. from the museum and return around 7 p.m. The trip is open to the public and teachers are encouraged to attend. For information, call 453-7860.
Armenian Genocide Exhibit opens at Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum, 7 p.m. Providence.
- 21 **Domestic Violence Rally**, 3 p.m. sponsored by SOAR (Sisters Overcoming Abusive Relationships). The event will include a short-speaking program in the State House in Providence. For more information, contact Karen Jeffreys at 467-9940.
- 22 **Yom HaShoah Commemoration**, Temple Emanu-El and R.I. Holocaust Memorial Museum, Providence, 7 p.m. Frank Levine will be guest speaker. He was a crew member from "Exodus" (1997).
"Kinder Transport" at New Gate Theatre, Providence, April 22 to May 16. Play is a dramatic portrait of a survivor of the rescue of Jewish children from Nazi Germany after Kristallnacht. "Kinder Transport" is presented in cooperation with the Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum. Call 421-9780 to reserve tickets.
Dirt Day. Celebrate Earth Day, noon to 3 p.m. for children ages 5 and up. Examine dirt with magnifying glasses and learn what the amazing earth is made of. Providence Children's Museum, 273-KIDS.
- 23 **"Irene's Story,"** a special seminar with Irene Hofstein, Hebrew College, Brookline, Mass., noon. The author will discuss her emigration to the United States in 1939. Call (617) 278-4939.
Linda Goodman, storyteller and author, performs at AS220, Providence, 7:30 p.m. Call 831-9327.
- 24 **Wind Symphony concert**, honoring Brown's new president, 8 p.m. Room 101 of the Salomon Center for Teaching. Free tickets are available at the department of music, starting April 20.
College of Business Administration breakfast talk featuring Nikhilesh Dholakia, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m., Room 242 of URI's Providence Campus. For information, call 874-2337.
Temple Sinai Seniors meeting, 11:30 a.m. Dessert and refreshments will be available. Call 942-7796.
- 25 **Alan Shawn Feinstein** holds informal meeting for food providers, 4 to 5 p.m., 5th floor, Providence Convention Center. Call 783-8443.
Spring Craft Show at Robertson School, Warwick, 9 to 4 p.m. Call 737-7256.
- 26 **Israel's 50th Jubilee Celebration** on Boston Common. Includes a concert by top Israeli performers, Dani Sanderson and Mazi Cohen as well as films, workshops and readings.
Arbor Day at Blithewold, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Guided tours of grounds and special outdoor activities. Blithewold Mansion and Gardens, 101 Ferry Road, Bristol. Call 253-2707.
Earthfest at Roger Williams Park, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Last year's event brought more than 10,000 attendants.
JCCRI honors Sara DeCosta at opening of statewide Maccabi Youth Games at Cranston West High School. Call 861-8800 for information.

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Eden Garden Club Meeting

The next meeting of the Eden Garden Club will be held on April 22 at 1 p.m. at the home of Judyth vanAmringe, Williams Street, Providence. vanAmringe is the author of *Home Art* and numerous articles in *Home and Gardens* for which she is an editor. Learn how to make an herb garden that you can hang over your kitchen sink. There will also be a tour of her home. Reservations are a must. Call Norma at 732-1221 or Martha at 272-0623. Dessert and drinks will be served.

Directory to this week's Herald

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT	16-17
CLASSIFIED	19
FEATURE	5, 12, 14-15
HAPPENINGS	2
JEWISH COMMUNITY	6-8
MILESTONES	13
OBITUARIES	19
OPINION	4
SCHOOLBEAT	9
YOM HASHOAH	10-11

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Jewish Day School Education.

Jewish ignorance and apathy in the next generation could cause the demise of these institutions, as well as many others which have characterized the life of our organized community. Without Jewish knowledge, our young people will not grow up to support the Jewish future.

Today, the most powerful influence upon the commitment of the next generation is a Jewish Day School education.

However, quality Jewish Day Schools require well-designed modern facilities, trained and experienced educators, sophisticated computers and laboratories, sports facilities, and many other features which make day schools a costly proposition. Also, day school tuition is unaffordable to many.

Throughout our history, the funding of Jewish schools was always a communal responsibility. It must now be the number one funding priority.

AVI CHAI, a private foundation established for the purpose of encouraging initiatives in Jewish education, urges you to consider being a funder of Jewish Day School education. For more information about opportunities in your area or across the country, please call: 1-800-300-1150.

אבי חיי
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OPINION

Jump In The River

by Yehudah Biss
Herald Editor

A couple of weeks ago, in the article "Blacks and Jews" on page 16 of the March 19 issue, I wrote of "those willing to venture into the proverbial 'Red Sea' before anyone else sees dry ground." This reference was to this following explanation from the Vilna Gaon.

The Torah, when discussing the crossing of the Red Sea, states, "In the midst of the sea, on dry land, and the water for them was a wall (Chomah in Hebrew, spelled with four letters) from the right to the left." (Exodus 14:22). Later, the pasuk writes, "on dry land in the midst of the sea, and the water was for them a wall from the right to the left." This time, not only is the wording changed, but the word Chomah is spelled without a *vav*, and has only three letters.



Torah Insights

The Vilna Gaon asks why the switching of the pesukim and why does one pasuk spell Chomah with a *vav* and the other without? Chazal teach that these two pesukim speak of two sets of Jews within the Camp of Israel. One group, led by Nachshon ben Aminadav, jumped into the Red Sea as it was still filled with water. They had trust in G-d that the water wouldn't drown them. The tribe of Judah followed suit. This is what the pasuk refers to when it says "In the midst of the water on dry land." As the water level got to their heads, the sea split and they landed on dry land. Because they had trust in G-d they merited survival. This is hinted at in the extra *vav* in

Chomah. Just as the word Chomah was filled, so the sea was filled. However, the other group waited until there was dry land to go into the seabed. This is why it first states "On dry land" before "in the midst of the water," this explanation of the pasuk is of the physical reality of the moment.

Why go to all of this fuss? Why do we need to know who went in first? It's why they went in first that's important. Nachshon and the tribe of Judah went in out of trust in G-d. The second group stayed out precisely because they were lacking in that area. This is further hinted at when the pasuk says Chomah in the second pasuk without a *vav*, it is implying that there was no water there. Just like this word is missing a *vav*, so the sea was missing its water.

A deeper interpretation can be offered. Change a vowel in the word Chomah without a *vav*, and it can also spell Chaimah, anger. G-d was angry at those who waited for the land to become dry. This was a test of their trust in the One who brought them out of Egypt. G-d looks kindly on those who are willing to "take the plunge" before anyone else is ready. Those pioneers must be commended for they pushed G-d to make something miraculous for all Jews.

A similar thing is said for the first 10 to arrive for a minyan (prayer quorum). As Chazal teach, the Shechina (presence of G-d) attends a minyan, the first 10 are the ones who cause this to happen. Similarly, these "jumpers" were the first ones to bring about the miracle. During Pesach we must remember those who have gone against the tide to do what is right and try to do the same.

Joseph II, The Austrian Reformer

by Cindy Halpern

Since my mother was born an Austrian Jew, I often find myself browsing through the book shelves of my local library in search for information about the Habsburg family. At the conclusion of World War I in 1918, in which Austria was on the losing side, the Treaty of Versailles put an end to the monarchy and took away lands which were part of the Austrian Empire. Lands which included Prague and other Czech provinces, parts of Poland, a sizable chunk of the former Yugoslavia, sections of Hungary, a portion of Rumania and a small slice of Russia, thus creating the smaller modern day Austria.

But until that time, the Habsburg family had ruled a significant part of Central and Eastern Europe since the 13th century. As a result, throughout those centuries, a good number of Jews came to live under their rule.

Some tragic chapters under the House of the Habsburgs include the massacre of the Jews of Vienna in 1421 and the expulsion of the Jews of Prague from 1744 to 1746 by the anti-Semitic Maria Theresa. She was forced to let them return only when it was proven to her that the cost of living increased for the general population during their absence. This was due to their previous positive role in Prague's economy.

But, perhaps the most interesting chapter of the Jews under the Habsburg rule occurred under the reign of Maria Theresa's son, Joseph. He was born in 1741, in Vienna, as the first son of Maria Theresa and her husband, Francis of Lorraine. He was also the big brother to Maria Antonia,

better known as Maria Antoinette.

Joseph was a child of the enlightenment. Although he was never a believer in democracy, he felt that to serve all of his people well, he had to understand their needs. Therefore, he had himself locked up in a prison to discover for himself how some of his subjects were treated. He wore rags or ill-fitted clothes so he could observe how his people lived in the towns and provinces. He had exposure to the Jews of Pressburg and Prague as well as the Frankfort ghetto, then ruled by the Habsburgs.

In Vienna itself, there was no longer an official Jewish community. Only a few Jews lived there with special royal permission. The only purpose of their presence was to serve the crown. One such Jew who lived in Vienna was a Portuguese descendant Jewish banker who helped to finance the renovation of Schonbrunn, the favorite palace of Maria Theresa.

When Maria Theresa died in 1780, Joseph became the ruling emperor. He enacted a series of reforms called *Toleranzpatent*, Edicts of Toleration, between 1781 and 1782 in the German lands, including Prague.

It is important to understand what Joseph was trying to accomplish. He wasn't just addressing Jewish issues. Unlike his mother, Joseph believed that in order to make non-Catholics more loyal subjects, they had to be permitted to practice their religion. This not only included Jews, but Protestants and Greek Orthodox whose membership in the secular state was his primary goal.

In regard to Jews, this had a

mixed meaning. Joseph's reforms abolished a special poll tax, Jews no longer had to wear a yellow star of David on their clothing, they could attend public school as well as the university, they had the freedom to publish without censorship. But, as subjects of the modern state, they had to serve in the military. Joseph used Jews in transporting troops. In addition, they could no longer send money to religious communities in Palestine. They were prohibited from using Yiddish or Hebrew in business and other public records. In addition, a law of 1787 ordered Jews to take German sounding names.

What Joseph intended was that Jewish emancipation would require Jews to become full-fledged members of the mainstream of society. No longer would Jews live separately from their neighbors. Their children would learn how to be loyal subjects as they studied secular subjects in mainstream society schools. They needed to learn how to read and write in the language of the state to be able to participate in its economy. Hebrew would only remain as a language of worship in their synagogues. Yiddish could be spoken in the home, but not as a language of public life.

This philosophy was radical in Joseph's day. Most Jews of Europe lived behind ghetto walls in which the gates closed at night. Jews only hoped not to be forced to move on and not to be massacred. Even in England, The Jew Bill, which allowed Jews to sit as members of parliament, was not to be enacted until the middle of the next century.

(Continued on Page 19)

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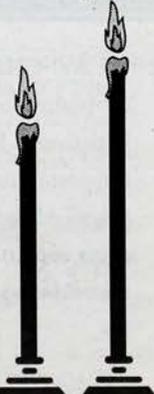
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Candlelighting
April 17, 1998
7:11 p.m.



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

Between Yesterday And Tomorrow: Timely Songs, Timeless Singing

by Kenneth J. Weiss

They sang for all they were worth. They sang when the campfire was laid and kindled, and they were still singing as — hours later — the last embers cooled. They sang because singing enabled them to forget (if only briefly) the painful memories of the workday that had passed and to push away (if only temporarily) their fears of the future. They sang — those first Israelis, those pioneers, those *chalutzim* — with spirit and with feeling. They sang because singing — the melody, the lyric, the blending and harmonizing of voices — helped them reconnect with old ideals. They sang to abolish their demons.

Yes, those who built Israel a century ago, kibbutz by kibbutz, village by village, often gathered to sing. Perhaps inspired by the Israelites at the shore of "freedom's sea," they sang. Our ancestors sang of deliverance from Egypt and slavery, of triumph over enemies, of one G-d unlike any other, and of G-d's love. After they had finally turned their backs on the darkness of Egypt, the darkness out of which they were delivered,

then "Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Eternal." (Exodus 15:1) They sang for all they were worth. With Moses and Miriam, the prophetess, they sang to wash away the memories of their enslavement and their debasement. And surely they also sang to allay their fears of the future: the hostile wilderness and the multitude of unknowns. They sang to abolish their demons.

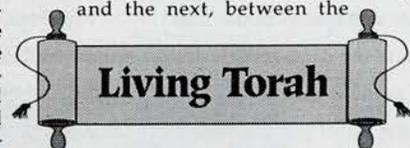
G-d gave our ancestors time to sing. Between one trying day and the next, between the

We sing to reaffirm our faith, to feel G-d nearness, to banish fear and loneliness, to abolish our demons. We sing because our singing gives us hope, renews our faith, expresses our thanks, and makes us feel united.

With Moses, with Miriam holding her timbrel, with Jews of every age, we sing — the Song of the Sea, the Song of Solomon, and the songs of the *chalutzim*. We sing when G-d blesses us with time to sing: a respite, even if only a transient moment, between yesterday and tomorrow. With our ancestors we sang at the edge of the sea; with the *chalutzim* we sang around campfires; in the worst and best of moments, we sang. We sang and sing still with spirit and with feeling.

The songs and the timeless act of singing were transmitted to us, and we are charged with handing them on to our children as our gift, our legacy to them. May we teach them our songs. May they learn from us not only the songs but also the confidence that they can sing them for all they are worth.

Kenneth J. Weiss is the rabbi of Temple Mount Sinai, El Paso, TX.



Living Torah

memory of the harshness of Egypt and the prospect of the wilderness's harshness, between the slavery they had left and the uncertain future that would begin with the next sunrise, G-d gave them time to sing.

We Jews still sing, just as we always have. We sing in order to reduce our anxieties (if only for awhile). We sing to praise G-d for blessing us, to join our voices with others, and through the joining to garner strength.

FEATURE



Kindness to the Dumb

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

He's a Pulitzer Prize nominee, and the director of the Interfaith Council for the Protection of Animals. Lewis Regenstein wrote *Replenish the Earth* as a guidepost for the '90s, a decade in need of a cause.

This troubling but also beautiful book came in the mail, a gift of the Humane Society, whose Vermont regional chief, Arnold Baer, shook my hand while in town and promised to join me for lunch during the month of Earth Day. He sent me this volume as a brief for his case in defense of the victims of human cruelty. Reading it impressed me deeply and shaped my week.

The author reviews both the promises and the records of each major religion and period of its history with regard to protective concerns for the rights of domestic and wild animals, trees and wells, and all creation. The story is pretty much the same wherever and whenever you focus the lens of your mind. Jeremiah attacked animal sacrifices and the greed of priests. The Book of Job pays much mind to the mysterious ways of sacred Creation. St. Francis defied the anti-animal bias of the Church and befriended the cursed wolf and the innocent birds. Mohammed cautioned against abuse of camel or mule, and claimed even the ants are a community of souls.

In what we call the East, the Jainists lightly swept their footpaths so as not to trample a worm, and veiled their mouths to avoid breathing in and destroying the smallest mite. They found both prosperity and peace through their reverence for all things great and small.

Yet there are contradictions and tragic disappointments, terrible legacies and immense losses across the continents and islands. To avoid slaughter, you let the poor beast starve to painful death before your indifferent eyes, throughout India. You get around the laws to make your profit and enjoy the luxuries of your level, whether in Japan or Britain. I am only summing up the general conclusions, but each detail, each example, will touch, move, and inspire the reader.

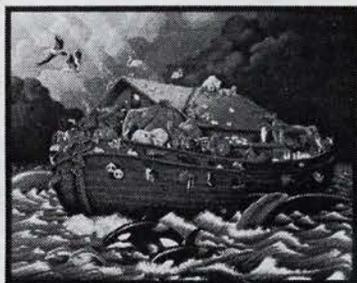
From the wrong kind of fear of the Lord, ancient peoples burned their sons and daughters alive as sacrifice, causing even aged parents to "pass through the fire." If kosher rules began to avoid causing pain to beasts of burden and food livestock, modern practices bring about the most awful anxiety, anguish, agony, and dread—as

though we have learned nothing throughout our spiritual evolution.

Lewenstein reminds us that he is Jewish, and writes with great care and clarity, never flat or programmatic propaganda,

Replenish the Earth

A History of Organized Religion's Treatment of Animals and Nature—Including the Bible's Message of Conservation and Kindness toward Animals



Lewis G. Regenstein

Foreword by John A. Hoyt

cloying sentimentality, or self-righteous opinion. He sets out the story and lets you choose your own conclusions.

Yes, we can treat our world more gently, more responsibly, both in small ways and in great gestures. Not by judging others harshly but by styling our own lives more reasonably, more courteously, more gracefully.

The American record of exterminations also mixes in the surprisingly astute insights of

such notables as Benjamin Franklin, who commented on the Boston cod, "The taking of every fish is an unprovoked murder, since none of them had, or ever could, do us any injury that might justify the slaughter." Thomas Paine declared that, "Everything of cruelty to animals is a violation of moral duty." And, later, Abraham Lincoln, with his customary brevity and wit, wrote, "I care not for a man's religion, whose dog or cat are not the better for it."

It will not be easy to engage leaders in the pulpit to deal with this one. Animal rights will take the bottom of the list of priorities. Regenstein deals with this. The neo-Nazis accuse the Orthodox Jews of schochet unkindness to the dumb flocks and herds. Suffering humanity takes precedence over the "lower" forms of life, without souls. Yet in the end we deal with each other the same way we deal with those in our charge, upon our legal property. If we poison the well, we also drink the water. And the writer believes the time has come for ecological issues to come forth and claim our serious attention.

I am eagerly looking forward to meeting Arnold Baer again and discussing the Jewish aspects of the work of the Humane Society and its branch affiliate organizations.

Read the Torah with some poetic regard to its imagery from nature and you will find an astonishing charm and beauty in the descriptions of the promised land, filled with every form of life like a passage in a fairy tale, every creature speaking at least in metaphor and sign language with its particular wisdom, its plight, its hope.

They call Lewis Regenstein's group "H.O.P.E." That means, "Help Our Planet Earth."

Tap, Tap to Providence

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

When the Loew's State Cinema was built in the late '20s, the movies that came dressed everything up in fancy duds. Through the '30s dancers on screen wore top hat and tails.

In the '90s at the P.P.A.C. the Tap Dogs pound the planks in blundstone workboots from Australia, without lovely ladies in gowns and high heels. But the show suits the setting all the same, with its high jinks, its wit and wonder. Designer Dein Perry had tapped as a tot in Newcastle, but worked as an industrial mechanic—then translated that job into the poetics of dance. So you have a construction battalion putting up steel girders and rivetting towers on ladders while stomping and jumping in a macho ballet!

The matinee audience included kids and their moms, but your thoughts had space to roam

among your own ideas. Like "Full Monty" the men's review makes you think of the gender

as a sort of troubled minority in the modern world.

Producers Richard Frankel and Marc Routh with Steven Baruch and Thomas Viertel have also gained prizes with "Stomp," "Driving Miss Daisy," "Bubbe Meises," plays of Woody Allen, David Mamet and Elaine May, "Angels in America," "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," and many other happenin' events on stage. It takes the courage of angels to bring new stuff to a sometimes stuffy town.

Pushing and shoving, leaping and sliding, banging and hammering, "Tap Dogs" hits the boards of the stately showroom with zest and zeal, and merits recognition for its lively tempo and smashing spirit, which is almost melancholy in spite of its mad beat.



A scene from Dein Perry's *Tap Dogs*, directed and designed by Nigel Triffitt.
Photo by Joan Marcus

Lotus and Lemonade

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

The Cinema at Coolidge Corner in Brookline held its 23rd New England Film Video festival in the month of showers. Our local film and video artists went up to witness the show. In the category of Outstanding Personal Vision "The Jew in the Lotus" won the prize: director Laurel Chiten introduced her portrait and later after the screening explained its progress.

"You can't just translate a book onto celluloid or tape. You have to write a script and find your storyline." The author of the source book, Rodger Kamenez, came into the project of bringing rabbis together with the Dalai Lama in India merely as a chronicler and commentator.

But the book brought him fame, and the film focusses on him, the observer, more than on the Dalai Lama. "I followed Rodger and his life and world, but I only got to the Dalai Lama for under an hour," noted Chiten.

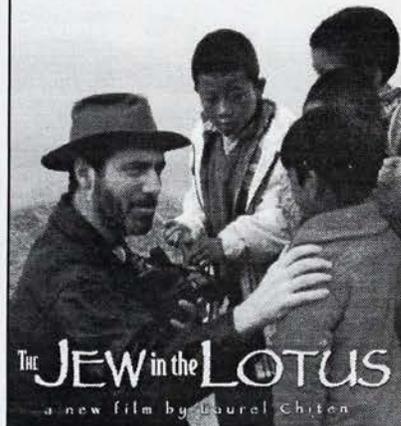
Rodger had seen his first-born child stillborn, and also his first major manuscript rejected by its would-be publisher. He went to the "Ju-Bu" conference for solace. But the story of his discovery and his delight in it makes the movie come alive quite differently from the journal of the colloquium.

This small studio screening room packs the house with aficionados of independently produced work, and they warmly clap and patiently put up with

lines, delays, and minor breakdowns of equipment.

On the same program Flora Cohen presented a childhood memory from her native Colombia. She and friends sold lemonade and cookies to contribute coins to Golda Meir to help Israel in the 1973 Yom Kip-

Sometimes you have to go far away to find your way home.



THE JEW in the LOTUS
a new film by Laurel Chiten

JEWISH COMMUNITY

Tamoxifen Reduces Risk of Breast Cancer

by Emily Torgan-Shalansky
Jewish Community Reporter
With reports from the National Cancer Institute and CNN

Last week, longtime breast cancer researcher Dr. Bernard Fisher made a declaration that soon echoed throughout the international media.

Fisher, who worked in the National Cancer Institute's breast cancer prevention trials with the drug tamoxifen, announced that the medication, used for 20 years to treat existing cases of breast cancer, had been found to reduce breast cancer cases by 45 percent in women considered at high risk for the disease.

According to local health professionals and Jewish organizations, despite risks associated with the drug, the study constitutes good news for everyone and even better news for those at high risk for the disease.

"It's very exciting," said Dr. Arnold Herman of Providence, a general surgeon specializing in breast health and president of BreastHealth in Providence. "It's the first time that a drug has been shown to prevent any kind of cancer, and it's also exciting that the results were so clear after four years."

In the study, which involved 13,338 women in the United States and Canada, subjects were given either tamoxifen or placebo over a five-year period.

Only one in 236 of those given tamoxifen developed breast cancer over the next five years, a figure significantly lower than the expected 1 in 130 rate. There were reductions in the occurrence of both invasive and non-invasive breast cancers in every age group represented.

"We have confirmation that tamoxifen used on non-cancer patients will do what we knew it would do for cancer patients," Herman said.

Tamoxifen, a drug taken in pill form, works by interfering with the activity of estrogen, a female hormone. Estrogen pro-

motes the growth of breast cancer cells, and tamoxifen works against the effects that estrogen has on cancer cells. As a treatment for breast cancer, the medication slows or stops the growth of already-present cancer cells, and the more recent NCI study has shown that tamoxifen reduced the occurrence of breast cancer in those at risk for the disease.

Still, tamoxifen is not without potential side effects, including an increased risk of uterine cancer and blood clots traveling from the legs to the lungs that have led researchers to conclude that the drug is not for all.

Despite these problems, joy and relief are running high everywhere, but emotions may be even greater among Ashkenazi Jews, who were shown to have a particularly high incidence of the breast cancer gene (BRCA1) and its mutation by a joint study completed by the National Institutes of Health-HADASSAH-Hebrew University in 1995.

According to Herman, genetic predisposition from two breast cancer genes, BRCA1 and BRCA2, account for about 7 percent of breast cancer cases.

Although the tamoxifen study offers hope after a widespread panic, both Herman and Hadassah National Director of Health Education Dale L. Mintz emphasize the fact that the results of the study are very new.

"When results come out, all the pieces are not immediately revealed. Every woman has to talk to her physician and make a determination about whether the drug is right for her," said Mintz.

Still, Herman thinks the study will give hope to patients at risk for the disease.

"We can put high risk patients on this drug for five years and anticipate a lower incidence of cancer," Herman said. "Now, women with breast cancer genes have an alternative to worrying their lives away or undergoing double mastectomies."

"Red Ribbons Are Not Enough" Focuses on AIDS Caregivers

by Emily Torgan-Shalansky
Jewish Community Reporter

Elaine, a physical therapist who works with AIDS patients, has a tough time scheduling vacations because her colleagues do not want to work with her clients.

Kim, a nurse, knows that she and her husband will have to practice safe sex if she gets stuck with a dirty needle.

Steve, a gay physical therapist, considers his own mortality every time he assists an AIDS patient.

These are the stories of AIDS caregivers, and according to Meredith Drench, Ph.D., PT, they are often overlooked.

That's why Drench, director of Adaptive Health Associates, Inc., an East Greenwich firm specializing in behavior and health care, has written *Red Ribbons Are Not Enough*, (Wilsonville, Ore.; BookPartners, Inc., 1998), a book that focuses on the AIDS-related experiences of healthcare workers.

"I wanted to start spreading the facts about this disease," explained Drench, an East Greenwich resident and active member of Rhode Island's Jewish community, on April 13. "I wanted those with HIV/AIDS to understand what makes health caregivers tick, and I wanted those not affected by the disease to have more compassion for those who are."

Drench, a professional speaker and educator whose work with HIV/AIDS has taken her to Eastern and Western Europe and throughout the United States, decided to write her first solo book soon after she noticed a gap in the massive volume of AIDS literature.

"There were many books on the market from the perspectives of PWAs, their families, and their friends, but there was nothing from the perspectives of the healthcare providers," she said. "There was no comprehensive picture of what it was like."

After reading studies about healthcare providers who left their jobs or selected geographical locations solely to avoid

HIV/AIDS patients, Drench set out to document the experiences of those opting for the work.

Her *Red Ribbons are Not Enough*, a series of 10 portraits of healthcare workers, tells of their jobs and their lives. As she presents interviews with three physical therapists, three nurses, two social workers, a physician and a dental surgeon working with different patient populations in widely varied settings, she explores the HIV/AIDS epidemic from an underreported angle.



Dr. Meredith Drench

Through *Red Ribbons are Not Enough*, readers are able to understand why Jessie, a lesbian prison social worker, elects to work in a prison where mice swarm around her door; why Marlene, a physician and a daughter of Holocaust survivors, feels that she should do this "risky" work because others took much greater chances to save her parents' lives, and why Ann, a nurse, doesn't bother to go to her patients' funerals any more.

"People do not realize how much this work changes the caregivers personally and professionally," said Drench. "There are common features between these patients and those with other life-threatening illnesses, but there are also some very unique features of this disease."

In addition to the way that AIDS stigmatizes its afflicted as

homosexuals or drug abusers, the disease may be transmitted under certain conditions to both healthcare workers and family members.

Although one of her introductory chapters states that by December 1996, there were 573,800 Americans over the age of 13 with full-blown AIDS and 52 health care workers who had documented HIV seroconversion, many caregivers have worked in environments rife with terror.

"There are meal trays left outside of hospital room doors, and housekeepers who refuse to clean AIDS patients' rooms," Drench said.

AIDS' contagious element also creates complicated family situations.

"If a person has cancer, his or her partner and their children and family are affected," Drench explained. "That's also true of AIDS, but it changes the family structure differently because other members can become infected too. Women can contract the disease from their husbands, and they can pass it onto their unborn children. The family members have to deal with both the grief and the fact that the disease can hurt them as well."

According to Drench, health care workers have distinct motivations for stepping into these tragic situations and different ways of coping with them after they do.

"They had things in common," said Drench of her portraits, which are of caregivers young and old, gay and straight, and male and female. "They all felt like pioneers on the cutting edge, and they had a thirst for knowledge."

Still, health care professionals often feel overwhelmed by the devastating illness and its ramifications.

"Not everyone is a cheerleader," Drench admitted.

As she shows how some healthcare workers cope by crying as they drive home from work and how some try to counter the epidemic by going on AIDS walks during their free time, Drench shows that AIDS has become an unavoidable part of life in America.

"I'm worried that many people who had changed their behaviors at one time are now becoming complacent," she admitted. "The drug cocktails are a wonderful tool, but at this point, AIDS is still here and it's still fatal. It's important to know that, and it's also important to know that compassion can make a difference."

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

R.I. National Jewish Humanitarian Award Dinner

Fred and Carol Levinger of The Colibri Group will be honored at the 26th annual Rhode Island National Jewish Medical and Research Center Humanitarian Award Dinner, April 23 at 6 p.m. at the Westin Hotel Ballroom in Providence.

The Levingers will be honored for their leadership and involvement in both the jewelry industry and the Rhode Island community.

Fred Levinger is on the board of Fleet National Bank, and a member of the 24 Karat Club of New York and the Manufacturing Jewelers and Silversmiths.

He is president of The Colibri Group, a jewelry and gift company that employs 650 people in Rhode Island.

Carol Levinger is on the board of the Children's Museum of Science of Rhode Island, and a member of the Providence Historical Association, the Nan-

tucket Historical Association and the Sisterhood of Temple Beth El.

Richard A. Higginbotham, president and CEO of Fleet National Bank-CT, will chair the event. The treasurer is Darrell Ross, president, Ross-Simons Inc. Members of the executive committee include: Stephen J. Carlotti, Hinckley, Allen & Snyder; David B. Casten, KPMG Peat Marwick; Sally Dowling, Adler, Pollock & Sheehan; Jason Grant, Grant Marketing; Alan G. Hassenfield, Hasbro Inc.; and Charles T. Reilly, Cookson America, Inc.

Members of the National Jewish Council of National Trustees involved in the program are: Paul J. Choquette Jr., Gilbane Building Company; and the Honorable J. Joseph Garrahy, J. Joseph Garrahy & Associates.

For more information, call (800) 743-3551.

Vermont Congregation Reviews 'The Far Euphrates'

On April 24 at 8 p.m., Congregation Beth El, 225 North Street, Bennington, Vt., will present author, Aryeh Lev Stollman reading from his novel, *The Far Euphrates*. The book tells the story of a lonely boy, the son of a rabbi, whose small world is touched by an unlikely range of people: a dying wealthy girl, a gypsy prophetess, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ford II, an uncle and aunt and grandparents, all ravaged by the Holocaust.

Reviewing *The Far Euphrates* for the *New York Times*, Margot Livesey said, "At the heart of the novel lie the vexed questions raised by the Holocaust and its legacy: How must we try to solve for ourselves the riddle of G-d's existence and cultivate a sense of mercy in an unforgiving age. Francois Prose review-

ing for the *New York Daily News*, said: "And we finish *The Far Euphrates* confirmed in our belief in the religious — the mystical — power of words."

Aryeh Rev Stollman grew up in Windsor, Ontario, where his father was a rabbi for 40 years. Stollman studied Talmud before enrolling in Yeshiva University. After graduating from Yeshiva he attended medical school at the Albert Einstein School of Medicine. He is currently an interventional neuroradiologist at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York City. He has also been published in *Story*, *The Yale Review*, *American Short Fiction* and *Tikkun*.

A Kabbalat Shabbat service beginning at 7:30 p.m. will precede the reading. For more information, call Congregation Beth El, (802) 442-9645.

Celebrate Israel's 50th at The Boston Common

On April 26, the largest gathering of the Jewish community in Boston's history will come together to celebrate Israel's 50th Year of Independence on the Boston Common. Israel's 50th Jubilee will be a celebration with entertainment and activities saluting Israel and emphasizing her diverse culture.

The event will be in the tradition of Boston's First Night featuring an opening musical procession with giant puppets, hands-on activities for families with young children, educational programs, workshops, and musical and theatrical performances. Activities will make use of indoor and outdoor facilities on and around the Boston Common. The event is free of charge.

Community members of all ages will enjoy a full day's schedule:

11 a.m. to noon — Opening Ceremonies. Giant puppet pro-

cession and dignitaries from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the City of Boston and Israel.

Noon to 3 p.m. — **Open Festivities.** Four performance stages; hands-on family activities; Israeli folk dance; a Cultural Center for adults at the Massachusetts Transportation Building with exhibits, performances and workshops; films; teens and student activities; and much, much more...

3 p.m. to 5 p.m. — **Headline Concert.** Top Israeli entertainers Dani Sanderson and Mazi Cohen.

Win two round-trip airline tickets to Israel in a drawing at the event. You must attend the event to enter.

For more detailed information, visit the Jubilee website at <www.Israel50Jubilee.org>. For questions or to volunteer, call Rachel Pearlstein at (617) 558-6523.

JFS Invites Family of the Year Nominations

In keeping with its commitment to honor families, Jewish Family Service is inviting nominations for the 1998 Family of the Year Award. For the fourth year, members of the community are being asked to submit a profile of a family who exemplifies the best in family life.

What strengths and values do we admire in family life? Is there a family who typifies these values? What are the everyday qualities that we take for granted, yet provide the basis for a strong family unit? Jewish Family Service requests that you give some thought to these questions in making a nomination.

The rules for eligibility are simple:

1. A family is defined as more than one person.
2. At least one member of the family must be Jewish.
3. Individuals may nominate only one family.
4. Relatives of the staff of Jewish Family Service are not eligible.
5. Relatives of the Family of the Year Committee are not eligible.

The deadline for entries is midnight May 29. Awards will be announced at the Jewish Family Service annual meeting on Oct. 21. Entries must be mailed or brought to Jewish Family Service at 229 Waterman St., Providence, RI 02906. For nomination forms and additional information, call JFS at 331-1244.

Miriam Hosts Interfaith Memorial Service

On April 27, an Interfaith Memorial Service will be held at The Miriam Hospital to remember all those who have died at The Miriam since September 1997. The service will be held in Sopkin Auditorium at 7 p.m. Family and friends of the deceased are invited.

The participants for the service include Father Peter Gower, chaplain at the hospital; Rabbi George Astrachan, Temple Sinai; the Rev. David Proctor, Beneficent Congregational Church; Trudy Mulvey, R.N., M.S.N.; Kathy Grande, R.N., vocalist; and Linda Ponte, keyboard player. Sally Irons will be moderating the program which is under the auspices of the department of volunteer services.

In acknowledging the loss of a loved one it is the hospital's wish to help bring some closure for the families. The scriptures and speakers attempt to bring meaning and hope in the face of loss. The music is very uplifting.

A team including the chaplain, Trudy Mulvey, R.N., M.S.N., and Sally Irons, director of volunteer services/switchboard, felt it was very necessary to help bring families to closure after death of a loved one. Thus the idea of an interfaith memorial service was born. The first service was held in April of 1993. It was such a success and so many attended it was decided to have two each year. For information, call 331-8500.

JCCRI Preschool Hosts Passover Seder

The Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island's preschool recently held its annual Passover seder. Rabbi Weisenberg from Congregation Agudath Achim in Taunton led an enthusiastic group of nearly 60 children.

Each class prepared food and decorations using the many symbols of Passover. Curriculum and Jewish culture specialist Kathy Novick helped the rabbi in telling the story of Passover and celebrating the holiday in song. The seder included searching for the Afikomen, with the children thoroughly inspecting every inch and corner of the JCCRI's senior lounge, where the event took place. After much delight, 5-year-old Adam Kolb found it and was

awarded with a holiday book from Rabbi Weisenberg.

While 55 children were involved in the seder with Rabbi Weisenberg, another seder included 35 younger, 3-year-old participants from the preschool. All the teachers helped lead this smaller seder and Esta Yaver served as overall facilitator, storyteller, and songstress.

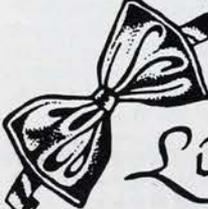
The early childhood department always includes special holiday programming in its curriculum, including assisting with such community-wide events as the JCCRI's annual Chanukah and Purim dinners.

For information on the JCCRI's Infant/Toddler Center, Preschool, or Kindergarten, call Eva Silver at 861-8800.



YOUNG CHILDREN ENJOY a special seder with Rabbi Weisenberg at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island.

Photo courtesy of JCCRI



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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Temple Emanu-El Celebrates Israel's 50th Birthday

Temple Emanu-El is planning a weekend-long celebration of Israel's 50th birthday, titled "Israel at 50: Great Achievements, Great Challenges." The festivities are planned for the weekend of May 1 to 3, and are open to the public.

There will be presentations throughout the weekend by featured speaker Dr. Robert Satloff, executive director of The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, a public research and educational foundation established in 1985 to promote informed debate on U.S. policy in the Middle East.

Satloff is an expert on Arab and Islamic politics as well as U.S. policy in the Middle East. He is a frequent commentator on the Middle East in major American newspapers, including *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and *The Wall Street Journal*. Satloff has also appeared on television and radio. Satloff is originally from Providence.

The weekend will begin with Shabbat services on May 1, followed by a Mediterranean-style Shabbat dinner (\$12.95 per person).

After dinner, Satloff will open the weekend program with the topic: "Israel, the Middle East, and the Search for Peace."

On May 2, Satloff will speak during Shabbat services on "Israel and America: Evolution on a Partnership." Services will be followed by a complementary buffet luncheon, at which Satloff will lead an open discussion and answer questions on the morning's presentation.

That evening, all are invited to a screening of the classic Israeli film "Hill 24 Doesn't Answer." Four young Zionists are assigned to defend strategic Hill 24 outside Jerusalem in order to maintain access to the besieged city during Israel's War of Independence.

Through the compelling personal stories of the defenders, the film offers a critical perspective on the birth of Israel and those who risked their lives to ensure the state's survival. Snacks and refreshments will be served.

On May 3, the temple will host a continental breakfast (\$3 per person), followed by some final

remarks by Satloff, entitled "Israel and the Israelis: Challenges for the Next Half Century."

The weekend will conclude with the "Three Cantors in Concert," sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island. Three local cantors, Cantor Brian Mayer of Temple Emanu-El, Cantor Ida Rae Cahana of Temple Beth-El, and Cantor Robert Lieberman of Temple Torat Yisrael, accompanied by the Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra, will perform music with themes reflecting the blossoming of Israeli culture. The concert will be held at Veterans Memorial Auditorium on May 3 at 4 p.m. Call (401) 272-4VMA for ticket information.

Throughout the weekend, the temple will display an exhibit of photographs which chronicle a journey through Israel over the last 50 years.

For more information or to sign up for activities during the "Israel at 50" weekend, call Temple Emanu-El at 331-1616.



JFS Mealsite Celebrates Passover

Max and Betty Broomfield were among more than 100 people who participated in the celebration at the annual Passover seder held at the Jewish Family Service Kosher Mealsite. Services were led by Rabbi George Astrachan of Temple Sinai, Rabbi Leo Abrami of Temple Am David and Cantor Robert Lieberman of Temple Torat Yisrael. The JFS Kosher Mealsite in Cranston is open every Monday through Friday, with activities, trips, movies, bingo, speakers, holiday celebrations, blood pressure screenings and concerts. Programs usually begin at 11 a.m. and a nutritious, hot kosher lunch is served at noon. Transportation is available every day for residents of Cranston and areas of Warwick. For details call 781-1771.

Photo courtesy of Roberta Segal

JWV Sponsor Breakfast

The Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A., Department of Rhode Island, will sponsor a membership breakfast on April 19 at 9 a.m., located at Temple Am David, 40 Gardiner St., Warwick. The guest speakers are Peter C. Wells, VA regional director; Edward H. Seiler, VA Medical Center director (VA Hospital) and David Foehr, associate director, Department of Human Services/Veterans Affairs, Commandant Veterans Home, Bristol, R.I. The meeting's theme will be "What changes are taking place with future benefits and medical for the veterans?"

For information, call 467-3434.

Jewish Medical Ethics And The 21st Century

End-of-life issues, Judaism and medical ethics will be explored in a compelling symposium on April 22 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth.

Hard Choices: Jewish Medical Ethics and the 21st Century is co-sponsored by the University's Center for Jewish Culture and Southcoast Hospitals Group. A sliding admission fee exists.

The conference will be held in the residence cafeteria at UMass Dartmouth, 285 Old Westport Rd., North Dartmouth. For further information, telephone Heidi Silvia at (508) 999-8951.

Conference coordinator is Dr. Bruce Brown, who will be joined by a panel of local medical experts. The keynote speaker is Fred Rosner, M.D., F.A.C.P., director of the department of medicine of Queens Hospital Centre in Jamaica, N.Y., and professor of medicine at the Mt. Sinai School of Medicine.

He is a prolific and well-known non-rabbinic figure in Jewish Medical Ethics, and has served as chairman of the ethics committee of the N.Y. State Medical Society. Rosner is the author of more than 500 scholarly articles and more than 10 books.

JFRI Celebrations

A children's concert in celebration of Israel's Independence Day will be presented at the Waterplace Park amphitheater on April 30. The concert is free, and open to the public. The program, sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, will include a songfest linked by dramatic narration performed by more than 400 students from Providence Hebrew Day School and the Ruth and Max Alperin Schechter Day School. Providence Mayor Vincent A. Cianci, Jr. will bring greetings.

Israel's Independence Day, known in Hebrew as Yom Ha'atzmaut, is a celebration of the establishment of the state of Israel. In honor of the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the state of Israel, the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island is sponsoring a year-long celebration, including Three Cantors in Concert with the Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra, May 3, at the Veterans Memorial Auditorium. Programming will culminate in a "Birthday Bash" on June 7, on Elm Grove Avenue in front of the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island in Providence.

For more information, contact Tracey Kardash at 421-4111, ext. 162.

Museum Honors First Jewish Commodore in Navy

This week, the 136th anniversary of the death of Commodore Uriah P. Levy, USN, the National Museum of American Jewish Military History in Washington, D.C., continues to honor this fierce American Jewish patriot with its exhibit, "An American, A Sailor and A Jew: The Life and Career of Commodore Uriah P. Levy, USN (1792-1862)."

NMAJMH President Edward D. Blatt of Philadelphia, Pa., said, "Levy's contributions to the U.S. Navy, the beginning of historic preservation, and his fight against anti-Semitism, inspired us to create this exciting exhibit, and we are proud to remember the anniversary of his death."

The exhibit, which opened on Independence Day 1997 to a crowd of more than 200 people, details the life story of the first Jewish commodore in the Navy. Levy is known for leading 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 remembered by the Navy by having a cruiser named in his honor during World War II, and a chapel at Norfolk Naval Base is also named for Levy. The exhibit will be on display until early 1999.

A virtual, online tour of the Levy exhibit was launched last winter by NMAJMH. It is the museum's first venture into cyberspace, and it has drawn rave reviews from viewers. The address is <<http://www.penfed.org/jwv/levy/ulhome.htm>>. To get a taste of what the actual exhibit is like, visit the

virtual tour, and learn a little bit about Levy.

The NMAJMH, under the auspices of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A., 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.

Past exhibits of the NMAJMH have centered on Jewish chaplains in the military and Jewish soldiers during Operation Desert Storm. Future exhibits will focus on the role of Jewish women in the military and Jews in the Civil War, along with Jewish Congressional Medal of Honor winners.

NMAJMH is open every weekday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. Handicapped access is available. Admission to the exhibit is free; donations are welcome.

For information or to arrange for a group tour, call (202) 265-6280.

RI Jewish Herald Celebrates Israel's 50th

On April 23 the R.I. Jewish Herald will publish a special section celebrating Israel's 50th.

If you would like to be a part of this commemorative issue, please send us your stories, photos and related materials by April 17 to: Attn: Israel at 50, R.I. Jewish Herald, P.O. Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 02940. If you want your materials returned to you, please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope as well.

For more information, call Tara at 724-0200.

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SCHOOLBEAT

Healthy Smiles All Around

The early childhood department at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, in an effort to offer a comprehensive curriculum that features everything from preschool basics to Jewish culture and community service, includes health as an essential educational component. Recently, Dr. Marc Page, a local dentist from Lawrence D. Page, Inc., visited the JCCRI,

bringing a wealth of knowledge and information to the youngsters.

He inspired little hands to raise with enthusiastic answers to every question as well as elsewhere during his talk. His focus was to stress the importance of proper dental care and to teach the children about the process of losing teeth, emphasizing that their second teeth are perma-

nent. The morning's presentation was a great success, with the doctor bringing stickers, pictures to color, and puzzles to help make learning fun.

JCCRI early childhood director Eva Silver said, "We always have an integrated curriculum, including health and nutrition in some capacity wherever they can be applied to the subject we're teaching."



DR. MARC PAGE taught children about dental care at the JCCRI.

Photo courtesy of JCCRI

ACT Offers Summer Theatre Academy

The All Children's Theatre's Summer Theatre Academy offers quality theater arts instruction and activities for enrichment and entertainment at Providence Country Day School for children ages 8 to 10 and 11 to 14. This two-week theater conservatory program will focus on developing skills of concentration, ensembling, movement and dance, pantomime, improvisation, character creation, stage management, voice technique, rehearsal skills and technical theater.

A very strong link between involvement in the drama-based arts and an improvement in reading and problem-solving skills is the result of a recent study done by 3-D Group, a San Francisco-based educational research firm. The study done with the Chicago Public Schools by Whirlwind, a non-profit organization dedicated to combining music, drama and dance,

clearly showed improved test scores by an average of three months, on the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills, for those students who participated in the 10-week, 2 hour per week program. Karl Androes, executive director of Whirlwind was quoted in the *Chicago Sun-Times*. "The study shows successful students comprehend what they read from pictures they form in their mind [as they read]. By practicing the skills they learn in drama class, such as creating skits, they develop the tools to read on their own, form images and remember what they read."

For more information about the ACT Summer Theatre Academy and its educational benefits, call Robin Anderson at 331-7174. ACT classes will be held on the campus of Providence Country Day School in East Providence, July 20 to 31 and Aug. 3 to 14 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., with extended day option available.

Bay Camp Registration Begins

Is your fifth- through 10th-grader looking for something to do this summer that's fun, educational and great summertime experience all in one? Then sign up for BayCamp! Now in its third year, BayCamp is a joint effort between Save The Bay and Connecticut-based Project Oceanology. At the weeklong day camp, students spend half of each day aboard Project Oceanology's 70-foot research vessel, The Enviro-Lab III, trawling for marine life and testing water quality. The second half of each day, students explore Narragansett Bay's shoreline and learn about its coastal habitats. BayCamp is a weeklong discovery about the ecology and beauty that makes Narragansett Bay a rich part of our heritage.

Week one of BayCamp runs July 27 through 31 and week two runs Aug. 3 through 7, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

There is a limit of 25 students per session.

For more information, call Save The Bay's education department at 272-3540.

BCC Gazes at The Stars

The Bristol Community College Science department will offer free planetarium shows during the public school vacation. College faculty will talk about the constellations found in the early spring sky, and give kids some guidance in how to stargaze.

The programs are free and open to the public, but space is limited and reservations are required. Shows are scheduled on April 21 at 10 a.m. and 11 a.m., April 24 at 1:30 p.m.

To reserve seats, call the college at (508) 678-2811, ext. 2207.

Science Pen-Pal Program Celebrates 10 Years

This year marks the 10th anniversary for Science-By-Mail, a national pen-pal program run by the Museum of Science, Boston. The program pairs fourth-through ninth-graders with real scientist pen-pals, who help bring the kids a new understanding of the world of science.

SBM started in 1988 at the museum, and is designed to give children exciting hands-on science activities, while using their pen-pal as a resource to learn more about life as a scientist. Modeled after a math program in Israel, SBM brought together 2,000 students with 100 scientists its first year. Since then, more than 200,000 students have corresponded with nearly 14,000 scientists from all across the country and in other parts of the world.

The program has continually sought to provide a solution to many of the pressing needs that have been identified in science education and its reform. The hands-on activities let children explore science concepts and develop both problem solving and critical thinking skills, while the pen-pal component gives

children an opportunity to learn more about the real life of scientists, what they do at their job, and how they got there. Children are also learning about different types of careers available in science and where future needs will exist. SBM currently has more than 1,200 scientists nationwide volunteering their time to help usher along a new generation of learners and discoverers.

"Children need to be shown the fun and adventure in science at a young age in order to fulfill the national and world needs for scientists in the future. Science-By-mail does this in a superb manner," said Dr. Melinda Burrill, a volunteer scientist from California.

Children can register for Science-By-Mail either in small teams of one to four or as an entire class of up to 28. For more information on 1998-99 topics, fees, and registration, call (800) 729-3300. Science-By-Mail can also be reached by writing to: Science-By-Mail, Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston, MA 02114, or by e-mail at: <sbm@mos.org>. Their website can be found at <www.mos.org>

J & W Equine Scholarships Available

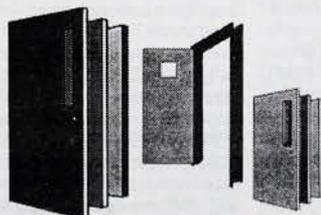
Pony Club members who maintain a grade point average of 3.0 or better are eligible for a Presidential scholarship to Johnson & Wales University. Scholarship awards range from \$1,000 to \$3,000 and are renewable for four years of study.

Scholarships may be used to pursue an associate degree in either equine studies or equine business management, and a bachelor's degree in equine business management or equine business management/riding.

Equine degrees are offered through Johnson & Wales University's College of Business. Students train at the John & Wales Equine Center, an 11-acre dressage and combined training facility located in nearby Rehoboth, Mass. The university also maintains a herd of horses that are utilized in the teaching of horse management and equitation skills.

For more information, contact Beth Beukema, department chair, equine studies, at (800) DIAL-JWU (342-5598), ext. 1037, or write to Equine Studies, Johnson & Wales University, 8 Abbott Park Place, Providence, RI 02903.

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YOM HASHOAH

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

Holocaust Survivors Find Ways to Share Memories, Challenges

by Matt Milstein

The New Mexico Jewish Link

The following story comes from The Jewish Telegraphic Association (N.Y.) and has been commented on by many Jewish and non-Jewish newspapers across the United States as a "good model" for other Jewish communities and Holocaust survivors.

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — For Holocaust survivors who live in this city in the American southwest, Cafe Europa provides an intimacy and support often missing in the outside world.

Regina Turner, a founder of the survivors group, said, "They know that they're not alone, there's a sense of well-being, knowing that they can share. There's a closeness that's developed," said Regina Turner, a founder of Cafe Europa.

That's important for a group of people who have a difficult time speaking about their tragic experiences with others who do not share their experiences.

"They have a hard time sharing," said Andy Holten, a child survivor originally from the Netherlands. Cafe Europa has "provided connection, friendships, support" for a lot of these survivors, he added.

Cafe Europa grew out of an internationally acclaimed Anne Frank exhibit, brought by Turner to New Mexico in 1995. As survivors spoke to visitors at the exhibit, they acknowledged the need for a group for themselves.

The participants in Cafe

Europa, which meets once every four to six weeks at a different member's home, come from diverse backgrounds — their countries of origin, wartime experiences and even age vary widely.

Each member participates for different reasons.

"All my life, I've felt I don't belong anywhere," said Julianna Lerner, who fled Austria in 1939. Aside from her parents and brother, Lerner's entire family was killed by the Nazis.

"They know that they're not alone, there's a sense of well-being, knowing that they can share."

Regina Turner

"When I get into a group with the same experiences," she said, "I feel comfortable. I can speak to them in a kind of shorthand."

After fleeing the Nazis, Evy Woods and her mother were detained by the Russians as prisoners of war for three and a half years.

"I come not so much to get help," Woods said, "but to give it to other people. I have five years of school in my entire life and I practice psychiatry without a license. I try to help others, and in that sense I can help myself."

Retired physician Georges Birenbaum is a native of Bel-

gium who moved to Albuquerque two years ago. In the early 1940s, Birenbaum's parents arranged for him to be hidden with 10 other Jewish children by a Catholic farmer in the Belgian countryside. His mother died in Auschwitz, and in 1946 he was reunited with his father and brother.

"I have found some people [at Cafe Europa] who've had comparable experiences," said Birenbaum. It provides "a feeling of kinship."

Cafe Europa fills a practical as well as an emotional void, as participants share historical information, resources and records.

"They are continually searching for the answers," said Turner, who also is the coordinator for Jewish Family Service's survivor services. "What happened to my family? Maybe someone is still alive that saw [their] parents. It helps them with closure."

Most Cafe Europa participants spoke of a difficulty relating their experiences and perspectives to American Jews, most of whom are geographically and historically removed from the Holocaust.

"We have a certain perspective, right or wrong," Lerner said. "I find the survivor group very different from American Jews. They feel secure. We have a certain paranoia. This is a group unified in its outlook because of our experiences."

Birenbaum said that most people born in America "don't have the foggiest idea what it's like to be in harm's way."

Rita Stuart fled Germany in 1938, and vividly remembers having to wear a Star of David armband and sleeping in a train depot when hotels refused to provide accommodations to Jews.

"I am constantly reminded," she said. "It seems to be coming back to me more and more." The survivors are "dying out, maybe that's why I'm affected."

Werner Gellert fled Germany in 1939, spending 10 years in China and three and a half in a Japanese internment camp before moving to the United States. Horrible memories have resurfaced since he moved to Albuquerque five years ago from California, Gellert said, but his participation in Cafe Europa has helped him reduce the stress.

Zina Birnberg, who spent the entire war imprisoned in Auschwitz and other camps, said she remembers watching Nazi soldiers and supporters in 1939 march through her hometown of Lodz, Poland, singing, "We're taking Poland, we're taking Europe, we're taking the whole world, and we'll slice every Jewish belly open."

Cafe Europa has helped Birnberg deal with the ongoing effects of her experiences.

"I'm getting out of my depression," she said. "I've been depressed my whole life."

A Memoir For Young Readers

Katarina

Farrar, Straus & Giroux, Inc.

Publishers, New York

April 1998, 272 Pages

Kathryn Winter grew up during World War II in Slovakia. Katarina, her first novel, is based on her childhood experiences during that time.

Katarina begins her plight at the age of 8, a Jewish girl living with her aunt. However, she does not understand what it means to be a Jew, as she has been tutored in the catechism by her aunt's maid, Anka, and believes herself a devout Catholic. She is sent into hiding to escape roundups, and eventually is left to fend for herself. When she finally finds safety in a Protestant orphanage, she must hide both religious backgrounds, and she begins to piece together the conflicting information she has learned about religion and war. Katarina follows her journey through three years, to the end of the war, emphasizing her unflagging hope in the face of surrounding tragedy.

In advance reviews, *The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books* says: "The first-person

narration is gripping, nuanced, and true to a child's fresh emotions of surprise and disappointment, with no trace of self-pity... This is an unusually effective



fictionalization that reaches from a personal past to current and future readers." *The Horn Book* declares that "Her story will move readers with its honesty about her survival and the horror she escaped."

Yom HaShoah Commemoration Features Film 'Exodus 1947'

On April 22 at 7 p.m. at Temple Emanu-El, 99 Taft Ave. in Providence, the annual Yom HaShoah commemoration will celebrate the 50th anniversary of Israel with a showing of the film "Exodus 1947," which chronicles the dramatic journey of the ship from France bound for Palestine. Frank Lavine, a crew member from the ship, who is interviewed in the film, will speak.

The aging Baltimore steamer had a crew of former Jewish-American GIs and took a cargo of 4,500 Holocaust survivors to try for Palestine. After a bloody battle with the British, the immigrants were sent back into Displaced Persons camps in Germany. The newsreel and print media seized on the ship as a symbol of Jewish struggle and the aborted voyage galvanized international support for the creation of a Jewish homeland in Palestine.

Eyewitness testimonies, interviews with scholars, newsreel footage and recently declassified documents are included in the 1996 documentary narrated by Morley Safer.

The program will be followed by the traditional solemn candlelit procession from the temple to the Garden of Remembrance at the Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum, 401 Elm Grove Ave. in Providence.

If you would like the names of friends or relatives who perished in the Holocaust to be read in the garden, call Director of Education Beth Cohen at 453-7860.

Temple Shalom Hosts Unique Interfaith Service

The Congregation of Temple Shalom, will commemorate Yom HaShoah, the Day of the Holocaust with a Community-Wide Interfaith Service of Remembrance on April 22 at 7 p.m. in the main sanctuary.

The focus of this service will be the Holocaust and the establishment of the State of Israel. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the founding of Israel. Special prayers, music and readings will be offered. Six candles will be kindled in loving memory of the 6 million Jews who died during this tragic period. A seventh candle will be lit in loving memory of all those others who perished.

Participating in this very special service will be Rabbi Marc S. Jagolinzer of Temple Shalom, The Rev. Canon Roy Green of Trinity Church, The Rev. Eugene McKenna of St. Lucy's Roman Catholic Church and The Rev. Charlotte Nachbar of St. Paul's United Methodist Church. Emily Anthony will provide the music. Yom HaShoah, the 27th day of the Hebrew month of Nisan, was set aside as a day of mourning in 1951 for the victims of the Holocaust by the Israeli Parliament. Anti-Semitism and Nazism did not halt with the end of World War II. The Holocaust is a constant reminder of the potential for evil which lies below the surface of civilization. Yom HaShoah is a vigilant reminder that this evil must never be allowed to happen again.

All are cordially invited to attend and participate. For more information, call 846-9002.

Holocaust Commemoration Focuses on Deaf Victims

Before World War II began, the German government sterilized 375,000 people, 17,000 of them were deaf.

In a unique service for Yom HaShoah, more than 150 deaf and hard-of-hearing including survivors and relatives of survivors from across the country will join together to remember the persecution of the deaf. The convention, sponsored by the Orthodox Union will be held May 14 to 17 in Baltimore, Md.

"We tend to forget that the disabled were the first victims of Nazi brutality," said Rabbi Eliezer Lederfiend, national director of the OU's Our Way program for the deaf. "Indeed, as a minority within a minority, the Jewish disabled were doubly hunted and persecuted by the Nazi regime."

The four-day program will feature a visit to the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C., and presentations by teen-agers who will "speak" about the Holocaust experiences of their grandparents. The program will also include prayer services led by deaf rabbis, Torah readings, and workshops. In addition, deaf adults and youths who

have studied Mishnah Avot through TTY and email in memory of the Holocaust victims will celebrate with a celebration marking the completion of Torah study. There will also be sessions on how the deaf can get involved in community service. The services and the presentations will be conducted in spoken English and American Sign Language.

"As the survivors die out, it is important for young people to carry on the memory of those who perished," sighed 17-year-old Sophie Gold from Seattle, Washington, who will "speak" about how her grandmother enlisted the help of the Lutheran Church to save her family during the Holocaust.

Eugene Bergman, assistant professor of English at Gallaudet University, the first deaf person ever to earn a Ph.D. in English, will be the scholar-in-residence. A deaf survivor, Bergman's deafness ultimately saved his life during the Holocaust. The convention will be led by David Kastor, Our Way regional representative, Maryland. To make reservations, call TTY (410) 764-3986.

YOM KESHOAH

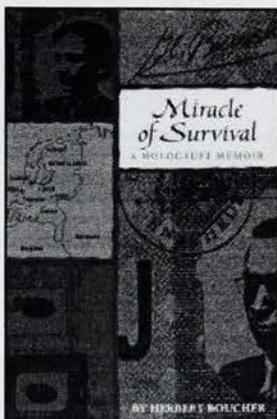
HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

Miracle of Survival: A Holocaust Memoir

by Herbert Boucher,
Judah L. Magnes Museum, Calif.,
1997, 196 pgs.

In 1942, Herbert and Hilda Boucher, German Jews who had sought refuge in the Netherlands, went into hiding. This is the extraordinary story of the Bouchers, their extended family, and their friends, who managed to escape death at the hands of the Nazis.

Courageous Dutch citizens provided their homes as sanctuaries for Jews and members of the Dutch underground. The Bouchers, working with their rescuers to cleverly devise secret rooms, escape routes and false ID cards, miraculously sur-



Miracle of Survival

vived repeated Nazi raids and mass deportations of Jews.

"Miracle of Survival," illustrated with photos and historical documents, is a tribute to the altruistic Dutch rescuers who risked their lives and the lives of their families to save the persecuted.

"I read it in one sitting... You manage to be so exacting in your detail of time, places, and events that one has no doubt of the authenticity of events."

Stuart Rothschild

For more information about the book contact the Judah L. Magnes Museum at 2911 Russell St., Berkeley, Calif. 94705.

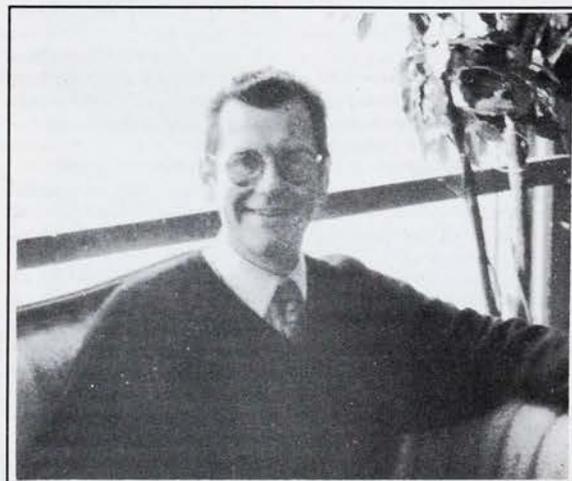
Kindertransport

(Continued from Front Page)

Kindertransport Special Event

The following events will take place from April 22 through May 16. NewGate Theatre, with the support of other organizations, will sponsor these events:

- April 23: Selections from NewGate Theatre's "Kindertransport" and "Letters from



STEVEN PENNELL will direct Kindertransport at NewGate Theatre, Providence, April 22 through May 16.

Herald photo by Tara V. Liscandro

WGBH Hosts 'Voices of the Children'

"Voices of the Children" tells the story of three people — one of them now a Bostonian — who were imprisoned as children in Terezin, the small Czech town that the Nazis converted into a concentration camp for Jews. With the help of personal journals and drawings, and interviews with these three survivors and their children, filmmaker Zuzana Justman (who herself spent two years in Terezin) traces their World War II experiences and follows their stories through the post-war years to the present. The 60-minute program airs on April 19 at 4 p.m. on 'GBH/2 and repeats on April 26 at 10 p.m. on 'GBH/44, marking the Days of Remembrance for Victims of the Holocaust.

"Voices of the Children" films the survivors with their families in the cities in which they settled: Michael Kraus in Boston, Helga Hoskova in Prague and Helga Kinsky in Vienna. Along with their recollections of life in the camps and selections from their youthful journals, Kraus, Hoskova and Kinsky relate the difficulty of their post-war adjustments. In discussions with their children, they examine their relations and question the need to talk about the past as they explore the effects of the Holocaust on their lives.

Each family deals differently with some of the issues that concern Holocaust survivors: "survivor guilt," denial, overprotectiveness. Kraus, for instance,

never spoke to his daughters about the camps in an effort to shield them from the trauma of his childhood experiences. To try to safeguard her daughter, Eva, from anti-Semitism, Kinsky had her baptized, but Eva was angry with her mother for that decision. In spite of these disagreements, the families are all close. There's one point on which Helga Hoskova, Helga Kinsky and Michael Kraus agree: Family is paramount.

"Voices of the Children" was produced by Jiri Jezek and Robert Kanter for the Terezin Foundation.

Also marking the Holocaust Days of Remembrance this month is the Academy Award-winning "Anne Frank Remembered," airing April 22 at 9 p.m. on 'GBH/2.

URI/CCE Plans Holocaust Remembrance

On April 23, from 5 to 7 p.m., Dr. Steven Grubman-Black, coordinator of the University of Rhode Island CCE/BGS Program and professor of communicative disorders and women's studies at CCE in Providence, will present "Remembering Not to Forget the 12 Million Victims of Genocide." The presentation will take place in Room 260 at the URI/Providence Campus, 80 Washington St., Providence, and the program is free and open to the public.

This program will offer participants opportunities to bear witness to one of civilization's most gruesome examples of intolerance. Through a number of optional experiences, participants can view educational videos, hear music, see pictures, and interact in discussions of what we can learn from those times.

This is also a time for testimony of hope and community for dear and abiding friendships and other affiliations so that human differences are respected for their diversity and dignity.

For more information, call 277-5035.

pay tribute to not only those who were lost, but those who survived as well.

The director of "Kindertransport" is a native of Rhode Island and received his Bachelor of Arts from RI College and his Masters from NY University where he continued to study educational theatre. Pennell worked in Germany for 10 years with the United States Army Corps and returned to Rhode Island afterwards. He is currently working on his Ph.D. in religious drama and sacred dance and has organized the Senior Players of RI, for senior citizens in Rhode Island. Pennell works closely with the senior community collecting their unique stories and creating plays from them. "Their stories are important," said Pennell, "We need to collect them and tell others about them."

As an artist in residence at URI Providence Campus, Pennell created a video entitled, "Just Women's Work," which tells the story of older women in their younger years at work in Rhode Island. Pennell also recently joined the Rites and Reasons Theatre at Brown University where he completed an award-winning production, "She Who is Made of Clay." Director Pennell is one of three candidates for the artistic director's position at NewGate Theatre as well.

"Kindertransport" will be performed April 22 through May 16 at NewGate Theatre, 134 Mathewson St., Providence. For tickets call 421-9680. The RI Holocaust Memorial Museum will sponsor a special presentation of "Kindertransport" on April 30 at 7pm. The evening will include discussion with Kindertransport survivor Peter Wager and a reception for donors.

Survivors," dramatic readings of survivor letters by URI students; offered as part of URI Providence Campus Days of Remembrance service, 5 to 7 p.m., Paff Auditorium. Call 277-5018.

- April 26: Humanities Public Forum, funded in part by the RI Committee for the Humanities at NewGate Theatre (after 2 p.m. performance). Forum will include a discussion of the play with a distinguished panel of scholars including survivors of Kindertransport from Rhode Island, director and cast members; 4:30 p.m., free and open to public.

- April 30: "Kindertransport: Voices of the Holocaust — the Children's Story," RI Holocaust Memorial Museum's student awareness program at Paff Auditorium, URI Providence, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Program includes selections from "Kindertransport," "Letters of Survivors," Cranston High School West's production of "I Never Saw Another Butterfly," and discussion with Rhode Island Kindertransport survivor Albert Silverstein. Call 453-7860.

- NewGate Theatre Lobby will display exhibit of Jonathan Sharlin's portraits and stories of RI Holocaust Survivors, "Portrait Narratives"; Cellar Stories Book Store, 190 Mathewson St., Providence, features a special display of photos and books about the Holocaust; URI Providence Campus exhibits original student artwork; Westminster Senior Center and Langston Hughes Performing Arts Center display "Faces of Oppression," dealing with the plight of the aged, the gypsies, handicapped, blacks, homosexuals and others before and during WWII. For information, call 421-9680.

In Remembrance

by Lenka Rose

Survivor of Auschwitz-Birkenau Bergen-Belzen

Let us remember and "never" forget the 6 million Jewish men, women and children, who perished in Nazi Germany during the Holocaust.

This horrible tragedy belongs to a world of the impossible, totally outside the sphere of ordinary humanity.

A collective act of barbarity befell the Jewish people, nowhere to escape to out of Harm's way.

Stripped of all their worldly possessions — naked, isolated, systematically annihilated.

Fields stretch for miles, streams, hills, mountains, fill the horizon; sun, moon, stars grace the heavens — Mother Nature bedecked out in brilliant colors.

Amid all the beauty, mankind failed their duty, to save, and rescue an innocent people.

The Nazis branded the Jewish people socially dead; devised genocidal fate for them.

Forced to work hard under horrid conditions; merciless beatings, marchings, starving them to death; a daily occurrence.

It was a time that made stones cry, but those driven by power, hearts hardened by hatred, seemed to feel no pain.

As for the survivors, a long way home; no desire to go back; nor were they wanted.

Alone in a foreign land made life anew for themselves out of the ashes,

REMEMBER!

FEATURE

Former Head of Nazi Camp in Croatia Living in Argentina

by Rebecca Segall

NEW YORK (JTA) — A former commander of a Croatian concentration camp has been found living in Argentina.

Dinko Sakic, who allegedly oversaw the murder of more than 500,000 people during World War II, including 20,000 out of Croatia's Jewish population of 25,000, was discovered and interviewed by an Argentine television crew in the seaside town of Santa Teresita.

An exposé on Sakic was aired on Argentina's Channel 13.

Jewish groups have since called upon the Argentine government to arrest and deport Sakic, though they doubt that Croatia would place him on trial.

Sakic, 76, admitted in the broadcast that he had served as commander of the Jasenovac concentration camp, but he denied that anyone was killed there under his watch.

"I don't know what happened before or after my command," which lasted 100 days, said Sakic, "but while I was in charge the guards were not al-

lowed to kill or mistreat the prisoners."

The Simon Wiesenthal Center said Sakic commanded Jasenovac from December 1942 until October 1944.

A child survivor of the camp who now lives in Belgrade offered an on-air rebuttal to Sakic's denials.

Liliana Ivanicevic, who was 6 years old when she was imprisoned at Jasenovac, said Sakic "enjoyed cutting throats and he took part in several massacres." She recognized Sakic when shown a video recording of him.

The Argentine government is studying Sakic's immigration status, trying to determine if he is wanted on international criminal charges.

But, even if he is arrested, Jewish leaders have little faith that Croatia would agree to prosecute him.

This is a "litmus test for the Croatian government," Rabbi Abraham Cooper, associate dean of the Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Center, said in an interview. "The new Croatia celebrates the World

War II era," evidenced by the number of Ustashe officials honored on stamps, street signs and calendars, said Cooper, referring to the Nazi puppet regime that ruled Croatia during the war.

Tommy Baer, president of B'nai B'rith, said Croatian president Franjo Tudjman, who has been criticized for honoring the Ustashe period, told him recently that "he would take care of the Nazi war criminals."

But he added that Tudjman has "renege[d]" on that pledge.

Baer, who met with Argentine leaders in Buenos Aires, recalled that several years ago Argentina extradited former SS officer Erich Priebke, who has been sentenced to life for his role in a Rome massacre during the war.

"The Argentine government moved quickly to extradite Priebke," Baer said. "We urge them once again to move quickly and without delay in deporting Sakic."

Croatian diplomats in New York and Washington said they were unable to comment on the matter.

Senate Budget Resolution Blesses 10 Commandments

by Daniel Kurtzman

WASHINGTON (JTA) — The budget resolution recently passed by the U.S. Senate contains a curious non sequitur: Thou shalt not remove the Ten Commandments from government offices.

As the Senate hurried to adopt the budget resolution before leaving for its spring recess, lawmakers slipped in an amendment endorsing the display of the Ten Commandments at courthouses and other government buildings. The measure passed by a voice vote.

The move, aimed at supporting a U.S. circuit judge in Alabama caught in a legal squabble over his practicing of posting the Ten Commandments in his courtroom, follows similar action taken by the House of Representatives last year.

But whereas the House reso-

lution, which passed by a vote of 295-125, drew widespread criticism from church-state watchdogs, the Senate resolution drew a milder reaction because language was added stating that displays should be permitted "so long as it is consistent with the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution."

It remains for the court to decide, however, whether such displays would be consistent with First Amendments rights.

Neither measure carries the force of law and will not directly impact the legal outcome of the Alabama case.

Richard Foltin, legislative director and counsel for the American Jewish Committee, called the measure "unnecessary," though largely harmless, saying, "With G-d's help, the Ten Commandments will remain the

foundation of our faith and our fellow faiths without the Senate weighing in."

Other church-state watchdogs were more critical.

"I have a commandment for the Senate: Thou shalt not play politics with religion," said the Rev. Barry Lynn, executive director of Americans United for the Separation of Church and State. "This is shameless political posturing."

Zoo Enforces Passover Diet

by Naomi Segal

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Animals at Jerusalem's biblical zoo will not be given bread during Passover — but they won't be getting matzah brei, either.

Although the Jewish prohibition against eating bread during the holiday applies only to humans, zoo officials thought visitors might be offended watching the animals eat bread.

Instead of matzah, the animals — as you might expect — will be given hay.



Congratulations Dr. Feinstein

A child enrolled at the Dr. Pat Feinstein Child Development center, located at URI's College of Continuing Education, congratulates Alan Shawn Feinstein. Feinstein became Dr. Alan Shawn Feinstein this month when the University of Rhode Island conferred an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters upon him at its Providence campus. URI recognized Feinstein for his noble humanitarianism and his friendship to the university.

Photo courtesy of URI

NEH Awards Largest Grant to Haffenreffer Museum

The National Endowment for the Humanities recently announced that it has awarded \$700,000 — one of the largest grants awarded in its current round of grantmaking — to the Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology, Brown University, to assist in "relocating and rehousing the museum's collections," according to an announcement by NEH chairman William R. Ferris and Haffenreffer Museum Director and Brown University anthropology Professor Shepard Krech III.

The Haffenreffer Museum will move in 2000 from Bristol, where it was established in the early years of this century by Rudolf Frederick Haffenreffer, to the former Old Stone Bank building on South Main Street, Providence.

"I am delighted by this affirmation of the national significance of Brown University's Haffenreffer collection as a great resource for the understanding of our Native American cultural heritage. Brown has great plans for bringing the collection to Providence, where it can serve the intellectual mission of the university in so many ways — American studies, anthropology, art history, to mention a few — and at the same time give visitors and schoolchildren a heightened awareness of this material," said Carter Brown, director emeritus, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.,

and a Brown University trustee.

NEH chairman Ferris said the latest round of NEH grants, totaling some \$30.5 million nationwide, will benefit Americans everywhere "by supporting the nation's cultural life." The \$700,000 grant to the Haffenreffer Museum was made as part of the NEH's National Heritage Preservation Program, which helps to "preserve and make accessible some of the nation's most important and endangered cultural resources." NEH preservation grants, moreover, "help ensure the accessibility of America's cultural heritage for all Americans now and in the future," Ferris said. Only 63 grants were awarded under this NEH program out of 207 proposals received by the funding organization, and only two institutions received \$700,000, the largest amount available.

The Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology, Brown's "university museum," is a treasure house of fascinating artifacts from the native peoples of the Americas, Africa, Asia and the Pacific. It is recognized as one of the leading anthropological teaching museums in the Northeast. The museum's four intimate galleries offer a stimulating setting in which to learn about other peoples and their cultures.

The Haffenreffer offers public lectures, performances, symposia, festivals, and a broad range of related programs and events. The museum is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays from September through May; during the summer (June to August), it is open during the same hours every day except Monday. For more information, call 253-8388, or visit the museum on the World Wide Web at <<http://www.brown.edu/Facilities/Haffenreffer>>.

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Don't forget to look for the Rhode Island Jewish Herald's special "Israel at 50" commemorative issue next week.

MILESTONES

Spaghetti Dinner Benefits the Tomorrow and Maria Fund

Enjoy a pasta dinner, listen to music, and take a chance on a 50/50 raffle at the Knights of Columbus Hall at 1 New Road, Rumford (off Rt. 1A) on April 25 from 1 to 8 p.m. All proceeds will benefit The Maria Fund. The Maria Fund, set up through The Tomorrow Fund, has been established to help parents of children with cancer.

Whether a child has recently been diagnosed with cancer or has been in treatment for a while, there may come a time when either one or both parents need to take time out of work to care for their child. Because of the Family and Medical Leave Act, an employer must allow that parent to take a leave, but, if the parent does not have vacation or sick time he or she will not get paid. The Maria Fund has been established for this purpose.

Tickets may be bought in advance or you may pay at the door on the day of the dinner, or if you would like to make a donation, call 762-2553.



MARIA DeCHRISTOFORO, the inspiration of the Maria Fund and currently receiving chemotherapy treatments at Hasbro Children's Hospital, in Disney World. Her dream come true was made possible by the Make-A-Wish Foundation and The Maria Fund.

Photo courtesy of Lori DeChristoforo



Brooke Alyssa Steinman

Susan and Michael Steinman of Coral Springs, Fla., announce the birth of their second child, a daughter, Brooke Alyssa Steinman, on Feb. 10, 1998.

Maternal grandparents are Sandra and Murray Cerel of Boca Raton, Fla., formerly of Cranston, R.I. Paternal grandparents are Elaine and Arnold Steinman of Boynton Beach, Fla., formerly of Norwood and Yarmouthport, Mass.

Brooke Alyssa is named after her great-grandfather, Benjamin Gratt, and great-grandmother, Celia Driben.

Brooke is also welcomed by her 2 1/2-year-old big sister, Erica Robyn Steinman.



Daniel William Marcus

Renee and Steven Marcus announce the arrival of their first child, Daniel William.

Maternal grandparents are Carolyn Jones of Coventry and the late William Jones. Paternal grandparents are Eleanor and Sid Marcus of Cranston.

Pamela Brown to Marry Guy Forman

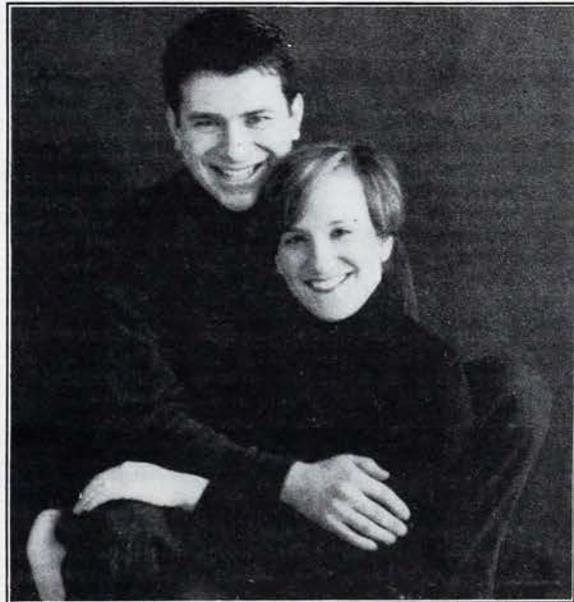
Susan and Michael Brown of Wellesley, Mass., announce the engagement of their daughter, Pamela Brown of Boston, Mass., to Guy Forman, of Boston, Mass., son of Joanne and Roy Forman of Providence, R.I. The bride-to-be is the granddaughter of Stanley and Irene Lappin and Ethel Brown. Her fiancé is

the grandson of Sylvia Forman and Bessie Short.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Wellesley High School and Syracuse University.

Her fiancé is the graduate of the Moses Brown School and Brown University.

A wedding date has been set for June 27, 1998.



Pamela Brown and Guy Forman

'Seven Blessings' Found in Unique Wedding Book

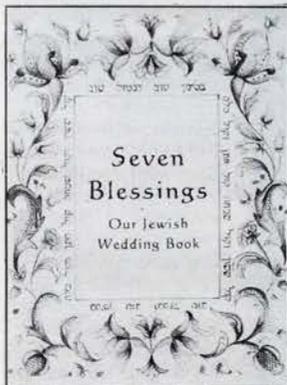
New Publication by Reform Women Echoes Theme Recited at Jewish Marriage Service

By tradition, a Jewish wedding ceremony concludes with the recital of the *Sheva Berachot* — "Seven Blessings" — a poetic vision that relates the marriage to the Creation, and to the genesis of man and woman. The name also applies to the seven nights of celebratory dinners that, by custom, are supposed to follow immediately after the wedding — a ritual that today is usually replaced by the honeymoon.

The recitation of the *Sheva Berachot* thus is the inspiration for a beautiful new wedding volume titled *Seven Blessings: Our Jewish Wedding Book*, recently published by Women of Reform Judaism and the Union of American Hebrew Congregations Press. Printed in full color, the artistic design was inspired by historical ketubot — marriage contracts — from around the world.

The text was written by Rabbi Susan Marks and her husband, Bruce Black, a book editor at the Jewish Publication Society. Graphic artist Marlene Lobell Ruthen designed the volume.

The handsome 60-page wedding book contains an introduction and quotations from the Talmud and other texts that convey the importance of marriage and the home in the Jewish tradition. Space is provided for recording memories of the courtship and wedding, photos, mementos, comments and the family histories of bride and groom. In addition, there is practical advice on such matters as pre-



THE TITLE REFERS to the traditional seven blessings — known in Hebrew as *Sheva Berachot* — recited at the conclusion of the wedding ceremony.

paring the home, arranging for the wedding, and keeping a sense of humor.

The seven blessings reflected in the theme of the book consist of praise of G-d for creating such gifts as the "fruit of the vine," "man and woman," "life's everlasting renewal" and "for causing the bride and groom to rejoice."

Seven Blessings was published by Women of Reform Judaism to serve as an "ideal gift" for engagements, weddings and anniversaries, according to Ellen Y. Rosenberg, executive director of Women of Reform Judaism.

In the introduction, the authors write that "marriage — and preparation for marriage — offers each individual myriad opportunities that are indeed blessings... As you begin your journey together, we hope this book gives you a chance to articulate your concerns, laugh at the difficulties, and, yes, even count your blessings."

Seven Blessings: Our Jewish Wedding Book is available in bookstores or may be ordered directly by calling (888) 489-8242.

Dr. Sadowsky Speaks for Jewish Healthcare Center

The Jewish Healthcare Center in Worcester, Mass., will hold an official ground-breaking ceremony for its new assisted living 80-apartment, six-story building on May 3 at the Healthcare Center. The keynote speaker at the bricklayer's brunch will be Dr. Norman Sadowsky, a Worcester native, who is chief of radiology at the Faulkner Hospital in Boston.

Sadowsky received his A.B., cum laude, from Harvard University and his M.D. from Tufts University.

He served a general residency at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York City, a residency in radiology at Peter Bent Brigham in Boston. Since 1971 he has served as director of the Faulkner-Sagoff Center for Breast Healthcare.

Sadowsky has an extensive list of appointments as a research fellow and as an instructor.

He has had scores of articles published and has been a visiting professor at many major universities.

For more information, call (508) 798-8653.

Tara Thaler to Wed Les Satlow

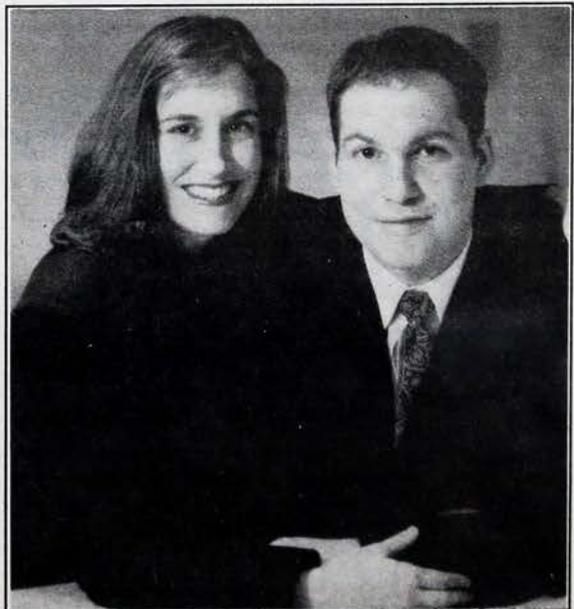
Michael and Jill Thaler of Cranston, R.I., announce the engagement of their daughter, Tara Thaler of Boston, Mass., to Les Satlow of Boston, Mass., son of Felsa Satlow of Arlington, Mass. He is also the son of the late Frank Satlow. The bride-to-be is the granddaughter of Barci Thaler Finkle and the late Joseph Thaler of Pawtucket, R.I., and Pearl Gerber and the late Saul Gerber of Portland, Me. Her fiancé is the grandson of Jeanne Satlow and the late Michael Satlow of New York and the late Dora and Samuel Hausenbold of New York.

The bride-to-be has a bachelor

of arts degree in psychology from Hofstra University, a master of arts in clinical psychology from Connecticut College, and is a Ph.D. candidate in counseling psychology at Boston College.

Her fiancé has a bachelor of arts in history and political science from Washington University and a master of arts in international economics and Russian area studies from Johns Hopkins University. He is a director of information services at Global Investor Publishing in Cambridge, Mass.

A wedding date has been set for October 31, 1998.



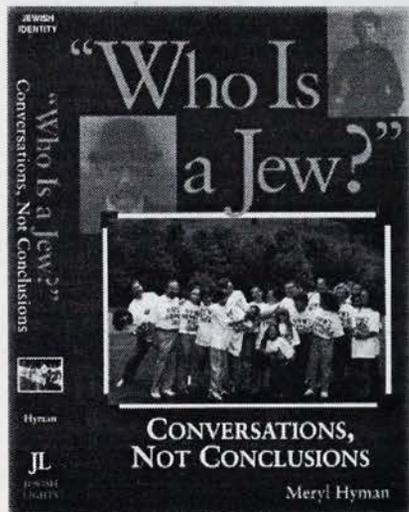
Tara Thaler and Les Satlow

FEATURE

Jewish Lights Selections For Spring

Who is A Jew? Conversations, Not Conclusions'

The debate over Jewish identity dominates headlines. Jews in the United States and abroad are desperately searching for answers. As we enter the next century, the battle over *Who Is a Jew?* is sure to continue as Jews argue over who holds the correct interpretation



At the forefront of this debate are Orthodox leaders who challenge the legitimacy of the other denominations within Judaism, the Reform, Conservative and Reconstructionist movements whose membership accounts for the overwhelming majority of Jewish people in the United States.

This has given rise to deep pain, resentment and controversy throughout the Jewish community, as the non-Jewish world looks on partly confused, partly amused, at what appears to be a legalistic civil war.

Under current law in Israel — which does not recognize Reform Judaism's acceptance of patrilineal Jewish descent — only Jews deemed "Jewish" by Orthodox standards may be married in a Jewish cemetery, or granted a legal divorce. Other life affecting

of Jewish law and who will control the future of the Jewish people and Israel.

The full range of arguments and opinions about *Who Is a Jew?* appear in an engaging and thought-provoking new book. In "Who Is a Jew?" *Conversations, Not Conclusions* (Jewish Lights/April 1998/\$23.95), veteran journalist Meryl Hyman interviews leaders from the religious, academic, and political communities in the United States, Israel, and England. She presents their thought — in their own words — on who is "Jewish enough" to be considered a Jew, and by whom.

With the skill of a seasoned journalist and the grace of a novelist, Hyman — daughter of a Jewish father and a Christian mother, but raised as a Jew — weaves her own life experiences into this complex and controversial story.

issues related to the question of *Who Is a Jew?* include the validity of non-Orthodox conversion, and who may immigrate to Israel as a right under its Law of Return. These issues of personal status and personal rights intertwine to form the debate of *Who Is a Jew?* and to address the ultimate question, "Are we truly one people?"

While each conversation in *Who Is a Jew?* brings a unique perspective to the question of Jewish identity, much of the attention focuses on Israel because as Rabbi Eric H. Yoffie, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the congregational arm of the Reform movement in North America, said, "You can't

bridge the unbridgeable. The issue was, and remains, what will the State of Israel do?"

While it is in Israel — the homeland of the Jewish people — where the ramifications of the conflict are most troublesome, these divisions have serious implications for the future of the Jewish community in other countries as well. In more than 30 intense encounters with key figures in this historical controversy, Hyman lets us hear their words and share her reactions.

A skilled reporter and editor, Hyman has worked for most of her career at Gannett Newspapers. She has served as a media consultant to the National Endowment for the Humanities in Washington, D.C.

A Living Covenant

Jewish tradition is often seen as being more concerned with uncritical obedience to law than with individual freedom and responsibility. *A Living Covenant: The Innovative Spirit in Traditional Judaism* (Jewish Lights/April 1998/\$18.95) challenges this approach by revealing a Judaism grounded in a covenant — a relational framework — informed by the metaphor of mari-

dean of the Harvard Divinity School and bishop emeritus of Stockholm, calls *A Living Covenant* "A rare and hard-to-come-by opportunity to enter the world of contemporary Orthodox/rabbinic/talmudic Judaism at its heart. ... Here is a vigorous 'internal' debate with the marks of authenticity and intellectual energy sufficient to fascinate and enlighten a wider public."

Hilary Putnam, Cogan University professor at Harvard University, remarks that *A Living Covenant* "should be of interest to anyone who is concerned with the problem of keeping faith with a religious or national tradition while also keeping faith with the ideal of independent thinking, and respecting the pluralism of religious (and national) forms and visions in the world."

Hartman, author of *A Living Covenant*, is the founder and director of the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem. Named after his late father, the institute is dedicated to developing a new understanding of classical Judaism that provides moral and spiritual direction for Judaism's confrontation with modernity. Presently professor emeritus at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, he received his rabbinic ordination from Yeshiva University's Theological Seminary in New York City. He is the author of several books, including *Maimonides: Torah and Philosophic Quest* (winner of the 1976 National Jewish Book Award).

A Living Covenant shows that life lived in Jewish tradition need not be passive, insulated, or self-effacing, but can be lived in the modern pluralistic world with passion, tolerance, spontaneity.

The Book of Miracles: A Young Person's Guide to Jewish Spiritual Awareness

Have you ever done something you thought would be insignificant, such as run a small errand for someone in need or stare for a minute at the farthest star in the night sky, and you suddenly felt that what you did was part of something bigger, something important — that it somehow brought you closer to G-d? How can we help our children to capture that same feeling, to understand it, and bring its meaning into their lives?

From the miracle at the Red Sea to the miracle of waking up this morning, *The Book of*

Miracles: A Young Person's Guide to Jewish Spiritual Awareness (Jewish Lights Publishing/March 1998/\$16.95) is a book of spiritual adventure to introduce young people — and their parents — to a way of spiritual thinking to last a lifetime.

Lawrence Kushner, whose award-winning books have brought Jewish spirituality to

life for countless adults, now brings the spiritual richness of Jewish tradition to young people. A special 10th anniversary edition, this easy-to-read, imaginatively illustrated book combines the essence of Judaism in a way that adults and children ages 9 to 13 will understand and enjoy.

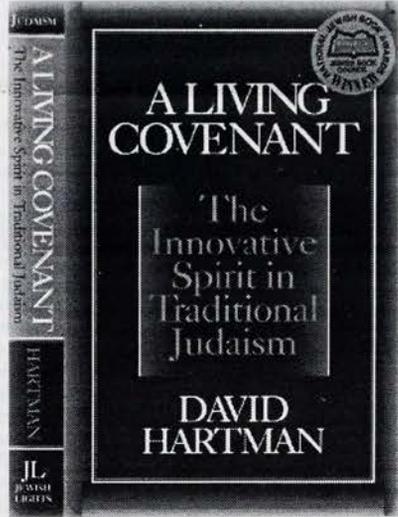
The Book of Miracles challenges and inspires children to find the sacred in the mysterious and beautiful occurrences of their everyday lives, to encourage an awareness of their own spirituality. In a language that kids can relate to, Kushner combines Talmud, *midrash*, mystical and biblical stories to help them make — and treasure — the connections between religion, spirituality, and modern living.

Widely regarded as one of the most creative theologians in America, Lawrence Kushner is rabbi at Congregation Beth El in Sudbury, Mass. Through his work as an author and a speaker, people of every faith and background have found inspiration and strength for spiritual growth.

The Beauty of *The Book of Miracles* is its universality. Its message, although coming from a Jewish tradition, speaks to the souls of all," praises dr. Ronald J. Valenti, superintendent of Catholic schools of the archdiocese of Baltimore.

For parents to read to their children, for children to read to their parents, *The Book of Miracles* shows young people how to make Judaism into a foundation on which to build their lives.

Most Jewish Lights publications can be found at Rhoda's Judaica, 77 Burlington St., Providence, or contact Jewish Lights at (800) 962-4544 for orders or information.



tal love rather than that of parent-child dependency. Winner of the National Jewish Book Award in 1986 and out of print for several years, it is now available for the first time in paperback.

Placing the individual firmly within the community, David Hartman shows in *A Living Covenant* that the Jewish tradition need not be understood in terms of human passivity and resignation, but rather as a vehicle by which human individuality and freedom can be expressed within a relational matrix.

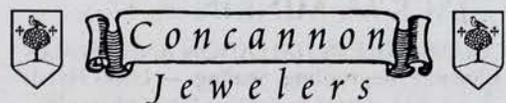
Other issues covered in *A Living Covenant* include:

- Petitional prayer and the love of G-d;
- G-d, history and human responsibility;
- Tragedy and suffering without theodicy;
- From Sinai to the modern State of Israel;
- The promise of redemption and the vitality of religious life.

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10-Year Sentence For Papon Evokes Relief and Bitterness

by Lee Yanowitch

BORDEAUX, France (JTA) — For many Jewish leaders in France and elsewhere, the punishment did not fit the crime.

After 19 hours of deliberation, a jury in this southwestern French city convicted Maurice Papon of complicity in crimes against humanity and sentenced the former Vichy official to 10 years in prison.

The mixed verdict left many in the courtroom — including lawyers for the prosecution and defense, and some relatives of Jews deported from France during World War II — far from satisfied.

The sentence "leaves behind a certain bitterness," CRIF, the umbrella group of secular French Jewish organizations, said in a statement.

Many expressed concern that because of Papon's age and the appeals process, he might never spend a day in jail.

CRIF and other French Jewish organizations applauded the guilty verdict against the 87-year-old Papon, but they were clearly expecting a harsher sentence.

The Jewish Student Union of France said the jury, attempting not to disappoint anyone, managed to disappoint everyone.

The group said it, "deplores the inadequate link between the crimes he is accused of and the sentence he got."

Papon went on trial in October on charges of ordering the arrest of 1,560 Jews, 223 of them children, between 1942 and 1944, when he was secretary-general of the Bordeaux prefect's office and head of its Jewish affairs office.

After the liberation, Papon went on to an illustrious postwar career, serving as police chief of Paris between 1958 and 1967 and as budget minister in the French Cabinet during the 1970s.

Legal action against Papon began in 1981 after a newspaper article detailed his past.

But proceedings against him were repeatedly obstructed by French officials reluctant to see a trial dredge up embarrassing memories of France's collaboration with the Nazi occupiers.

The trial was the longest in French postwar history and has forced the country to re-examine its role in the wartime Nazi occupation.

French Jewish groups and the lawyers for the civil plaintiffs in the case had expected a life sentence — the legal norm in France for crimes against humanity.

However, the state prosecutor in the case, Henri Desclaux, had recommended a 20-year term.

In its verdict, the jury of nine civilians and three judges said Papon was guilty on the charges of arrest and illegal deportation of some of the Jews deported from the Bordeaux region.

But the jury did not convict him of complicity to murder, accepting the defense argument that Papon was not aware of Hitler's "Final Solution" plan to exterminate the Jews.

One of the lawyers for the civil plaintiffs Alain Levy,

charged that Papon's lawyer had misled the jury by insisting in his closing argument that Papon could not be convicted as an accomplice to murder if he had not known of the Final Solution.

Levy had argued during the trial that Papon knew the deportees would be led to their deaths, even if he did not know the full dimensions of the Nazi genocide.

After 19 hours of deliberation, a jury in this southwestern French city convicted Maurice Papon of complicity in crimes against humanity and sentenced the former Vichy official to 10 years in prison.

Indeed, Papon had admitted during the trial that children taken out of hiding and deported from Bordeaux during the war would meet a "cruel fate."

At the postwar Nuremberg Trials, where the definition of crimes against humanity was established, the judges said the mere knowledge that Jews were going to their deaths established the guilt of those involved in the deportations.

Nearly all of the Jews deported from Bordeaux died in the Auschwitz gas chambers.

For his part, Papon, who was hospitalized several times during the course of the trial, showed no emotion when the verdict was read.

In a final statement to the jury, Papon had expressed defiance and anger, saying, "The accusations are false and this trial is a fake."

Relatives of some of the victims gasped when the verdict was read out and they heard that Papon had been absolved of the deportees' deaths.

But some expressed relief that Papon had at least been found guilty and sentenced to 10 years.

"For a man of such standing, a man with such a high idea of himself, you can't say this is nothing," said Michel Slitinsky, a plaintiff in the case who brought the first charges against Papon in 1981 and whose father was among those rounded up by Papon's police.

While many believed the sentence should have been greater, the symbolism of the verdict was important.

"The symbolic conviction shows the French people consider the Vichy government and its civil servants to be fully responsible for the deportation of France's Jews," said CRIF, the French Jewish group.

The Simon Wiesenthal Center in Israel expressed the view of many when it said, "This conviction reinforces the important principle that there can be no statute of limitations on the crimes of the Holocaust."



Israeli Discovery

An archaeological team from Hebrew University of Jerusalem recently discovered Israel's oldest synagogue. The structure built more than 2,000 years ago was part of the Hasmonean complex 1.5 miles southwest of Jericho. One of its most interesting features is a u-shaped bench which was used for ceremonial meals. This photo shows workers seated on that bench.

Photo courtesy of R. C. Auletta and Company, Inc.

Day By Day In Jewish History

Nisan 20

- Pharaoh and his pursuing army caught up with the Jews encamped at Pihahiroth by the sea (Exod. 14:5; Rashi).
- The first Jewish settlers arrived in Amsterdam, Holland, on April 22, 1593.
- The first issue of the *Jewish Daily Forward*, a daily Yiddish newspaper, was published on April 2, 1897.
- Tel Aviv, Palestine, was founded on April 11, 1909.

Nisan 21

- Jacob left Laban's home to return to Palestine (Gen. 31:17; Book of Jubilees). The inclusion of Laban's persecution of Jacob in the Haggadah is based on Deut. 26:5. This verse links the Laban episode with Jacob's trip to Egypt (according to midrashic interpretation). The tradition which assigns the same date to the flight from Laban's home and the flight across the Red Sea may have grown out of this association.
- Pharaoh's decree against Jewish male infants was canceled on Nisan 21 (Sotah 12b).
- Jews crossed the Red Sea (Exod. 14:22; Sotah 12b).
- Moses and the people of Israel sang the "Shirah" (Sotah 12b).
- King Philip the Bold of France, on April 19, 1283, issued a decree prohibiting the repair of synagogues and the possession of the Talmud.

Nisan 22

- Isaac was circumcised (Rosh Ha-Shanah 10b).
- Joshua began his march around Jericho (Seder Olam 11).

Nisan 23

- The Biltmore Program, calling for an independent

Jewish state in Palestine, was adopted by Zionists on April 10, 1942.

Nisan 24

- The Jews paused at Marah after their crossing of the Red Sea (Exod. 15:23). It was at Marah that the Jews paused on their first Sabbath in the desert (Shabbat 87b). According to the Talmud, Moses received preliminary instruction in this place, pertaining to a number of religious laws, in anticipation of the giving of the Torah on Mt. Sinai. Jews were enjoined for the first time to observe the seven Noahite laws, to honor their parents, and to rest on the Sabbath (Sanhedrin 56b). A talmudic passage in Shabbat (118b), however, implies that the Sabbath laws dated from their arrival in the "wilderness of Sin" on Iyar 15.
- The cornerstone of the Haifa Technion was laid on April 11, 1912.

Nisan 25

- The first Jewish American national organization of women, the United Order of True Sisters, was organized on April 21, 1846.
- King Christian X of Denmark, on April 21, 1933, attended the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Crystal Synagogue in

Copenhagen to demonstrate his sympathy for the Jews.

- The trial of Adolph Eichmann on charges of genocide opened in Jerusalem on April 11, 1961.
- ### Nisan 26
- Death of Joshua (Megillat Ta'anit 1). The traditional *yahrzeit* of Joshua precedes by two days the traditional anniversary of his first military victory in Palestine (Nisan 28).
 - Abraham Nuñez Bernal was burned at the stake by the Inquisition of Cordova on May 3, 1655.
 - Rabbi Ephraim Navon of Constantinople, author of *Mahaneh Ephraim*, a book of responsa, died on April 18, 1735.
 - Israeli postal service was established on May 5, 1948.

Nisan 27

- Adula of Tunis, who was forced into baptism, committed suicide in Rome on May 2, 1666, as the rites of conversion were about to begin (JE).
- Designated Holocaust Day (Yom HaShoah) in commemoration of the martyred 6 million Jews and the fighters of the ghettos, by a resolution of the Knesset on April 12, 1951.

Compiled from Day by Day in Jewish History, Bloch, 1983, KTAV Publishing House.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Julia Child Comes to Providence Library

"Bon Appetite" will be the words of the day when Julia Child, America's favorite cook, sweeps into town on May 1, with some of her very best chef/friends for a culinary benefit for the Providence Public Library. Called "A Conversation with Julia and Friends," the evening, to be held at Veterans Memorial Auditorium, will include an intimate conversation with friends Molly O'Neill, Anne Willan, Jasper White, Nancy Verde Barr and Johanne Killeen and George Germon. All are prolific chefs, authors and gifted teachers in the international culinary world and are quite passionate about food.

Master of ceremonies will be NBC-10 Jim Taricani. Preceding the conversation, which begins promptly at 8 p.m., a wonderful marketplace filled with autographed cookbooks, chef aprons, trivets, bookbags and more will be available for pur-

chase. Because the evening offers lots of interactive participation by the audience, a contest has been designed to offer Rhode Islanders an opportunity to ask our culinary luminaries questions. Donna Lee, the food columnist for the *Providence Journal*, will select the grand winner



Julia Child

who will then accompany Lee to the event and open the Q&A portion with the first question of the evening. For details about the question contest, turn to the pages of the *Providence Journal*. Deadline for entries will be April 24.

Tickets for the evening are \$25 and \$15 and are available at Telecharge (800) 233-3123, or at Veterans Box Office at 272-4862. Patron level tickets cost \$130/pp include the conversation, and a gala champagne reception immediately following, are available only at the library (455-8003 or 455-8055). For a \$500 angel ticket, in addition to the conversation and reception, you will also be invited to a private May breakfast at Al Forno the following morning at 10 a.m. (seating is limited to 40). These angel tickets are also available by calling the library's development office at 455-8003 or 455-8055.

Taste of the Nation Visits Providence

Mark your calendar — May 6 at the Rhode Island Convention Center — and join us for Share Our Strength's 11th annual "Taste of the Nation." This wonderful event will feature great food and beverages from the best restaurants and wineries in our region, along with music, dancing, and celebrity appearances. Celebrity hosts will be Frank Carpano from Channel 10, and Jodi Applegate from the NBC Today Show.

Proceeds from ticket sales will benefit the Rhode Island Community Food Bank, Amos House, The Wiley Center, and international hunger relief organizations. Here is an opportunity to enjoy a fun night out, while helping to support these important hunger-fighting efforts.

Share Our Strength is the nation's largest funding source for hunger relief organizations, and their total contribution to Rhode Island over the last 10 years exceeds \$625,000. The Taste of the Nation event takes place in about 100 cities throughout the United States and Canada each spring, and to date,

has raised more than \$22 million to help hungry people.

Nearly 100 restaurants will be on hand with their helpful staff members, to serve up their very best culinary delights. Wine and beer enthusiasts can taste some of the finest beverages our region has to offer. Will your favorite restaurant be at this year's Taste of the Nation? Probably — plus, you can sample the wares from many, many more. This year's event has exceeded all expectations for participation and promises to be the biggest and best yet.

Also, this year, don't miss the second annual Chantilly Race on May 17 at Waterplace Park. Watch this fun boat race on the river in downtown Providence, featuring the great chefs of Rhode Island. While the boats are fighting for supremacy on the waterways, the chefs will be whipping cream. Proceeds will benefit the Hunger Free State Initiative.

Tickets for the Taste of the Nation will be \$40 for general admission, and \$100 for patron, and can be purchased by calling 431-0080.

'Chicago' Comes to PPAC

The Providence cast of "Chicago," the drop-dead Broadway musical, was recently announced. Alan Thicke has been signed to play the role of Billy Flynn, Belle Calaway will play Roxie Hart, Stephanie Pope will play Velma Kelly, and Michael Tucci will portray Amos Hart. "Chicago" will be performed at the Providence Performing Arts Center from April 28 through May 3. Tickets are on sale now and may be reserved by calling the box office at 421-ARTS; tick-

ets are also on sale through Ticketmaster.

"Chicago" is the story of Roxie Hart, a chorus girl who becomes famous when she murders her lover, invents her defense, and manipulates the media to become a major celebrity. Her media-savvy lawyer, Billy Flynn, played by Alan Thicke, creates a "razzle dazzle" trial that helps make Roxie, played by Belle Calaway, a star. She teams up with fellow murderess Velma Kelly, played by

Stephanie Pope, to become a singing sensation.

"Chicago" recently won the 1998 Grammy Award for Best Musical Show Album.

Winner of six 1997 Tony Awards, "Chicago" opened on Broadway on Nov. 14, 1996, to rave reviews, and was named "1996 Best Musical Revival" from the Tony Awards, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle and New York Drama Critics Association.

For information about "Chicago," visit their website at <<http://www.chicagothemusical.com>>.

'Flights of Fancy' Auctions

The Chorus of Westerly's annual auction extravaganzas — this year entitled "Flights of Fancy" — are coming your way: three days of live and silent auctions, gourmet meals and live music. The first auction, Destination Morocco, includes dinner, and will take place on April 18. Tickets are \$25 and doors open at 5 p.m. The second auction, Greek Idyll, is scheduled for April 22, and includes lunch. Tickets are \$15 and doors open at 11 a.m. The third and final dinner auction, España, will take place on April 25.

Tickets are \$15 and doors open at 5 p.m.

The silent and live auctions offer a cache of treasures gathered from friends, family and local merchants. Guests will find vacation getaways, antique treasures, works of art, household items of all kinds from the practical to the sublime, children's toys, gift certificates from local vendors, tickets and memberships to theaters and museums, certificates for services ranging from champagne breakfasts to oil changes for your car. Donations and contributions are welcome and transportation for items is available.

The Chorus of Westerly is a not-for-profit organization, and all donations will be acknowledged. Proceeds from the auctions support the chorus's annual concert season which includes two classical concerts.

For donation pickup, more information, or tickets, call the chorus office at 596-8663.

RISD Offers Culinary Classes

Spring into Rhode Island School of Design's division of continuing education culinary classes this April and enter a world of creativity.

Join Chef Steve Marsella on April 27, from 7 to 10 p.m., for a sampling of the dishes that have earned him and the Gatehouse Restaurant outstanding reputations. Marsella's remarkable cooking has gained the restaurant a four-star rating from *Rhode Island Monthly* magazine. Tuition for this class is \$65 per person.

In addition to Marsella's class, RISD is offering "Bed and Breakfast Brunch Treats for Mother's Day" on April 28, from 7 to 10 p.m. Martha Murphy, author of *The Bed and Breakfast Cookbook* and proprietor of Murphy's Bed and Breakfast, will share ideas for a special brunch to serve on Mother's Day. Murphy, who makes planning brunch a breeze, will offer tips on menu planning, teach ways to make "master mixes," and show how to whip up delicious scones and other baked goods. The tuition for this class is \$55 per person.

Anyone interested in participating in either of these classes, should call RISD's division of continuing education at 454-6200.

R.I.'s Ballet Theatre Holds Auditions

Rhode Island's ballet theatre, a classical ballet performing dance company, will hold its Spring '98 audition on May 3.

The company, which is comprised of the region's most talented amateur dancers, auditions new dancers twice a year in a juried competition. Seven judges evaluate each dancer in a two-hour trial demonstrating the dancer's ballet talent, artistic ability, and stage presence.

Auditions for the company are open to all classically trained dancers. If accepted, company members are required to attend RIBT company class each week in addition to training at their respective ballet schools a minimum of two hours a week for technique and one hour a week for pointe.

Company members range in age from 10 to 33 years of age. There is no age limit for senior dancers, but younger dancers must be at least 9 years old.

"We're looking for classically trained dancers who want to perform," said Nancy McAuliffe, artistic director. "Last year, the company performed about a dozen times and is the most active performance company in the region."

Rhode Island's ballet theatre produces its own shows each year in addition to appearing as guest artist in other productions.

Reservations are required for RIBT auditions. Interested dancers should call 847-5301 for reservations and information package. It is recommended that reservations be made at least one week in advance.

AMC Offers Workshops

The Appalachian Mountain Club recently released its extensive catalog of outdoor skills workshops to be offered throughout the Northeast this spring, summer and fall.

The catalog includes descriptions of more than 250 workshops the club is offering for the public in such skills as backpacking and camping, wilderness first aid, and canoeing. Natural history courses on such topics as animal tracking and wild mushroom hunting are also offered. The catalog also lists a schedule of guided hut-to-hut hikes in New Hampshire's White Mountains.

Workshops and courses are offered at AMC facilities in the White Mountains, Mt. Cardigan in New Hampshire, the Berkshires of Massachusetts, the Catskills of New York, Acadia National Park in Maine and the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area.

Workshops run from one day to five days. For multi-day programs, lodging is available at AMC-managed facilities.

To get in on the fun and excitement of outdoor recreation, request your free copy of the AMC Programs Catalog by calling (603) 466-2721, ext. 193. Or, write: Appalachian Mountain Club, Attn: Tammy Steeves, P.O. Box 298, Gorham, N.H. 03581.

The Appalachian Mountain Club, with more than 76,000 members in the Northeast and beyond, promotes natural resource conservation while encouraging responsible recreation, based on the philosophy that successful, long-term conservation depends upon first-hand enjoyment of the natural environment.

The AMC is a non-profit public service organization whose programs and facilities are open to members and non-members alike.

You can visit the AMC's home page on the World Wide Web at <www.outdoors.org>.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



One Flea Spare

by Yehudah Biss
Herald Editor

Ever been locked up for days in a small house with only three others? This is the question "One Flea Spare" asks its audience, as Naomi Wallace (writer) and Rebecca Patterson (director) bring to life the death and morbidity of London life in the late 1600s when plague ravaged the land. It is in this pressure cooker of a house, time bomb of an era, that we find people being themselves, an uninhibited, passionate, fearful people. Victorian mores fall with the rise of deaths, the rich share space with the poor, the young with the old. This is brought out by the characters. The entire play is done from the perspective of those inside the Snelgrave house.

Morse (Elizabeth Ricardo), starts us off with a touching monologue about how she ended up at this house. Soon another uninvited guest makes his way into the Snelgrave's, Bunce (Michael A. Cappelli). A sailor with a bad bruise, at first befriend his host, he finds himself at odds with his master, Mr. William Snelgrave (Richard Noble). He cozies up to Mrs. Darcy Snelgrave (Paula J. Caplan); so much so, that he arouses Mr. Snelgrave's suspicions, who spars with Bunce first by taunting him, then by whacking him with his cane. Eventually, Bunce revolts and ties his host to a chair and enjoys the rest of his time with Mrs. Snelgrave.

What sticks out about this tale of amore and death are the intricate relationships that are woven. Snelgrave gradually changes from a reluctantly hospitable host (as anyone who'd venture into the streets would surely catch the plague, with open sewers and all) to a deplorably controlling, snobbish Victorian patriarch. It seems the constant pressure of cabin fever has brought out the worst in Snelgrave. He taunts Bunce about his time at sea, threatens his wife when told of her involvement with Bunce, and reveals his secret hatred toward his wife, which he has kept inside all these years. When he is tied up and eventually dies (of boredom I presume), one feels it

is warranted. He was just lucky enough to outlast the plague, only to die of his own afflictions (maybe it was the psychological trauma of seeing his life and his home commandeered by a common sailor, Bunce). What was redeeming about this character was his portrayal at the beginning of the play. Richard Noble stole many scenes with his witty dialogue and sharp British accent. He used tone to stress his

character, as he was the only one of the group who had the experience of spending months, even years at a time on the ocean. The solitude of the sea prepared him for the instability of London life during the plague.

If you do go to see this play, you will be pleasantly tickled by the town crier, Kabe (Joshua Allen). From his selling of "special plague water" to his constant badgering of the



Michael Capelli (left) and Paula Caplan in "One Flea Spare."

Photo by Gary Potvin

words and his timing was impeccable. I haven't seen that many actors do Englishmen as well as Noble.

Bunce plays a major portion of the play with puppy-dog eyes. I'm not sure why, as the character needed someone strong enough to stand up to his controlling host, yet sensual enough to convince us he was sensitive to Mrs. Snelgrave's plight. What his character provided for the play was stability. Of the other characters, only Bunce seemed to stay in touch with his humanity and sanity. That fits well with

Snelgraves, he steals some scenes and acts as the force that brings lightheartedness to the production. A production worthy of seeing, at least for those who can appreciate what it's like to be trapped between a rock and a hard place.

'Thumbelina' Takes a Bow

The All Children's Theatre Ensemble will present "The Not-So-Tiny Adventures of Thumbelina," an audience participation fairy tale, April 18, 25, and May 2 at 10:30 a.m. at the Vartan Gregorian School Theatre, 455 Wickenden St., Providence. Tickets are \$4 for children and \$6 for adults. The production is recommended for children ages 3 to 12.

In this adaptation of Thumbelina, the audience helps our tiny yet determined heroine save Prince Florin from Queen Beatrice, the villainous enemy of the fairy kingdom. The production, written and directed by ACT apprentice Julie Rattey, age 17, is brought to life with fanciful and vibrant characters such as the rhyming and dancing ants, the endearing Miss Ladybug, and the beautiful Butterfly Princess. Celebrate the arrival of spring and enter a world of magic, fairies, and of course, happy endings.

For reservations or more information, call 331-7174 or e-mail us at <ACTinProv@aol.com>.

Roger Williams Park Zoo Events

Now through April 24 — Name the Baby Bear Contest. Winner receives a \$100 savings bond from Fleet and a Roger Williams Park Zoo family membership for a year. Fifty lucky entrants will also be randomly selected to celebrate Mother's Day weekend at the zoo on May 9. Enter at any Fleet Bank branch location or drop your entry at the zoo.

April 26 — Conservation Day. The zoo's one-day celebration of its yearlong mission — teaching about our environment and importance of all the creatures that inhabit our world. An Earth Day event for all ages.

May 2 — City Science Day. An environmental expo co-sponsored by the Environmental Protection Agency. Science is fun when real-life EPA scientists give hands-on demonstrations involving water quality, toxic clean-up, and pollution.

May 9 — Mother's Day Celebration. Come celebrate Mother's Day with the zoo's new polar bear mom, Trixie and her cub. All moms will receive a special Mother's Day surprise! Celebration will also feature the unveiling of the winning entry from the zoo's Name The Baby Bear Contest.

June 6 — Grand opening of new bat exhibit. Official celebration welcoming the zoo's new residents — Fleet Mysteries of the Night — a fun, educational, interactive bat extravaganza!

June 27 — Zoobilee '98, Feasts With The Beasts. Annual fundraiser for the Rhode Island Zoological Society. Guests roam the zoo while sampling Rhode Island's best caterers and restaurants. Dancing and silent auction.

July 12, 19, 26 — NBC10 Family Days. Listen to a well-told tale and take a "seat-of-your-pants" safari with a children's storyteller as your guide to the world of wild animals.

Sept. 26 — Teddy Bear Rally. Bring your teddy bears for repairs and TLC. Storytelling, crafts and contest for kids throughout the day.

Oct. 24 and 25 — Spooky Zoo Halloween. Two days of spook-tacular activities for children. A safe alternative to trick-or-treating.

Nov. 21 — Thanksgiving for the Animals. Help the zoo feed its wild, free-roaming animals by bringing an edible ornament to hang in the zoo for all the birds and bunnies.

For more information, call 785-3510.

'Spoon River Anthology'

In a series of dramatic poems by Edgar Lee Masters, the dead in an Illinois graveyard relay, in haunting tones, the stories of their lives. This American classic, adapted and arranged for the stage by Charles Aidman, is both original and provocative. Masters weaves a tale of partial reality providing us with a window into the life experiences of a Midwestern town during the early part of this century.

"Spoon River Anthology" will be performed April 23 through the 26 at the Blackfriars Theatre of Providence College. Curtain time is 8 p.m. on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and 2 p.m. for the Sunday matinee. Tickets will go on sale at the box office on April 14. The Blackfriars Theatre box office is located on the first floor of Harkins Hall on the Providence College campus. The box office is open Monday to Friday 1 to 5 p.m., and one hour prior to performances. Ticket prices are \$7 regular admission, \$5 senior citizen and PC faculty/staff, and \$3 for all students. Tickets may also be reserved by calling 865-2218 after April 14. To receive information concerning advance mail order purchases, or to be placed on the Blackfriars Theatre mailing list, call 865-2084.

'For Sentimental Reasons' Debuts New Show at Stadium Theatre

"For Sentimental Reasons" will debut their all new show entitled "In the Mood" at the Stadium Theatre in Woonsocket, R.I., on April 25. The new show features all new songs, new faces, jingles and nostalgic commercials. The show's setting is a "live" radio show being broadcast over Armed Services Radio, circa 1944. Glen Miller's "In The Mood" and "Opus One" will be featured along with "Glow Worm," "Lili Marlene," "Accentuate the Positive," "Sing, Sing, Sing" and other popular songs of the war era. As in the other "For Sentimental Reasons" shows, audiences can count on "celebrity guest appearances" by The Andrew Sisters, Betty Grable and Bing Crosby.

"For Sentimental Reasons"

has performed to capacity crowds at the Stadium Theatre in December and last spring. Director Greg Greet put together this new show especially for the Stadium audience, incorporating requests and suggestions of theatergoers.

In December the group released their first cassette tape, "For Sentimental Reasons — LIVE." Copies of the tape will be on sale at the Stadium Theatre.

Tickets to the April 25 performance are \$15 and are available by calling the theater at 762-4545 or 762-4004. Curtain is at 8 p.m. The Stadium Theatre Performing Arts Centre is located at One Monument Square in Woonsocket, R.I. Proceeds from this concert will benefit the theater restoration.



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Coffee or Tea/Chocolate Truffle Mousse Cake

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OBITUARIES

NATHALIE P. AGRONICK
RANCHO PALOS VERDE, Calif. — Nathalie P. Agronick, 92, of Rancho Palos Verde, Calif., formerly of Fall River, a former elementary school teacher in the Seekonk School Department, died April 11 at home. She was the wife of the late Benjamin Agronick.

Born in Fall River, a daughter of the late Max and Rose (Horowitz) Popkin, she had lived in Providence before moving to California 15 years ago.

She and her husband had been associated with Bene & Co., a stationery store in downtown Providence, retiring in 1955.

She was a graduate of Bridgewater (Mass.) State College. She was a member of B'nai B'rith, Hadassah and the Jewish Home for the Aged. She had been a former member of Temple Beth-El and its Sisterhood.

She leaves a son, Jordan Agronick of Warwick, and a daughter, Paula Reuben of Rancho Palos Verde. She was a sister of the late Florence Sokol.

A graveside service was held April 15 in Temple Beth-El Cemetery, Reservoir Avenue, Providence. The family was assisted with arrangements by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

ANNA G. CUDISH

NEW BEDFORD — Anna G. Cudish, 86, of New Bedford, died April 6 at Taber Street Nursing Home. She was the widow of Reuben Cudish and daughter

of the late Charles and Bertha (Hurwitz) Rodney.

Born in Russia, she lived in the New Bedford area since 1946. Previously, she lived in Boston.

She was a member of Ahavath Achim Synagogue and was past president of its Sisterhood. She was a member of Hadassah, the Jewish Federation of Greater New Bedford and the Council of Jewish Women.

She is survived by a son, Bruce Cudish of Papillion, Neb.; two stepsons, Bennett Cudish of Las Vegas and Lawrence Cudish of Lakewood, Calif.; a stepdaughter, Sheila Silva of New Orleans; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. She was the sister of the late David Rodney, Curly Rodney, Al Rodney and Ida Marget.

Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

MYLES DWORKIS

PROVIDENCE — Myles Dworkis, 89, of 1 Regency Plaza, a production worker for 15 years for Sealol in Cranston, before retiring, died April 10 at home. He was the husband of Freda (Wexler) Dworkis.

Born in Salem, Mass., a son of the late Carl and Lena (Kaplan) Dworkis, he lived in Providence most of his life.

He was a member of the Jewish Home for the Aged and the South Providence Hebrew Free Loan Association.

Besides his wife, he leaves a

daughter, Phyllis Rabb of Boca Raton, Fla.; a son, Leonard Dworkis of Orlando, Fla., four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He was the grandfather of the late Michelle Rabb.

A graveside service was held April 13 in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. The service was coordinated by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

CYRUS S. GILSTEIN

PROVIDENCE — Cyrus S. Gilstein, 82, of the Village at Elmhurst in Providence, formerly of Cranston, co-founder and co-owner, along with his two brothers, of the former Gil's Hardware in Providence from 1943 until 1976, died April 10 at Roger Williams Medical Center. He was the husband of Edna (Richmond) Gilstein.

Born in Providence, a son of the late Aaron and Rose (Stoneberg) Gilstein, he lived in Providence for a year, previously living in Cranston for 30 years.

He was an Army veteran of World War II, serving with the rank of second lieutenant. He was the recipient of the Purple Heart, and a member of the Jewish War Veterans of America. He was a president of the AARP in Cranston, the Smith Hill Businessmen's Association, and the Gilstein Family Circle.

Besides his wife, he leaves two sons, Robert Gilstein of Dartmouth, Mass., and David Gilstein of Charlestown; two sis-

ters, Doris Reffkin and Evelyn Weinberg, both of Providence; two brothers, William Gilstein of Providence, and Benjamin Gilstein of Cranston; and two granddaughters. He was the brother of the late Al Gilstein.

The funeral service was held April 14 in Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

RHODA KLEIN

NEWPORT — Rhoda Klein, 64, of 25 Buck Road, Middletown, a bookkeeper for the former State Lingerie Co., New York City, retiring six years ago, died April 7 at Newport Hospital. She was the wife of the late Ivan Klein.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., a daughter of the late Eugene and Fay (Jacobs) Waterman, she moved to Middletown four years ago.

She leaves a sister, Beverly Kramer of Bristol.

The funeral was held April 9 at the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Wellwood Cemetery, Pinelawn, N.Y.

ROSA MAGIDIN

PROVIDENCE — Rosa Magidin, 74, of 39 Eighth St., died April 8 in the Rosewood Manor Nursing Home. She was the wife of the late Mothey Magidin.

Born in Russia, a daughter of the late Yakov and Sara Aksanov, she had lived in Russia before she moved to Providence eight years ago.

She leaves two sons, Anatoly Magidin of Providence and Yaqqov Magidin of Pawtucket; a sister, Maya Aksanova of Pawtucket; and four grandchildren.

The funeral was held April 9 in Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence. Burial was in Sons of Israel and David Cemetery, Reservoir Avenue, Cranston. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

IRENE PAULL

HOLLYWOOD, Fla. — Irene Paull, 92, of 3800 South Ocean Drive, Hollywood, Fla., died April 8 at home. She was the wife of the late William Paull.

Born in New York City, the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Goldman, she had lived in Florida for the past 25 years, previously living in Monroe, N.Y., where she was a long-

time volunteer for the Monroe Ambulance Corps.

She leaves a half-sister, Alice Selitsky of New York City and a niece, Libby Byrnes of Hollywood, Fla., formerly of Warwick.

A private graveside funeral service and burial were held on April 9. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

LEAH SNEGG

PROVIDENCE — Leah Snegg, 84, of Riverfarm Road, Cranston, died April 8 at the Philip Hulitar Inpatient Center, Providence. She was the wife of Samuel Snegg.

Born in Providence, she was a daughter of the late Samuel and Clara (Zissman) Zucker. She had been a resident of Cranston for the last 37 years, previously living in Worcester and Providence.

She was a member of Temple Torat Yisrael and had been a member of the Women's Associations of the Jewish Home for the Aged and of Temple Beth Am.

Besides her husband, she leaves two daughters, Susan Bryant of Barrington and Ruth Fine of Kildeer, Ill.; a brother, Morris Zucker of Wollaston, Mass.; and three grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Ann Levenson.

The funeral procession was held April 10 from Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Graveside service was at Sharon Memorial Park, Sharon, Mass.

MAE WOLFE

SMITHFIELD — Mae Wolfe, 87, of North Bay Manor, died April 9 at home. She was the wife of the late Irving Wolfe.

Born in New York City, a daughter of the late Joseph and Mamie (Dropkin) Frumkin, she previously lived in Florida, moving to Rhode Island last year.

She leaves two sons, Alan G. Wolfe of Seekonk, and Charles W. Wolfe of Flushing, N.Y.; a brother, Max Frumkin in Florida; a sister, Faye Gutfleish in Florida; and six grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Anna Kleinberg.

A graveside funeral service was held April 13 at Beth David Cemetery, Elmont, N.Y. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

Bella Abzug Wasn't The First; Jewish Woman Won in 1925

by Rebecca Segall

NEW YORK (JTA) — When Bella Abzug died last month, pundits and journalists alike agreed that the prominent feminist was the first Jewish congresswoman elected to office.

But a self-described "political history junkie" from Capitol Hill was dubious.

Ira Forman, executive director of the National Jewish Democratic Council, consulted his library. He found *Women in Congress: 1917-1990* and began researching congresswomen with Jewish-sounding names.

He contacted the library at the House of Representatives, and was ultimately led to the

University of California at Berkeley's Western Jewish History Center, located in the Judah L. Magnes Memorial Library.

There he confirmed that one of those Jewish-sounding names — Florence Prag Kahn — was indeed a Jew.

Kahn — a Republican — was elected to Congress in 1925 to succeed her husband, who had died in office.

She was subsequently re-elected six times to represent California's 4th Congressional District, until she was defeated in 1936.

"I don't want to take credit away from Bella's remarkable (Continued on Page 19)

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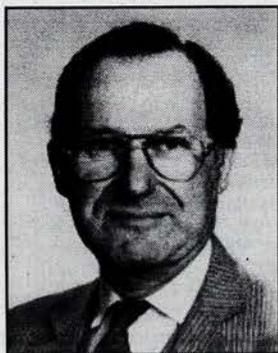
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Jewish Split Over Policies

(Continued from Front Page)

The proposal makes the phased withdrawals contingent on concurrent Palestinian steps to crack down on terrorism.

AIPAC's effort followed intense lobbying on the part of the Israeli government to enlist U.S. Jewish support to thwart any U.S. pressure.

At least six senior Capitol Hill staffers, both Jewish and non-Jewish, lamented what several termed the "disgusting" lobbying display over the U.S. role in the peace process.

"It's OK to have a difference of opinion in the Jewish community," said one Jewish staffer.

"But the competing letters have taken our internal politics and made them public," said this aide, who urged his boss to sign the AIPAC-endorsed letter but then complained about it privately.

This can only result in "a less effective pro-Israel strategy," said another aide who is sympathetic to the position of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

AIPAC, the pro-Israel lobby, had sent out three action alerts, including one on March 26 that urged Jewish activists to line up congressional support for the Mack-Lieberman letter.

In a move that angered some in the State Department, the alert quoted Martin Indyk, a former AIPAC official who now serves as U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs. In June 1988, Indyk said he opposed U.S. pressure on Israel because "it provides an incentive for Israel's adversaries to wait for the United States to deliver Israel."

For its part, the Mack-Lieberman letter said, "It would be a serious mistake for the United States to change from its traditional role as facilitator of the peace process to using public pressure against Israel" particularly because "Israel has kept the promises it made at Oslo" and because Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat "himself repeatedly threatens renewal of widespread violence

and continues to withhold full security cooperation with Israel."

The Israel Policy Forum, an organization founded to support the peace policies begun by Israel's former Labor government, directly challenged AIPAC on Capitol Hill by lobbying members to sign a different letter more supportive of the Clinton administration.

Sponsored by Rep. Sam Gejdenson (D-Conn.) and signed by 33 members of the House, including 15 Jewish representatives, the letter says, "American leadership in the peace process could once again prove decisive. That's why we support your current effort."

"It would be one of the great failures of American Jewry in our time" if the peace process collapsed "in part due to the administration backing away out of fear of political retribution from our community," said Tom Smerling, IPF's Washington representative.

For its part, AIPAC said its efforts represented the consensus position in the Jewish community.

But many on Capitol Hill and in the Jewish community do not support AIPAC's claim that "U.S. pressure is far from imaginary."

In fact, Sen. Carl Levin (D-Mich) was so angered by the critical tone of the Mack-Lieberman letter that he scribbled his own letter recently on the back of an envelope while on the Senate floor.

Albright answered Levin's letter within 24 hours.

"The administration remains determined to pursue those negotiations and to do so privately without public disclosure of details of proposals while we are in the process of exploring them with the parties," Albright wrote.

As for withdrawing from the process, if no progress is made, Albright wrote, "we would have to make a judgment about how to proceed."

JNF Launches Drive to Plant a 'Unity Forest'

by Rebecca Segall

NEW YORK (JTA) — The new vanguard running the Jewish National Fund of America has launched its first major project: the establishment of a "Unity Forest" in Israel.

So far, 45 synagogues in the New York area, representing the three major streams of Judaism, have joined together to celebrate the Jewish state's 50th anniversary.

Beginning next month, the JNF will expand the enterprise to Los Angeles, Chicago, and eventually, the entire country, according to Russell Robinson, executive vice president of the JNF.

Each participating synagogue has committed \$5,000 to plant 1,000 trees apiece in Israel's Negev Desert.

A fresh and excited JNF staff — the newest member came on board — and 50 rabbis gathered recently at the home of Ambassador Shmuel Sisso, Israel's consul general in New York, to celebrate the event.

The ambassador said the

main goal of the forest is to build a symbol of Jewish unity in the face of the religious pluralism crisis in Israel.

When people ask, he said, "We will tell them that these trees were not planted by Reform, Conservative or Orthodox Jews."

"The new forest was planted by all of the Jewish people, for the benefit of every member of our diverse family."

After being hurt by disclosures of fiscal mismanagement a few years ago, JNF hired a new staff, as part of a broad plan designed to restore confidence in the non-profit charitable organization known best for planting trees in Israel.

"The JNF had grown tremendously over the years, and its systems had not adapted to its size. The organization had to take an internal look at itself," said Robinson, who was wooed from the upper echelons of the United Jewish Appeal in July by JNF's new president, high-profile philanthropist and cosmetics heir Ronald Lauder.

The probe was triggered in the spring of 1995 after two Houston-based volunteer leaders of the JNF began raising questions about what they perceived as discrepancies in JNF's enterprise.

Indeed, donors were infuriated when it was exposed that a surprisingly small portion of the millions raised annually by the charity for land reclamation in Israel actually gets there. Most stayed in the United States for Zionist education and promotion of the JNF enterprise.

"Now, the JNF is owned by the lay leadership," said Robinson. "Now you have a group of lay leaders who have a stake in the organization."

Joseph II

(Continued from Page 4)

After Joseph's death in 1790, the emancipation process would be derailed in the Habsburg realm. His brother, Leopold II, maintained these rights, but he only reigned for two years.

But emancipation would be put back on track with the revolutions of the 19th century, beginning with Napoleon who spread the ideas of the French Revolution on his march on Europe. The congress of Vienna tried to turn the clocks back, but could not do so for long. Central European Jewry was gaining ground until another Austrian decided to wipe Jews from the face of Europe in the 20th century.

Bella Abzug

(Continued from Page 18)

career and her contribution to history," Forman said, noting that Abzug, was the first woman elected in her own right without succeeding her husband.

"But," he added, "there is a very rich and wonderful story about Jewish participation in American politics which is often overlooked."

Forman said he became skeptical of a recent news reports for two reasons: Even in times of deep-seated anti-Semitism, there has been significant Jewish participation in politics; and many women were elected to Congress in the 1920s, 1930s and 1940s.

"It is important to remember the pioneers — even if they were Republicans," he added.

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Rhode Island Celebrates Spring With May Breakfasts

One of Rhode Island's premiere food festivals is a series of May breakfasts held throughout the Ocean State during the last weekend of April through the month of May. For Rhode Islanders, May breakfasts have become a customary rite of spring. This year, an estimated 25,000 residents and visitors will enjoy breakfast at one of 36 places in 21 communities. Each menu offers bountiful breakfast fare and generally includes the traditional Rhode Island jonnycake.

May breakfasts originated at the Oak Lawn Community Baptist Church in Cranston, R.I., in 1867. On May 1, the church will serve up its traditional breakfast for the 131st time. The original menu will be served by Quaker-costumed hostesses, the custom since its inception at 229 Wilbur Ave. in Oak Lawn, a Cranston village. Originally held as a fund-raiser for the Oak

Lawn Church, the event has since been adopted by church and civic groups throughout the state.

Each year the governor hosts a special May breakfast honoring Rhode Islanders 100 years old and over. On May 1, Gov. Lincoln Almond will continue the tradition by hosting the Centennial Breakfast at Highland Court in Providence.

The jonnycake is derived from an Indian recipe using flint corn, a variety of hard kernel corn that thrives in the fog and salt air of the Ocean State. Early settlers stuffed the small, hard cakes called "jonnycakes," into their pockets or saddlebags for sustenance on long trips. Today, the jonnycake signifies traditional Rhode Island.

Over the years each organization has developed its own customs and traditions. Many groups hold their breakfasts on May 1, Oak Lawn's traditional

date, while others celebrate on May 4, Rhode Island's Independence Day. On May 4, 1776, Rhode Island, the smallest colony, declared its unilateral declaration of independence from British rule, two months before the rest of the colonies. In fact, all of May is Heritage Month in Rhode Island.

From Jamestown on Conanicut Island to Providence, from Newport to Scituate, and from Tiverton to Woonsocket, breakfasters are greeted and served by Colonial-and-Quaker-costumed hostesses, entertained by clowns and served by "Lions" and Rotarians. Locations vary from church, grange and school halls, a bird sanctuary, a volunteer fire station, an air museum, veterans' posts and hospitals. For locations and times, contact Melissa Devine at Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation, 222-2601.

Hope High School Celebrates 1938 Reunion

The Hope High School, Class of 1938's reunion committee has been busy planning their 60th anniversary reunion to be held on May 2 at the Providence Marriott Hotel, from noon to 4:30 p.m. Group and table seating photos will be taken from 12:15 to 1 p.m. A scrumptious luncheon at 1:15 p.m. and a most interesting program has been planned by the committee.

Officers of the 1938 graduating class were former classmates, David Joyce, president; Alexander Glenn, vice president; Dorothy Barber, secretary; Virginia Lyall, treasurer; and

William McGrath, chairman of the class social committee.

The committee consists of Sid Green, David Joyce, Jean Pettee, Lloyd Pinderhughes, Marguerite Genua, and Harold Gerstein and they are looking forward to sharing this nostalgic reunion with approximately 30 to 35 former classmates who have indicated that they will be attending this exciting party.

If there are 1938 former graduates of Hope High School who have not received an invitation to this reunion luncheon and would like to attend, contact Sid Green, 331-0039, for details.



1938 HOPE HIGH SCHOOL reunion committee (from top left) Lloyd Pinderhughes, Sid Green, Harold Gerstein, (seated) Jean Pettee, David Joyce, and Marguerite Genua. Photo courtesy of Sid Green

Publishers, Authors Sought For Convergence XI Arts Festival

The Community Writers Association, a national non-profit organization which creates and supports activities for adults and children, will host its second Writers' World event for the Convergence Arts Festival in June.

To be held at the Westerly Public Library in Westerly on June 14 and at Colt Andrews Elementary School in Bristol on June 21, Writer's World offers the public an opportunity to purchase the literary works of small press publishers, self-published authors and poets. Author book signings, book sales, poetry readings and self-publishing seminars are planned, as well as free drawings to win books, writers' software and Community Writers Association memberships.

Founded in 1994 by writer/editor Eleyne Austen Sharp, Community Writers Association hosts annual writers conferences, "CWA Sunday" at Barnes & Noble, a literary service and the annual CWA National Writing Competition. Members include aspiring and professional journalists, novelists, poets, playwrights, screenwriters, copywriters, editors and travel writers.

Small press publishers and self-published authors of books, magazine and comics are eligible to exhibit and sell their works at Writers' World. Exhibitors will be selected by jury, as space is limited.

Entry deadline is May 15. For an application, send a long, self-

addressed stamped envelope to: Community Writers Association, P.O. Box 12, Newport, R.I. 02840-0001, or view and print an application from the CWA website at <<http://www.communitywriters.org/MEMBERSHIP/writersworld.htm>>.

Volunteer Opportunities at Butler Hospital

Do you have a few hours to share? If you enjoy being with people and feeling needed, consider volunteering. Help out in a busy office with clerical tasks or walk patients to a clinic area. Butler Hospital is seeking a volunteer to help out in the memory clinic on Tuesday afternoons. The patient information/education center receptionist assists in obtaining pamphlets, articles, videos for family members.

A delicious, nutritious lunch is provided for volunteers. TB test and proof of immunizations are required and can be obtained from the lab. For information, contact the volunteer department at 455-6266.

YMCA Holds Annual Women's Wellness Weekend

YMCA Camp Fuller in Wakefield, R.I., is holding its annual Women's Wellness Weekend, May 15 through noon May 17. The Women's Wellness Weekend is designed for women 21 years of age and older who want to get away, have fun, learn something new, make connections with other women, generate friendships, or simply commune with nature in a safe and caring environment.

The Women's Wellness Weekend focuses on three tracts of workshops: the mind, body, and spirit. The weekend, designed and offered by women, is the perfect balance of fun, fitness, and personal development for women needing time away from a hectic work and family

schedule. According to Karen Binder, associate director of YMCA Camp Fuller, "The Wellness Weekend is designed to teach women about preventive health and things they can do at home to keep them healthy and happy. Consider coming to the weekend as a rest stop on the busy highway of life."

The workshops for the weekend include meditation, Tai-Chi, stress reduction, self-defense, drumming, a cruise on Point Judith Pond, climbing, birding, nature walks, yoga, expressive arts workshops, sessions, and much more. Friday evening entertainment will be provided by the Rhode Island Feminist Chorus. Evening campfires, healthy vegetarian and non-vegetarian meals, and a beautiful view of Point Judith Pond are all part of the amenities. The Women's Wellness Weekend, will take place at YMCA Camp Fuller, a 65-acre resident camping facility with dormitory-style cabins located on the shores of Point Judith Pond in south Kingstown, just a 45-minute drive south from Providence. The fee for the weekend, which includes lodging for two nights, six meals, and more than 30 different activities, is only \$175. There is an additional fee of \$25 to schedule a 45-minute massage session by trained, licensed massage therapists. Call YMCA Camp Fuller for a brochure at (800) 521-1470.



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