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Local Teacher Gets a Lesson of Her Own

by Kimberly Ann Orlandi
When it comes to teaching, it takes patience, kindness, caring, and a little imagination. Many teachers become so dependent on a textbook to present classroom material, that students begin to lose interest in what is being taught. In an effort to rejuvenate both herself and her classroom, Cranston West history teacher, Paula Titon, spent three weeks in Poland and Israel studying about the Holocaust and Jewish resistance.

The program, sponsored by the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors, the Jewish Labor Committee and the American Federation of Teachers, took a group of 47 secondary school teachers from all over the United States to places many had only read about in history books or watched documentaries of on television. Educators were chosen from hundreds of applicants. Now in its 14th year, the Summer Fellowship Program already boasts an alumni of 600.

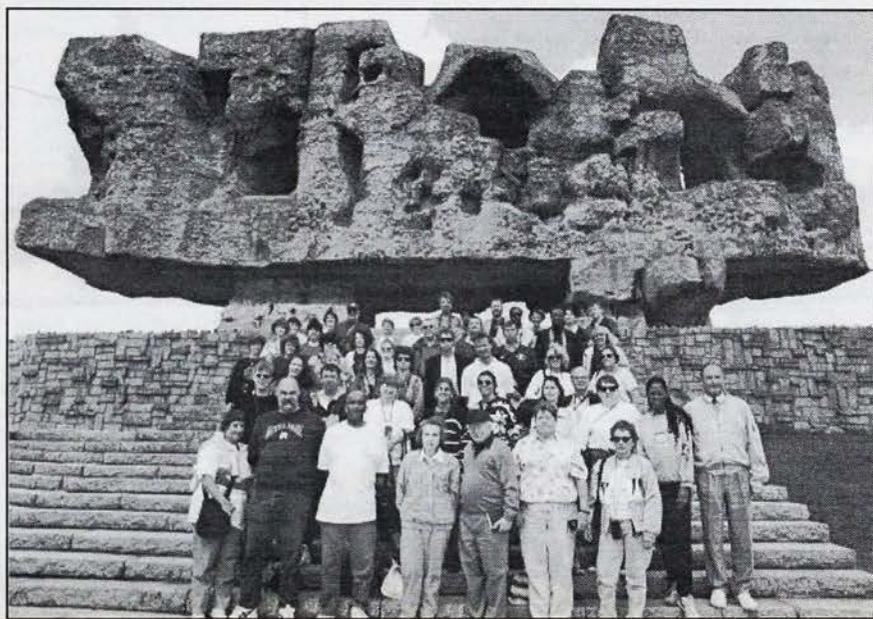
"It was a wonderful experience," said Titon. "One I hope to participate in again."

Educated at Smith College, and Tufts University, Titon always had an interest in study-

ing religious philosophy and ancient cultures long before she went to college. Today, she teaches world and ancient history at Cranston West High School. Titon remembers the first time she actually met a Holocaust survivor as if it were yesterday. It was the summer of 1972 and Titon was attending a summer program for educators in Brookline, Mass., called Basic History and Yourself. She describes the moment as "extremely emotional." Several years later, in 1980, she began teaching a course on the Middle East and from there she was hooked.

"I was very interested in seeing the juxtaposition of modern Israel and the survivors along with the impact of the Holocaust on Israel," said Titon. And her experiences didn't disappoint.

The first place she and her colleagues visited was Poland and the death camps of Auschwitz, Majdanek and Treblinka, as well as sites of the resistance of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. They heard testimony from survivors and witnessed scenes of destruction, places where children played and people walked the streets without trepidation. While in Po-



PARTICIPANTS IN THE SUMMER FELLOWSHIP program stand in front of the entrance to the monument at Majdanek Camp, Poland.
Photo by Paula Titon

land, it rained every day, adding to the bleakness and despair of the camp sites and memorials. According to Titon, she knew what to expect from the camps, and that made the scenes a little easier to comprehend. They were and remain a memorial to innocent men, women, and children killed as a result of man's inability to assimilate other cultures into their own. Many of the other participants, according to Titon,

were physically ill at the murderous site of destruction. While in Poland, the group, led by two survivors of the death camps, Vladka and Ben Meed, met with the American and Israeli ambassadors, who spoke of their joint efforts to bring Poland into the modern world.

The second leg of their journey was in vast contrast to their first. The group arrived in Israel very late at night and had to drive into Jerusalem. Weary and half asleep from her journey, Titon's first glimpse of the Holy Land was one of serenity and hope.

"It was very much like going to the Promised Land because here was the sun coming up and reflecting off of the rosy pink Jerusalem stone," said Titon. According to Titon, it is a law in Jerusalem that all of the building must be constructed out of Jerusalem stone. The last week of the program was spent at the Ghetto Fighters' House, an institution at Kibbutz Lochamei HaGetaot, which was founded by Holocaust survivors.

Even before leaving the United States for Poland, friends questioned why Titon wanted to go on such a "sad and depressing" trip. Divorced six years ago, Titon knew it was time to do something for herself, but, even her therapist had questioned, "Why would you want to go there?"

Simply, Titon looked at it as not only a learning experience but a chance for her to grow and develop as her own person. Before she left, Titon cleared her mind of all preconceived notions and expectations and went on the trip open to all things presented to her. But even with

an open mind, it is impossible not to be surprised at a situation, and for Titon her greatest surprise was realizing how upbeat the atmosphere in both Poland and Israel was.

So much is focused on survival," said Titon, "from the memorials to the people themselves. It wasn't at all depressing."

When asked just how much of her experiences would be incorporated into her class time, she motioned to me to look around at the walls of her classroom. On the walls were posters and charts depicting scenes in Israel and on Judaism.

"Everything," she said with a smile, "every last experience."

Because of her experience, Titon feels as if she can bring much more into her class and thus give much more to her students in terms of tangible education. During the year, she will bring in a video tape of her travels, CD ROMS provided to her by the trip's sponsors and guest speakers including Holocaust survivors. Titon admits that she has always found it a challenge to devise presentations for class that were enthralling, but this, according to Titon, just inspires her to be even more creative.

Titon teaches world and ancient history to ninth- and 10th-graders and says when she begins to speak about religion the students, very often, tune themselves out because they feel that they don't have to know about it if it doesn't readily affect them.

But, for Titon, who isn't trying to convert students but educate them on the values of other cultures, says, "It is impossible to know yourself unless you know yourself through others."

Take a Trip Back in Time to Merry Ol' England

by Kimberly Ann Orlandi
Here Yea, Here Yea...M'Lords and Ladies, your presence is requested by His Grace, King Richard of England, and his wife, Queen Katherine, at the Royal Joust of Sir Donovan, valiant and brave Knight of King Richard. Enjoy wonderful entertainment and mouth watering food fit for a king!

Hidden beneath a canopy of towering pine and maple trees in an 80-acre piece of property in the New England town of Carver, Mass., is a quaint replica of a 16th-century English village complete with its own king and queen. King Richard's Faire has been entertaining young and old alike since 1972 when Richard and Bonnie Shapiro first opened the faire in Chicago. Since her husband's passing, Bonnie has been joined by her daughters, Aimee and Samantha.

According to Bonnie, the first Renaissance Faire took place in Los Angeles and San Francisco. Years later, the faire was moved to Minnesota where Bonnie and

her husband got their first glimpse of this wondrous theatrical performance.

"We took our daughter, Aimee, who was a year old at the time and we just looked at each other and said, 'This is so delightful, why aren't we doing this,'" said Bonnie.

Natives of Minnesota, Bonnie and Richard searched for the largest metropolitan market closest to the Minneapolis/Minnesota area and put down roots in Chicago where they began work on their version of King Richard's Faire.

(Continued on Page 15)



The Royal Joust at King Richard's Herald photo by Kimberly A. Orlandi

HAPPENINGS

Entertainment For Kids

September

- 26 **Gullah Gullah Island Live**, Providence Performing Arts Center, 220 Weybosset St., Providence, 1, 4 p.m. \$8.50, \$10.50, \$12.50. Call 421-12787.
Festival Ballet's "Dance Me a Story," Sept. 26, Oct. 3 and 10. Story hour at area libraries. Hear stories, meet character. 2 p.m. Call 353-1129.
- 27 **Teacher & Librarian Appreciation Day**, Young Adult Fiction author Robert Cormier. Border Bookstore, Cranston. Call 944-9160.

October

- 10 **"The Busy World of Richard Scarry,"** Oct. 10 and 11. Rhode Island Mall, Route 2, Warwick. Musical stage shows, story times, activity stations. Call 828-7651 for show times.
- 14 **"Peter and the Wolf,"** National Marionette Theatre, Bryant College, Janikies Auditorium, 1150 Douglas Pike, Smithfield, 11 a.m., 7:30 p.m., \$4. Call 232-6160.
- 17 **"The Reluctant Dragon,"** Oct. 17, 18, 24 and 25. All Children's Theatre Ensemble, Vartan Gregorian School Theatre, 455 Wickenden St., Providence. For ages 5 and older. 2 p.m., \$8, children \$5. Call 331-7174.
"Once Upon a Time," Oct. 17 at 6:30 and Oct. 18 at 2 p.m., \$5. Stadium Theatre, Monument Square, Main Street, Woonsocket, Call 762-4004.
"The Great Gilly Hopkins," Oct. 17 and 24, 1st Stage Providence, Bishop McVinney Auditorium, 1 Cathedral Square, Providence, 7 p.m., \$6, \$8; group rates, free parking. Call 467-0215.
- 18 **Festival Ballet's "Snow White,"** Oct. 18 and 25, Rhode Island School of Design Auditorium, South Main Street, Providence. Family Series. Children will have a chance to learn the dwarves' dance and talk to Snow White, 3 p.m., \$9, children under 3 free.
- 25 **Rhode Island Philharmonic Happy White Family Concert**, Veterans Memorial Auditorium, Brownell Street, Providence, 3 p.m., \$12, youth \$6. Call 272-4862 or 831-3123.

Calendar: September 24th thru 30th

- 24 R.I. Watercolor Society will exhibit works of three artist. Sept. 24 to Oct. 9, Slater Memorial Park, Armistice Blvd., Pawtucket. Call 726-1876.
- 25 **Join Perspectives Community** for Shabbat services with Hillel (Reform, Conservative, Orthodox). 80 Brown St., Providence, 6:30 p.m. Vegetarian potluck to follow at 7:45, 106 Angell St. Call Sharon 863-9357 for information.
"Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolf?" starring Joanne Gentile. The Sandra Feinstein Gamm Theatre, 31 Elbow St., Providence. Thursdays through Saturdays, 8 p.m., Sundays 3 p.m. through Oct. 11. Call 831-2919 for tickets.
- 26 **Bryant College Homecoming '98, "The Tradition Begins."** The Bulldogs take on Assumption College in the first football game in Bryant's 135-year history on Sept. 26 at 1 p.m. Tickets on sale at the gate: \$5 for alumni and guests; \$3 for senior citizens and students. Children under 10 free when accompanied by an adult. Bryant students, faculty, and staff free with identification.
Providence Art Festival, Thayer Street, Providence. More than 100 artists exhibiting paintings, sculptures, jewelry, crafts and more 11 to 5 p.m. Rain or shine.
Taste of Rhode Island, Providence Waterfront. Sept. 26 and 27. Enjoy food from 40 of Rhode Island restaurant's. Sat. 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Sun. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call 863-9357.
Free-For-All Saturday "Commune with Your Dream." Explore how vision is transformed into art. RISD Museum, 225 Benefit St. Free admission. 11 am. to 4 p.m.
East Greenwich Odeum, 56 Main St., presents singer/songwriter Tom Chapin. 8 p.m. \$18 advance. \$20 day of show. Call 885-9119.
Ocean State Lyric Opera, Veterans Memorial Auditorium, Brownell Street, Providence, presents "Rigoletto." 8 p.m. Tickets \$26.50-\$61.50; \$2 senior citizen discount. Call 272-4862.
CAV, 14 Imperial Place, Providence, presents the Justin Holden Jazz Ensemble, \$5. Call 751-9164.
Arthritis Foundation presents a free, educational seminar on new arthritis developments and way to cope. 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Radisson Airport Hotel, Warwick. Dr. Harold M. Horwitz, M.D. will moderate. Call 434-5792.
Farmers Market, every Saturday, Hope High School, corner of Hope and Olney streets, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Now until the end of October.
Cranston Fall Harvest Festival, Cranston Stadium, Park Avenue. Sept. 26 12 to 9 p.m., Sept. 27 noon to 5 p.m. Arts, crafts, children's amusements, fireworks display. Sept. 26. Call 461-1000, ext. 3110.
- 27 **Bone Marrow Drive** at the Jewish Community Center, Providence 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Congregation Agudas Achim, Attleboro, 1 to 5 p.m. Call 863-9357 or (508) 223-3132.
Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology, 300 Tower St., Bristol. Gallery talk, "Tortoise Knees and Giraffe Tears" Imagery and Design in Botswana Baskets. Discussion on the various animal images and other patterns found in traditional Botswana baskets. Call 253-8388.
RI Holocaust Memorial Museum, 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence. Annual Yizkor service in the memorial garden, 11 a.m.
- 28 **Sarah Doyle Gallery**, 185 Meeting St., Providence. "Made of Clay," Sept. 28 to Oct. 22. Call 863-2189.
Readings by Poet Paul Zimmer, Roger Williams University, Dining Hall, 1 Old Ferry Road, Bristol 8 p.m., free 254-3626.
The Jewish Cultural Arts Society (JCAS) first meeting of semester. Brown-RISD Hillel, 7 p.m., 106 Angell Street. Joint Brown-RISD venture providing a fun, comfortable environment for students to explore their Jewish identity within framework of creative arts. Refectory Room B (RISD).
RI Holocaust Memorial Museum, 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence, film series begins with "Miracles of Moreaux," 10 a.m. and "Anne Frank," 1 p.m. Free and open to public.
- 30 **Providence Performing Arts Center**, "Riverdance," Sept. 30 to Oct. 11. Call 421-ARTS for tickets.

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Pet Loss Support Group

The VSA Pet Loss Support Group will resume its meetings this fall under the guidance of Carolyn Obrecht, MSW, a member of the VSA board of directors.

The group is designed to help those experiencing or anticipating the loss of a pet. Meetings will be held at 27 Dryden Lane once a month starting Oct. 3 at 11 a.m. Each session will last about one hour.

For further information, call Obrecht at 273-0358.

Job Fair to Help NHD Employees Find Work

Help is on the way for the nearly 350 employees of NHD Stores, Inc., who will lose their jobs when the majority of stores in Rhode Island and Massachusetts close their doors next month.

To help these laid-off workers find new employment, the Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training, in conjunction with NHD administrators and the business community, will host a Job Fair on Oct. 1 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Pawtucket netWORKri Career Center, 175 Main St. in Pawtucket, 722-3100. More than 35 companies with job openings in retail, finance, human services, etc. will be in attendance. A second job fair will be held at the Massachusetts Department of Employment and Training, 60 Central St., Norwood, Mass., (781) 762-9450, on Oct. 6 from 9 am. to 4 p.m.

Employees will be notified in advance of the job fairs and will be encouraged to attend both events if possible, since a number of different employers will be present at each site. These job fairs are also open to the general public.

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In Cranston

Barney's, Oaklawn Ave.
Borders Book Shop, Garden City Ctr.
Brooks, Reservoir Ave.
Rainbow Bakery and Cafe,
Reservoir Ave.

Providence and Vicinity

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

JEWISH COMMUNITY

Former Diplomat Sees Dangers in Former USSR

by Emily Torgan-Shalansky
Jewish Community Reporter

After seven years of throwing billions of dollars and great political support into the former Soviet Union, much of the West is wondering why its Republics are closer to disaster than Capitalism.

But the sequence of events has left Rhode Islander H. Scott Shore, who served as a diplomat in the former USSR under the Bush administration, and now is a Republican candidate for Providence's Ward 2 City Council, less surprised — and less optimistic — than most.

"I think there's a very real threat of militaristic and even neo-fascist regimes in that part of the world," said Shore. "I think that it's time for the Jews and other minorities to get out of there."

Currently an investment executive at Tucker Anthony Inc., Shore was appointed an ambassador to the Overseas Private Investment Corp. (OPIC) by President Bush in the early 1990s.

"OPIC was a child of the Marshall Plan," explained Shore. "After World War II we wanted

to make sure European countries did not go Communist or revert to Fascism, so the Marshall Plan provided political risk insurance and loan guarantees to US companies who would give people hope by creating industry and jobs."

Several decades after its inception, OPIC's officers were sent to parts of South and Central America and into the newly dissolved USSR.

Shore's job was to create trade agreements and treaties that would enable American companies to go into these nations, and also to take large groups of American businesspeople into different parts of the world.

"It was the most interesting job I ever had," remembered Shore. "I saw many amazing things. But nothing was as frightening as what I saw in the former USSR."

According to Shore, even his early relationships with the USSR's political and industrial leaders revealed that the transition from Socialism to Capitalism would be extremely difficult if not impossible.

"You really felt their sense of

helplessness and humiliation at being a defeated superpower," he said. "I do not think they're over that yet."

Unlike the more Western countries in the former Soviet block, explained Shore, the former USSR had undergone many generations of Commu-



H. Scott Shore

nist rule that had weakened its ability to absorb capitalistic business concepts.

"If you wanted to build a business in Moscow, the first question was who owned the deed to the building you needed?" he explained. "Was it the non-exis-

tent Soviet State, the Russian government, or the people they had appropriated the building from? That's an example of the way things were."

In addition, said Shore, the former USSR tried to privatize too fast and in a manner that did not lay a sufficient foundation for free-market principles.

"The people with power and the old Communist rulership would still have to be the corporate management," he said. "They were given most of the stock. The Russian people grew very disenchanted because they had hoped they would be like America in a year or two."

Although the OPIC jobs were difficult for all diplomats, Shore's Orthodox Judaism presented an entirely different set of hardships.

"When I went into Tadzhikistan to meet its ministers, I was placed under guard," remembered Shore of the mostly Moslem republic. "There were marches up and down the streets, and the demonstrators were shouting 'Down with Zionism, Down With America.'"

But as he did in the other former Republics he visited, Shore took the time to meet some of the land's 10,000 Jews.

"They've been there since the time of the Second Temple," he said. "They were delighted to know that someone cared about them and would help them try to get out."

According to Shore, current headlines speak of the same disillusionment, weak central governments, and desperate poverty that he witnessed.

"The economies have the people very frustrated," he said. "I'm afraid it's leading to conditions that are similar to the Weimar Republic of the 1920s."

This instability and the

nuclear weapons that the former Republic's governments are selling to try to quell it are grave dangers for all, said Shore.

"In addition, we're seeing a lot of fierce ethnic hatreds that were kept under wraps during the USSR years," he said. "The xenophobia is very dangerous for all of the minorities living there."

Although Shore maintains that he is uncertain of what the outcome will be, he is very definite about one thing.

"I think that getting the Jews out of the former USSR is extremely important," he said. "It needs to happen as soon as possible."

On Sept. 15, Shore spoke to an audience of new Americans at the Charlesgate Complex in Providence.

As Shore spoke of his distant Russian roots and more recent Russian travels, the audience experienced a local political perspective shaped by events that, to them, were not foreign at all.

"I was asked to speak not as a politician, but as a person who had gone through the Russian experience," Shore explained through an interpreter to a group comprised of people from outside of the Ward 2 voting district. "I want to look at what went wrong in the former USSR and see if there are lessons we can learn for both our dealings abroad and in our own country."

An East Side resident, Shore began by telling his audience that he, like them, had resided in both Providence and the Soviet Republics.

"I speak as a fellow American, Rhode Islander and Providence resident," said Shore. "I want to share my experiences during the collapse of the Soviet Union, when as a senior diplo-

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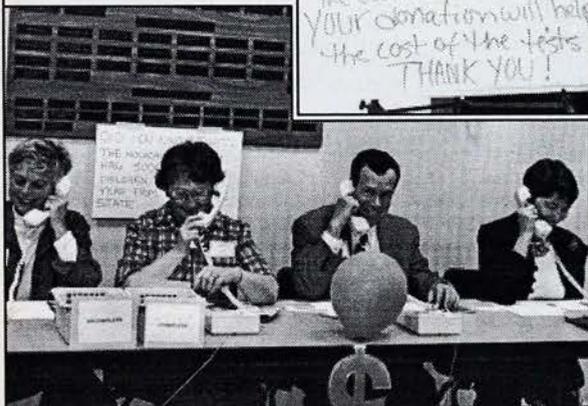
Bone Marrow Drive

Marrow Drive Organizers (left to right) Alena Kacal, Miriam Goldsmith, and Patricia Lang at Temple Beth-El in Providence. The Marrow Drive drew 125 donors.



On Sept. 16 the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island Volunteers kick off a fund-raising phone-a-thon with calls to potential marrow donors.

Herald photos by Emily Torgan-Shalansky



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OPINION

Inaction is a Choice, Too

by Lois Goldrich

More than 20 years ago, Eli Wiesel challenged the Jewish community to raise its voice in protest against the genocide then occurring in Pol Pot's Cambodia. Certainly, he said, we as a people must understand what it means to be victimized. Sadly, relatively few voices were raised.

In pointing out that the dimensions of tragedy and evil are universal, Wiesel was not stating anything new. What was new was his insistence that people who have themselves suffered are not thereby excused from acknowledging and protesting the suffering of others. Hillel put it another way: "If I am only for myself, what am I?"

Today, we must challenge ourselves to recognize and speak out against the horrors that continue to be perpetrated all over the world. If we need an "excuse" to dwell on such thoughts, then the introspection demanded of us during the High Holidays provides just such cover. Indeed, if we choose to gloss over these issues rather than to struggle with ourselves and our responsibility as moral human beings, we will effectively be wasting the time G-d set aside for us to confront our very nature.

Some kinds of suffering we cannot control: This summer, a tsunami devastated Papua, New Guinea, leaving in its wake tremendous devastation and loss of life. Other kinds of suffering we can work to alleviate yet often ignore. Let us make no mistake. Whether we choose to help or to stand by and do nothing, we are, in either case, making a decision.

By not working to ensure that adequate food supplies are tar-

geted to areas of famine, we are ensuring that many lives will be lost or irretrievably damaged. By not working to ensure that basic medical care is available to those children whose families cannot afford it, we are ensuring that these children will be denied the chance to live a normal life. By not supporting agencies working to find cures for dreadful diseases, we are ensuring that many more people will die from the ravages of these illnesses.

The nature of physical aggression continues to evolve in ways that must be challenged. We must speak out loudly against outrages such as the systematic gang rape of women and young female children in an effort to terrorize and humiliate captive populations; we must not allow Kosovo to become another Bosnia; and we must vigorously condemn those governments that support — or even tolerate — terrorists in their midst.

If Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are meant to elevate our thoughts and cleanse our spirits, we can only do a full accounting if we take stock not only of what we have done but also of what we have failed to do. If we have spoken out against the second-class treatment accorded non-Orthodox Jews in the state of Israel, that is good. But if, at the same time, we have not spoken out on behalf of those — Orthodox and non-Orthodox — who lack the basic necessities of life, we will have much to explain to G-d as we beat our chests on Yom Kippur.

The author is the public affairs director of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and editor of the United Synagogue Review.

Sukkot: Yom Kippur's Counterbalance

by Rabbi Michael Cohen

Imagine Yom Kippur, with the synagogue packed for the holiest day of the year. The anticipation of the day is upon everyone as people take their seats. But suppose something different occurs: Mahzorim for Sukkot are handed out along with hundreds of pairs of lulavs and etrogs. This is one of my rabbinic fantasies — to switch Yom Kippur with the first day of Sukkot.

Jewish leaders often bemoan the fact that our synagogues are never so full as they are on Yom Kippur. Part of the problem with the rest of the year has to do with what happens on Yom Kippur! Known as the holiest day of the year, Yom Kippur is the day we go to shul. That long day in synagogue reinforces the idea that Judaism is heavy and serious, and that we should spend our time inside the synagogue in prayer or study. The problem with this picture is that it does not present a balanced view of Judaism that takes us beyond the walls of the synagogue.

The worshiper also needs Sukkot, which counterbalances Yom Kippur. Yom Kippur takes place inside; Sukkot takes place

outside. On Yom Kippur we fast, while on Sukkot we feast. On Yom Kippur we pray and study; for Sukkot we build with our physical might. On Yom Kippur we hold a book in our hands; on Sukkot through the lulav and etrog we hold nature. On Yom Kippur we are serious and introspective; on Sukkot we are told to be joyful.

One of the giants of Kabbalah, Isaac Luria (16th century), instructed his disciples that the cultivation of joy is one of the prerequisites for attaining mystical illumination. Having gone through the necessary 10 days of *teshuvah* (return) from Rosh Hashanah through Yom Kippur, we are ready to begin our engagement with the new year. That engagement can only take place successfully if it has joy as one of its elements. The joy of Sukkot sets us on the right course.

Jews who come to services only on Yom Kippur get but a partial picture of what Judaism has to offer. The traditional pounding of the first nail into the sukkah as soon as the fast of Yom Kippur is over both literally and figuratively hammers home the point that these two

holidays must be seen as complementary parts of the whole. The insular, cerebral nature of Yom Kippur is balanced by the commandment on Sukkot to go outdoors to build and live in the sukkah. The two holidays need each other. Our internal work is a necessary prerequisite providing us with the spiritual sustenance and energy to walk in the material world. When we separate the two or only do one, we are incomplete.

This idea of connecting Yom Kippur to Sukkot is supported by the traditional understanding that Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the second set of tablets on Yom Kippur and assembled the entire community the next day to instruct them in the building of the *mishkan* (sanctuary). Our building of the sukkah is in part a remembrance of our building of the *mishkan*. The juxtaposition of the instruction to build the *mishkan* with the laws of Shabbat gave rise to the rabbinic understanding of the definition of work (Mishnah Shabbat 7:2). Actions used in building the *mishkan* (the 39 major categories) were defined as work and prohibited on Shab-

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Happily Ever After

by Cindy Halpern

Fairy tales often begin with "Once upon a time," and end with, "And they lived happily ever after." Well my life is as far from a fairy tale as one can get. I didn't marry the handsome prince who lived in a beautiful castle. I don't have beautiful gowns to wear and servants to wait on me. A beautiful coach isn't parked in my driveway.

I drive a 9-year-old car and I am the one who washes the dirty dishes, scrubs the floors, and usually I wear a pair of jeans and shirts from Ann & Hope. But today a dream from my past was realized. I didn't win the lottery and a publishing company has yet to accept one of my many manuscripts.

Today my daughter and I selected the yamulka and prayer shawl she is to wear at her bat mitzvah. This was no small feat to accomplish. Thirteen years ago, Robin came into the world five weeks sooner than anticipated weighing 3 pounds and 11 1/2 ounces. Her hair was shaved off so an I.V. could be inserted into her skull that would feed her life-sustaining nourishment. She laid in her incubator crying as her body had many wires stuck into her skin to monitor her heartbeat and vital signs.

I not only dared to dream that Robin would live, I promised myself that if she did, I would see to her Jewish education even though I myself could

not read a word of Hebrew. That wasn't just a bargain I made with G-d. It was me trying to come to terms with everything terrible that had ever happened to me.

I could not right the wrongs of my life in restoring the dead to life. But I could accept that life is holy and my job would be to bring Robin closer to G-d.

At Temple Beth-El's gift shop, Suzanne showed me a beautiful yamulka that could easily be a bridal cap. It was a crown of glory dedicated to G-d. After Robin placed it on her head, she looked like a spiritual Jewish princess. Just for today at least, I felt this was the happily ever after part of a fairy tale come true.

HAVE AN OPINION?

If you have an opinion about something in the Jewish community, why not express your opinion in the Herald? Send your letter to: Rhode Island Jewish Herald P.O. Box 6063, Providence, RI 02940

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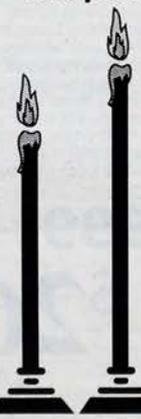
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Candlelighting
September 25, 1998
6:20 p.m.



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

The Stranger in Your Midst

If you are reading this, we can probably make an accurate presumption about you: In some way you define yourself as Jewish.

This sounds elementary, but there is a labyrinthine complexity about being Jewish today. Our population on the planet today, already minuscule in global terms, is further imperiled by the perceptions of various "types" of Jews.

Those who believe that our various divisions are more different than alike, and therefore exclude each other, or feel excluded themselves.

Those who participate in Judaism as if it were a hobby, from which you can extract the enjoyable parts, like Purim, and ignore the more demanding parts, like an understanding of the core beliefs.

Those who refer to themselves as "cultural" Jews, excising any religious or even ritual

identification with Judaism, as if this were just another nationality to be diluted along with the accents of your ancestors.

But, as we approach Rosh Hashanah, in which we examine our lives in the most serious manner, let us examine Judaism seriously as well. The basic truth is that a Jew is a Jew — in our eyes and in the eyes of others. If

way of expressing "Tikkun Olam," the healing of the world. It may not even be your way of saying the prayers in synagogue.

But it should be an understanding of the foundation on which all of those things rest: Torah and the mitzvot. And if that understanding is not there — for Boris, Moshe, Rosanne or Edith down the street from you — then we as a unified people are not doing our job as Jews.

We are one. That is the ideal. We have responsibilities. That is the reality.

One of those responsibilities, perhaps the central one, is to understand what G-d wants of us, and to make sure it is done — whether we do it ourselves or help other Jews to know what is expected. If you are reading this, you probably define yourself as Jewish. If you do, no other Jew anywhere should be a stranger.

Submitted by Chabad of West Bay CHAI Center, Warwick.

Torah Today

one's beliefs, practices, education or feelings of proximity to the religion differ from either the norm or the ideal, it doesn't change the reality. Boris in Russia, Moshe in China, Rosanne in Argentina all share something with you.

It may not be the use of a term like "mensch" to mean a person of integrity and moral character. It may not be your unique

FEATURE



Bob in Town and Country

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

"My dad was a tinsmith in Russia. They say he made a bathtub for the Tsar. Like the expression *Hub dir in bud*. Here he fixed car radiators. I took over his business." Bob Gershkoff was filling me in on his past while we took a comfortable trek over his present residence on Shadow Farm in Wakefield. On the baby grand piano in the parlor of his condominium stands a delightful photo portrait of his father as a small boy, dressed in Gypsy gear. "He was kidnapped by a band of tsiganes, who were going to sell him. Lucky he was found. Otherwise I wouldn't be here today."

I met Bob in town at a Rotary luncheon next door to his Charlesgate buildings. He is proud of aiming always for the best both in care and in craftsmanship. So he asks me kindly to drop by his South County country home to check out the

the Welch family of fruit juice fame. The manor house stands on a knoll above a lake with a tiny island at its center. The carriage house and stables pull you



The pond at Shadow Farm

Herald photo by Mike Fink

ghost of the past as you stroll the allées of old maples or the shady glen created by the great elephantine boughs and limbs of the beeches. U.R.I. arborists come by to check out these giants of yore for any symptoms of tree disease and discomfort. At the banks of the pond elegant and graceful wood canoes rest like huge cocoons taking the autumn sunshine, awaiting something that may happen or recalling a bygone journey across the calm surface.

You just wouldn't expect this

zone of privacy and stillness right in the midst of the madding crowd of highway travel and shopping malls. Shadow Farm is like a mirage, an oasis, a tranquil daydream at high noon. The seasons come, the earth is green or white with snow. But I bet the residents who are Bob's neighbors hardly notice the equinoxes and paradoxes of life. They winter in Florida, many among them. Bob's business and family keep him here, and he works his fireplace, keeping the logs nearby and making sure squirrels and starlings don't clog the chimney by screening the flue.

He's a quiet presence with a pleasant air, and he absolutely suits the tenor of town and country in our tiny state. He belongs in town for his sociability and in country for the serenity of his soul.



Bob Gershkoff at Shadow Farm.

Herald photo by Mike Fink

landscape. "You'll enjoy the old trees that have been lovingly preserved."

The estate belonged once to

back to the horse-and-buggy era with its picturesque grandeur of scope and scale and its dignity of stately pace. You feel the

'She' is the Muse

by Mike Fink

Herald Contributing Reporter

"She may be bold, she may rely on beauty or cleverness. She is a presence in the doorway. She leads us from room to room. She is a living voice. She takes us in." Cynthia Ozick describes "the movement of a freemind at play" in an article within the pages of the current *Atlantic Monthly*. She calls her piece "She."

Who is she? She is "the genuine essay." I cite some figures of speech in passages from Ms. Ozick's paragraphs because they come close to what I try to teach in the courses I resume this season.

"Like a poem, it is made of language and character and mood and temperament and pluck and chance. "An essay's heat is interior, not social. It is not meant for the barricades. It is a stroll through someone's mazy mind. A political journal-

ist comes after us with a point of view. We feel it the way a cat is wary of a dog. A tract can be a trap. Certain articles put us in a butterfly net. They are focused on prey—us. The genuine essay in contrast never thinks of us. They are cooler than that. Because it engages in acts of memory, and despite its gladder or more antic moments, the essay is either a serene, still, or melancholic form, a fireside thing, not a safari."

Ozick goes back from Hazlitt and Emerson to Montaigne and all the way to Torah. "What of the biblical Koheleth (Ecclesiastes) who may be the oldest essayist reflecting on one of the oldest subjects—world weariness?"

I look out for statements like "She" to back up my own work, my genre. The escape from bumper sticker opinions, one-line gags, snap judgments, and

the rhetoric you hear at meetings. Essays tell stories, but without easy answers. I ask my students to explore each day, each evening, each moment, for journal material, using words the way a camera uses light and shadow, the way a soft pencil sketches shapes. The way charcoal goes over a model's body. "She" is the muse for every columnist and for each artist.

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Spicebearers and Spellbinders

by Mike Fink
Herald Contributing Reporter

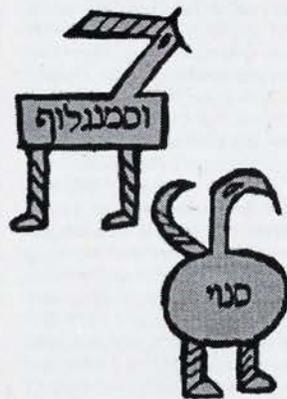
Along with spices and herbs, feudal Jews brought to Germanic lands the image of the magician, the wonder-worker who could cure you or poison you by some secret sorcery. I came across a study in folk religion first published before the Holocaust and re-issued in the decade of the commune, the 1970s. These pages pull you back into a time when the air and the earth teemed with demons, angels, ghosts and spirits. The author, Joshua Trachtenberg, treats his subject with bemused whimsy, but this reader takes it all in with a sense of the loss of a rich fund for the imagination. Our superstitious fears may have gone by, but we have less intense feelings for rituals, words, natural observations, and respect for the forces of life and of death.

"Although I have hidden my face from Israel, I will communicate with him through dreams." Our Creator claimed this, according to a Talmudic sage. When your body is asleep, your soul is free from its prison and can wander over the earth and through time, backwards and forwards. I wonder if Freud read that passage. Legend does not spring fullgrown from out of the Bible. Beliefs come from many sources, and a borrower and a lender must we all be in quest of metaphoric truths. Even high churchmen demanded mezuzot to protect their dwellings. You can't read the sagas of any country without recognizing a familiar theme. Who stole from whom?

At this season of tashlich it is interesting to discover that our ceremony is "the latest version of a complex of superstitious practices centering about the belief in the existence of spirits in bodies of water, reaching back

to remote antiquity. The limitless deep saw the beginning of Creation. Man should emulate the river, endlessly renewing itself."

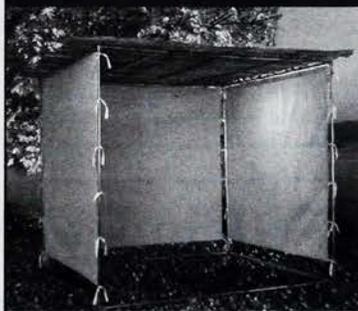
Did you know that the dead still may celebrate the Sabbath? The last hours before the week starts again may be dangerous if phantoms linger over water



or wine. "Whoever drinks or eats at twilight on Shabbat robs the dead." Be careful! I translate most of the occult rules into realms of poetry. Literal or factual wisdom falls flat for me. I like the way things happen in fairytales. I turn wizardry into artistry. Indeed, many conjurers mixed the spell with the potion, giving a sceptical or practical twist to their professions.

Youngsters cling to the old ways and only give them up like dawn going down to day or sunset into evening. This is the time when our synagogues and our homes move from simile to simile, the crumbs in the stream to the hut without a roof. I keep by my pillow my little tract on childlike chapters in the path of our faith, ever on the lookout for a new and old way to feel the power of each colorful detail in the fabric of our lives.

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Jewish Community Takes Action

On Oct. 18, clergy, lay leadership, educators, professionals, families and self-advocates will join in a discussion to learn what the Jewish community is doing to welcome people of all abilities.

At "Beyond the Ramp... A Jewish Agenda for Action: Empowering Children and Adults with Disabilities and their Families," these community members will share in discussions of spiritual, educational, attitudinal and architectural inclusion and explore the unmet needs and determine tangible steps toward solutions. The conference will be held from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center, 333 Nahant St. in Newton.

Beyond the Ramp will feature keynote speaker Linda Forrest, a special education/learning consultant serving Colorado's Jewish and secular community in facilitating successful integration of individuals with disabilities of all ages in both formal and non-formal settings. She has developed myriad offerings that reach beyond

meeting just the needs of the Jewish individual with a disability, but also providing support and connections to parents and siblings through positive, non-threatening programming. Forrest will speak about "Models of Inclusion that Work in the Jewish Community."

As the former special education coordinator at the Central Agency for Jewish Education of Colorado for the past six years, Forrest brings to the conference experience in educating the Jewish community on the importance of supporting families who have a member with a disability in all religious aspects.

The program will also include break-out sessions on Architectural Inclusion, Attitudinal Inclusion, Educational Inclusion and Spiritual Inclusion after which the participants will regroup and facilitators will share the information discussed in each break-out session.

For information about the conference or to register, call Judy Pearl, director of Special Needs Services, at the Jewish Community Centers of Greater

Boston: (617) 558-6508 V / (617) 965-5175 TDD.

The conference is made possible by the Special Needs Professional Committee of the Greater Boston Jewish Community, a group of professionals from area Jewish agencies whose mission is to collaborate and develop social, cultural and educational programs to enhance the lives of people with disabilities and their families. Agencies include the Jewish Community Centers of Greater Boston, Jewish Big Brother & Big Sister Association, Bureau of Jewish Education, Combined Jewish Philanthropies, Jewish Community Relations Council, Jewish Family and Children's Services, Jewish Family Service of Metrowest and Jewish Vocational Service.

Beyond the Ramp is also made possible by the time and effort on the part of the staff of the Jewish Community Centers of Greater Boston. The lead financial contribution was generously made by the Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston.

R.I. Holocaust Memorial Museum Announces Hours And Events

The R.I. Holocaust Memorial Museum will be open to the public Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. It will be closed for Jewish and Federal holidays. The museum is also open by appointment and it is always recommended to call in advance.

If you plan on visiting with a group, call at least two days in advance. Special programs can be designed for your school, university/college (research projects), senior organization, temple, church, club, etc. The museum houses a large collection of videos and movies as well as a growing library of books. Most books and videos can be taken out of the museum for up to one week. The RIHMM also has a speakers bureau.

A weekly film series will begin at the RIHMM on Sept. 28. Two films will be shown during the two days films are shown. Films will be shown at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. All films are free and open to the public.

An updated calendar of events, including the weekly film series, is published monthly by the RIHMM and is available at the museum. The RIHMM calendar is posted at the JCCRI and on the RIHMM bulletin board on the lower level of the JCCRI.

For more information about the museum and educational programming, call 453-7860.

Dunay Elected President of Women's American ORT

Pepi Dunay of Boca Raton, Fla., is heading up Women's American ORT as its new national president. WAO delegates from throughout the United States cast their ballots for her at the organization's First Triennial National Convention in Washington, D.C.

Dunay is clear-sighted in her goals for leading this major national Jewish organization. She is especially focused on strengthening the ORT program in the United States.

ORT's three schools in New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles concentrate on job training for the high-tech workplace. The ORT Resource Center helps bring computer resources to Jewish education.

Dunay's concerns for the international network of ORT schools stem from her three years in post-war Europe as the young child of a career Air Force officer. At age 10, she visited the Dachau concentration camp. As an adult, she "knew Judaism would be an important part of my life, and ORT's outreach is



Pepi Dunay

truly part of our being Am Ehad, One People."

Born in Philadelphia, Dunay became an active member of Women's American ORT in 1969, as a member of the Jacksonville Chapter-At Large. She is a member of the Executive Committee of the World ORT Union and just completed her three year term as first vice president, which included chairing the organization's board of directors. She is coordinator of volunteers for the Museum of Discovery and Science in Ft. Lauderdale and serves on the executive committee of the Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach county.

Dunay is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and holds a B.A. and M.Ed from the University of Florida. She is married to Mike Dunay, an attorney. They are parents of one son and two daughters.

With some 600 chapters in 32 states, Women's American ORT is the largest affiliate and number one contributor to the global network of ORT schools, the source for technical training in a Jewish environment. Some 262,000 students, enrolled in 800 ORT schools and programs, make ORT the largest non-governmental network of vocational education and technical training centers in the world.

For information on Women's American ORT, call (800) 51-WAORT, ext. 267, and request a copy of "Report for the New Century," or visit the website at <http://www.waort.org>.

HUC-JIR Announced Three Appointments

Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion announced three new administrative appointments.

Rabbi Sheldon Zimmerman, president of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, has announced the appointment of Rabbi Margaret J. Meyer as acting director of alumni affairs. Rabbi Meyer has served as coordinator of the Chapel Mentor program in Cincinnati, and as mentor and liturgical advisor to first-year students at the Jerusalem School. Ordained in 1986 from HUC-JIR, she has served congregations in Illinois, Ohio, and Texas. She has served on the executive committee of the CCAR, and as president of the Cincinnati Board of Rabbis and

vice president of Planned Parenthood of Butler County, Ohio. She is married to Michael A. Meyer, Adolph S. Ochs professor of Jewish history at HUC-JIR.

Cantor Ellen Dreskin has been appointed the new associate dean of the New York School. She is the first cantor to be appointed to a senior administrative position at the College-Institute. Following her investiture from HUC-JIR's School of Sacred Music in 1986, Cantor Dreskin has served as a cantor and educator at Fairmount Temple in Cleveland, Ohio, and Woodlands Community Temple in White Plains, N.Y. She is presently the spiritual leader of Chavurat Tikvah of

Rye/Larchmont, N.Y. Cantor Dreskin also performs with Beged Kefet, a musical tzedakah collective that performs nationwide. She holds a master's degree in Jewish Communal Service from Brandeis University.

Dr. Steven Windmueller has been appointed acting director of Adult Jewish Living and Learning for HUC-JIR. He will continue as director of the Irwin Daniels School of Jewish Communal Service, a position he has held since 1995. A specialist on political issues and American Jewish affairs, Windmueller holds a Ph.D. in international relations from the University of Pennsylvania. He served for 10 years as the executive director of the Jewish Community Relations Committee of the Jewish Federation of Los Angeles.

The HUC-JIR website is located at <www.huc.edu>

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Community Bone Marrow Drive

On Sept. 27 at the Jewish Community Center on Elm Grove Ave., Providence, 10 am to 7 p.m. and at Congregation Agudas Achum, Attleboro, 1 to 5 p.m., there will be a bone marrow drive.

Volunteers are needed to be bone marrow donors. To register, all that is needed is a blood test which calculates the information needed to determine bone marrow type.

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Israel Bonds Dinner to Honor President Gorbachev

Mikhail Gorbachev, the former president of the Soviet Union, will be honored at a gala State of Israel Bonds dinner on Oct. 25 in New York, celebrating the 10th anniversary of the opening of the country's gates to free immigration to Israel, which began on his watch.

Tribute will be paid at the dinner, as well, to business executive and community leader Peter W. May, who served as chairman of UJA-Federation's "Operation Exodus," a multi-million dollar campaign to bring Soviet Jews to Israel, thereby changing the face of the country. Yitzhak Shamir, who served as Israeli Prime Minister at the time the Jewish state welcomed the wave of Soviet immigration, and Ambassador Zalman Shoval, who represents his country in the United States, will be guests of honor at the dinner.

"President Gorbachev changed the course of history," said Gideon Patt, president and CEO of State of Israel Bonds. "It was he who had the courage

and initiative to break with the harsh and constricted emigration policies of his predecessors and thereby launch the great Sovietiyah which has had such a momentous effect on Israeli society, economy and culture."

State of Israel Bonds played a crucial role in the absorption, settlement and training of the hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews who settled in Israel after Gorbachev liberalized the country's emigration policies, said Patt. Before President Gorbachev assumed leadership of the Soviet Union in 1985, fewer than 1,000 Jews were allowed to emigrate each year.

May is president and CEO of Triarc Companies. A noted philanthropist, he is active on behalf of the 92nd Street YM-YWHA, the Central Synagogue, and Mt. Sinai Medical Center, all in Manhattan, as well as the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles.

He heads a roster of 23 local Soviet Jewry movement leaders from the United States and Canada who will be honored at

the dinner for their dedicated struggle for free emigration and cultural expression for Soviet Jews over several decades before and after the tenure of Mikhail Gorbachev. The former Soviet president now serves as head of the International Foundation for Social, Economic and Political Studies, in Moscow.

State of Israel Bonds is an international organization offering securities issued by the government of Israel. Since its inception in 1951, Israel Bonds has secured close to \$19 billion in investment capital for the development of every aspect of Israel's economy, including agriculture commerce and industry. Throughout its history, Israel has maintained a perfect record on the payment of principal and interest on the securities it has issued. Israel Bonds proceeds play a major role in the absorption of Jews from the former Soviet Union and Ethiopia and elsewhere and in providing crucial financial resources to Israel for a new era of promise and opportunity.

Brown-RISD Hillel Appoints New Program Staff

Brown-RISD Hillel is delighted to welcome two new members of its full-time staff: Rabbi Susan Fendrick, associate director, and Cynthia G. Weinger, program director.

Rabbi Fendrick is a 1984 graduate of Brown University, where she concentrated in Women's Studies. She returned to Providence and to Brown-RISD Hillel one year ago to serve as the part-time director of Visions for Change, Hillel's public service initiative. Her new responsibilities include directing Visions, as well as a wide range of programming, supervisory, and administrative portfolios. She oversees Hillel's day-to-day operations, assuming many of the duties of Alisa Kotler-Berkowitz, the former associate director, who has moved to Haifa, Israel, with her husband Laurence. Rabbi Fendrick also has special responsibility for religious and educational programming, and will assist Rabbi Alan Flam, executive director, with pastoral and rabbinic responsibilities.

"Returning to Brown as a rabbi is something I fantasized about as an undergraduate," Rabbi Fendrick said, "even before I knew I wanted to be a rabbi! It's a privilege to be doing work I love with such an outstanding team."

Cynthia Weinger comes to Brown-RISD Hillel straight from Washington University with a B.A. in Jewish and Near Eastern studies. Weinger had a strong and varied career as a Jewish student leader, including serving as a co-chair of the Jewish Student Council, and facilitating a major leadership development and organizational transition process. She staffed two USY summer programs, and served on the advisory committee for the Hillel Spitzer Forum on Public Policy. Weinger's responsibilities at Hillel include exten-

sive work with the Jewish Student Union and many of the committees under its aegis, as well as programming for Jewish students at RISD and advising the Jewish Cultural Arts Society.

For Weinger, assuming her new position was a natural next step. "As an undergraduate, I knew I wanted to pursue a career as a Jewish professional. I was lucky to be on a campus with a really strong Hillel Foundation and an outstanding staff," she said. "The mentoring I received as a Jewish campus leader in so many ways trained and prepared me for my current position. I am honored and delighted to be part of the staff at Brown-RISD Hillel, and working with our students is energizing and inspiring."

Weinger continues a tradition of connection between the Providence and St. Louis campuses: Rob Goldberg, Brown class of '81, former president of the Brown-RISD Hillel governing board and former executive director of Temple Beth-El in Providence, is currently the executive director of St. Louis Hillel (which is located at Washington University), and Melissa Chernofsky, Brown-RISD Hillel's JCSC Fellow during the 1997-98 school year, is also an alumna of Washington University.

"We're lucky in this time of growth and transition to be blessed with two such wonderful colleagues," Rabbi Flam notes. "Serving Jewish students on campus, at this crucial time in their lives, is among the most important kinds of work we do in the Jewish community, and having a strong staff — and the right staff — is crucial. Our new full-time staff members are skilled educators and programmers, and are already immersed in our work. I know they will be valued members of the community of Jewish professionals in Rhode Island."



FORMER SOVIET PRESIDENT MIKHAIL GORBACHEV (left) and Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir shake hands at a 1991 reception at the Soviet Embassy in Madrid during the Israel-Arab peace talks. Benjamin Netanyahu, then deputy foreign minister, is on the right. Pictured looking on, left to right: Elyakim Rubinstein, a member of the Israeli negotiating team, and Yossi Hadad and Ehud Gol of the Israel Foreign Office.

Photo courtesy of State of Israel Bonds

Dr. Gilner Elected as President of AJL

Dr. David Gilner, director of libraries at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, was installed as president of the Association of Jewish Libraries at its 33rd annual convention held July 19 to 22, in Philadelphia, Pa. The 1,150-member association of librarians, publishers, and booksellers is the only organization dedicated solely to supporting the production, collection, and dissemination of Judaic resources and library/media services.

Gilner has been director of libraries at HUC-JIR since 1996.

He is also associate director of the American Jewish Periodical Center at HUC-JIR, and serves on the editorial boards of *Studies in Bibliography and Booklore* and the *Bibliographica Judaica* series. Gilner holds a Ph.D. in biblical and ancient Near Eastern studies from HUC-JIR and an M.S. in library and information science from the University of Illinois.

He has taught biblical and Judaic studies at Wilmington College, HUC-JIR, and the University of Cincinnati. He has also collaborated with IBM to "scan"

Hebrew illuminated manuscripts, making HUC-JIR the first Jewish institution to digitally preserve treasured manuscripts in its rare Judaica collection.

The AJL was created in 1965 by the merger of the Jewish Libraries Association, a grouping of institutional and academic librarians, and the Jewish Library Association, an organization of synagogue, school, community libraries, and media centers.

The HUC-JIR website is located at <www.huc.edu>.

New Services at Am David

Congregation Am David, Warwick, is inaugurating two new services, beginning Oct. 3: A Family Service at 6:45 p.m. which will be held regularly on the first Friday of the month and a Creative Service which will be held at 8 p.m. on the third Friday of the month (Oct. 17).

Parents and their children will participate in the Family Service. A question-and-answer session, "Ask the Rabbi" will be one of the new features of the Creative Service.

You may send in your question in advance to Rabbi Leo Abrami at 463-7944, or present them during the service. All are welcome.

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Jewish Family Service Names Three Families of The Year

Family is the most important element of a person's life. People base their decisions on values with which they have been raised. Parents who instill morals into the minds of their children are also doing so for their future grandchildren. Jewish Family Service will present the fourth annual Family of the Year award at its 69th annual meeting which will take place at Roger Williams Park Casino on Oct. 21 at 7:30 p.m.

The selection committee has chosen three families: the Mervin and Rosalind Bolusky family of Pawtucket, the Kenneth and Leah Ehrenhaus-Hersh family of Providence and Mark and Anita Steiman family of Attleboro.

Herbert Meister was impressed with the close communication that Rosalind and Mervin have with their son, grandchildren and the other members of their large extended family, though many live far away. "Family is the most important thing in our lives," said Rosalind.

The Boluskys' son, Eric, and granddaughter, Jennifer, live in Tulsa, Okla. Eric's son, Richard, attends Tulane University in New Orleans, La. Mervin's mother, Ida, still lives in Fall River, with many relatives in the area and others as far away as Texas and New York. They keep in touch by phone and visit frequently.

On Passover, Thanksgiving and other holidays, the Boluskys

up in Fall River, they attended the same synagogue and the same schools, were involved in the same youth groups. Mervin said, "We've just always known each other." He adds, "We never go to sleep angry at each other or anyone else. We wake up with a smile, even before that first cup of coffee."

The Kenneth and Leah Ehrenhaus-Hersh Family

The Hersh family makes a priority of spending time together. Nominators Linda and Richard Mittleman said, "Kenny and Leah have total respect and love for each other and their children." "We share common values; we share common commitments," said Kenneth. "Friday night Shabbat service is a highlight of the week, never pushed aside for other activities." The family often has 50 or 60 people over for a holiday celebration, welcoming family, friends, students who cannot get home for the holidays, anyone who needs a place to go.

The Hershesh have lived in Providence for 18 years, and were welcomed into the community when they first moved here, not knowing anyone. Now, Kenneth said, "We couldn't dream of living anywhere else, except maybe Israel."

On Leah's birthday, the three children came into the bedroom and played "Happy Birthday" in three-part harmony arranged by 15-year-old Eitan. For their parents' anniversary, the Hersh children surprised them with a beautiful family tree. They con-

ducted research, used the computer, obtained a beautiful piece of family tree artwork, hired a calligrapher and had the finished piece framed.

This summer, the family rented an apartment in Israel for a month. The vacation was a family project, important to all, with the children giving up summer camp to work for six weeks to earn money for the trip. Kenneth states, "They paid for the rental car."

The Mark and Anita Steiman Family

Nominator Stanley Freedman said of the Steimans, "The total family is dedicated to Judaism in all ways." Howard and Kayla Flame also nominated the Steiman family for being "a cohesive family unit that not only live, but enjoy Judaism to its fullest."

Members of the Steiman family share key interests. Mother and daughters share a love of



Mr. and Mrs. Bolusky

Since 1929, the mission of the Jewish Family Service has been to sustain, nurture and strengthen the emotional well-being and stability of families and individuals throughout the lifecycle, with emphasis on Jewish traditions and values.

The Mervin and Rosalind Bolusky Family

Nominators Herbert and Melba Meister said of the Mervin and Rosalind Bolusky family, "I could not believe one couple could cram so much living and giving into a lifetime."

host extended family and friends. Last Passover, there were 18 out-of-town guests staying with the Boluskys. One of the joys was celebrating Mervin's mother's 94th birthday.

Members of Temple Emanu-El, the Boluskys enjoy participating in a variety of community organizations and activities. In keeping with her family's hospitality to others, Rosalind began the welcoming committee at Temple Emanu-El, inviting newcomers to dinner to help them get started, making many long-term friendships along the way.

Rosalind and Mervin, who have been married for 52 years, cannot remember their first meeting. As children growing



The Steiman Family

Married 21 years, Kenneth and Leah work together in the family business, American Wall-paper Co., that was established by Leah's grandfather. The whole family enjoys hiking, going to the beach, traveling and making music together — all play musical instruments.

dance. The parents and three girls are close, often finishing each other's sentences. "We're very involved in each other's lives," said Anita.

On Sundays, the whole family goes to Temple Beth-El for Hebrew School. Anita's job is to manage the school. Jolie, who had her bat mitzvah this year, volunteers as an office assistant; Sara, 15 1/2, volunteers as a teacher's aide; Rachel, now 18, volunteers as a student teacher. Mark volunteers at the Brotherhood Café, a place for parents to socialize while their children are in Hebrew School. He said, "The café makes the temple more accessible, more of a family place."

During the summer, the girls often help their mother at the Hebrew School. They file, organize closets, count textbooks and enjoy being together.

Mark said, "We've been very blessed with three good kids. We're proud of them. In this day and age there are so many outside influences, but they've held up to the pressure." Anita adds, "The girls have made good choices with friends."

The family stays in close touch with family members who are far away, e-mailing Anita's parents in Florida every day and joining Mark's mother and aunt in Worcester every other Sunday for dinner. Anita said, "Holidays are special and we make a point of being all together." The family has a large group of friends in the area, with whom they often celebrate holidays, go apple or pumpkin picking. Anita and Rachel both quote the popular saying, "Friends are your chosen family."



The Hersh Family

Photos by Reberta Segal and Associates

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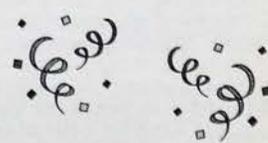
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The family belongs to Temple Emanu-El, where they participate in a variety of activities. For example, 16 1/2-year-old Amiel and 15-year-old Eitan continue to serve as Torah tutors and 12-year-old Shayna helps with younger children at Junior Congregation. Amiel, a junior at Classical High School, is also involved in community projects and youth leadership programs. Kenneth said, "Our kids are very menschlichkeit, concerned with other people and aware of other people's sensitivities and needs."



California Rabbi Uses Gimmicks to Engage Unaffiliated in Judaism

by Tom Tugend

LOS ANGELES (JTA) — This time of year, Rabbi Shlomo Schwartz, wearing a "Grateful Yid" T-shirt and baseball cap, offers an alternative to the legions of Los Angeles Jews who wonder whether they want to pay anywhere from \$100 to \$400 for admission to High Holidays services.

"Schwartzie," as everyone calls him, passes out leaflets, which announce in bold lettering, "No Tickets, No Appeals" for services, open to "Conservative, Reform, non-affiliates and any Jew that moves."

This year, he expects a total of 3,000, mainly single, Jews — most of whom may not have stepped inside a synagogue since their bar or bat mitzvah.

For their free tickets, worshippers also get a Rosh Hashanah eve "Schmooz and Cruise Singles Party," a study session, for women only, by the rabbi's wife, Olivia, and songs by the Schwartz Family Tabernacle Choir, consisting of the couple's seven sons.

Especially popular is a "Stump the Rabbi" session, which in Schwartz's patented orthographic style, "is intensely animated bcz 100's of ppl R bursting w/ ?s they've been wanting to ask since age 12 or 13."

Though the tone may often belighthearted, the services conform to Orthodox ritual. A mechitzah, or partition, divides men from women, and only men are called up for Torah readings.

Schwartz, the product of a Chabad yeshiva who remains a devoted follower of the Lubavitcher rebbe's teachings, ventures where no rabbi has gone before. A one-time bong-thumping Greenwich village beatnik, he frequents rock concerts — flowing beard,

yarmulke, Mickey Mouse suspenders, leather thongs and all — and will on occasion lace a wedding ceremony with lyrics from the Grateful Dead's repertoire.

One of his oddest venues is the Venice Beach boardwalk, where every other Sunday he sets up a folding table and affixes a prominent "Jewish Astrology!" placard. Surrounded by books and calendars, he practices his own form of star-gazing.

Schwartz doesn't claim to be a psychic and he doesn't predict the future. "I try to tell people who they are, their essence, and through that identify their potential and how they can realize it.

"I started this astrology as a shtick, a hook, but I've been blown away by how often I hit the mark," he said.

Schwartz's unorthodox approach and style is based on the simple premise that if Jews, especially the younger generation, won't go to synagogues or join Jewish organizations, then he has to go where they normally gather or provide a setting in which they feel comfortable.

Where do young Jews meet? One place is the popular Comedy Store on the Sunset Strip, and every Purim Schwartz is there, doing his stand-up routine and reading from the megillah to a sellout crowd of 450 people.

The 52-year-old Schwartz was born in Atlantic City, the son of a cantor who had fled Vienna in 1939. The father disliked all Chasidic movements with a passion, and when his only son decided to become a Lubavitcher disciple, the father turned his back on Shlomo, predicting "you'll be a bum."

After rabbinical studies, including two years at Kfar

Chabad in Israel in the late 1960s, Schwartz found his natural calling at the University of California at Los Angeles Chabad House, the first of its kind on any American campus.

He quickly became a highly visible campus figure, setting up his stand next to the followers of the Rev. Sun Myung Moon and Jews for Jesus.

Soon he was dragging startled students into his mobile Sukkah on wheels to wave the lulav, engaging a seven-piece rock band for a Purim party and buttonholing anyone he suspected of being a Jew.

He left his campus post after 13 years, when his unconventional methods got to be a bit much for his superiors. "I am still a Lubavitcher in my heart," he reflects, "but by no longer being an official Chabad representative. I figured I could do even more outrageous things."

Left with no job, but with a wife and 10 children — the number has now swelled to 12 — Shlomo and Olivia Schwartz founded the CHAI Center nine years ago. The name stands for "Life" in Hebrew, but doubles as an acronym for "Center for Happiness & Awesome Insights."

Georgia Celebrates 2,600 Years of Jewish Life

by Lev Krichevsky

MOSCOW (JTA) — Israeli flags and other Jewish symbols adorned the streets of Tbilisi as part of a festival highlighting 2,600 years of Jewish life in Georgia.

An estimated 50,000 people attended the four-day event, mainly sponsored by the government of President Eduard Shevardnadze, which included concerts, theater performances and a Jewish film festival.

The only event marring the festival in the Georgian capital was the inability of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to attend the event. Netanyahu had to cancel because of flu.

But among the dozens of foreign guests who attended festivities were Israeli Deputy Prime Minister Moshe Katsav and Israel's chief Ashkenazi and Sephardi rabbis.

Speaking at a Tbilisi synagogue during the festival, Shevardnadze called the settlement of Jews in the country a "landmark in our history."

Local tradition says the first Jews arrived in Georgia after the Babylonians conquered Jerusalem in the 6th century B.C.E.

Throughout most of its history, Georgia's Jewish community has enjoyed relatively good

relations with the Christian majority, and there have never been any pogroms or large-scale anti-Semitism in this country, which is located in the Caucasus Mountains.

During the Soviet period, Georgian Jews enjoyed more religious and cultural freedom than in any other Soviet republic. One-third of the synagogues that remained open in the Soviet Union were in Georgia.

But Georgia's once-thriving Jewish community, which at its peak totaled 100,000, has now dwindled to 14,000. Some 10,000 of these live in Tbilisi.

Many Jews fled the country during the civil war and economic crisis that plagued Georgia from 1989 to 1995.

A dispute over a historic synagogue mars this long-standing tradition of friendship between Georgia and its Jewish community.

Last year, Georgia's Supreme Arbitrage Court ruled that the synagogue in Tbilisi should be returned to the Jewish community, but the theater troupe, which is currently housed in the building, is refusing to leave.

News At a Glance

- President Clinton met with American Jewish leaders at the White House on Sept. 13 to express his commitment to the peace process. Clinton dropped by unexpectedly at what was originally billed as a meeting with senior administration officials to mark the fifth anniversary of the Oslo accords. The Jewish leaders told Clinton that the overwhelming majority of American Jews support the accords and continued U.S. involvement in the peace process.

- Israel said it would oversee the private burial of two Islamic militants its troops killed, fearing a public funeral would be accompanied by violence. The decision came amid speculation that Israeli and Palestinian officials had coordinated efforts to kill brothers Imad and Adel Awadallah. Palestinian security chief Jibril Rajoub denied the speculation, while an Israeli general said he would neither confirm nor deny it.

- U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, Secretary of Defense William Cohen and members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff met at the White House on Sept. 13 to discuss pressing foreign relations issues, including the Middle East peace process. The group had met with President Clinton on Sept. 12. No details of either meeting were released.

- Members of the U.S. Congress and the Israeli Knesset are scheduled to hold a joint hearing on Capitol Hill to discuss missile defense. The first-ever hearing involving legislators from the United States and Israel comes as Republicans in Congress are seeking Israeli and American Jewish support in their quest to resurrect part of the "Star Wars" missile defense system. Witnesses slated to appear at the hearing include the family of an Israeli killed in an Iraqi Scud attack during the 1991 Gulf War.

- Israel's Cabinet approved next year's approximately \$53 billion budget by a vote of 14 to 2. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the budget included the first real increase in defense spending in 10 years. He did not give additional details of the spending plan, which still requires parliamentary approval.

- Yeshiva high schools being established by Israel's fervently Orthodox Shas Party will not include secular studies. The director general of the body administering the yeshivot, Rabbi Ya'acov Hemed, was quoted as saying there was no need "to waste" four years on secular subjects.

- Four children were arrested in eastern France after admitting that they damaged 71 Jewish graves in July. The children, ages 11 and 12, said they made a game out of the desecrations. They are expected to appear soon before a juvenile court judge.

- An Israeli hotel included President Clinton's name on its sign to show support for him as he confronts the possibility of impeachment. A spokesman for the renamed Hotel Carmel Clinton Netanya said at least 100 people had telephoned backing the move.

Largest Jewish Day School, Dedicated in L.A.

by Tom Tugend

LOS ANGELES (JTA) — The Milken Community High School dedicated its \$30 million campus on Sept. 13, formally opening what is believed to be the largest non-Orthodox Jewish high school in the United States.

The school's curriculum combines high-tech subjects, such as robotics and biotechnology, with intensive Jewish studies.

At the dedication ceremony, the biggest hand was given to Michael Milken, the former junk-bond king, whose family foundation contributed a third of the school's cost.

Described by the *Los Angeles Times* as "an educator's dream," the school is wired for the Internet and video conferencing in every classroom; has fiber-optic hookups in science labs, art and broadcasting studios; and even boasts lounges for students.

Tuition is a hefty \$14,000 a year, higher than at many colleges and universities.

Although the school is under the auspices of the Stephen Wise Temple, a large Reform congregation, the 640 affiliations of the

students range from Reconstructionist to Conservative, and they hail from many parts of the United States, Israel, Argentina and Iran.

The school is set on a hilltop in the Sepulveda Pass, with a sweeping view of Los Angeles and the San Fernando Valley. It adjoins the Skirball Cultural Center and is a short distance from the Getty Museum.

Rabbi Isaac Zeldin, founder of the Stephen Wise Temple, said at the dedication that he was even more privileged than Moses in being allowed to see and enter "the promised land."

The school's first classes actually opened eight years ago in temporary facilities at the nearby University of Judaism.

Even as some 700 students, families and dignitaries celebrated the opening of the Milken School, Zeldin broke ground for an additional building, to house more science labs and classrooms.

Plans are also under way for construction of a soccer field and an Olympic-sized swimming pool.

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FEATURE

Hundreds Rally to Keep Peace Process Alive

by Daniel Kurtzman
WASHINGTON (JTA) — Five years after the signing of the Oslo peace accords, Jewish activists gathered in Washington to try to reignite the hope generated by the euphoria that surrounded the White House ceremony.

More than 400 people marked the Sept. 13 anniversary during a rally at Washington's Adas Israel synagogue—joining with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's widow, Leah, the Clinton administration's top Middle East diplomat, Martin Indyk, and an array of Jewish leaders — by rededicating themselves to the cause of peace.

They came with the hope "that somehow, the new spirit all of us felt five years ago this day can be regenerated and dispel the current gloom," said Rabbi David Saperstein, director of the Reform movement's Religious Action Center, which was part of a loose coalition of more than 25 organizations convening the event.

The groups, including the Reform, Conservative and Reconstructionist movements, as well as Americans for Peace Now, the National Council of Jewish Women and the New Israel Fund, said they represent the vast majority of the organized American Jewish community.

Prior to the rally, President Clinton met with leaders of the various organizations to express his steadfast commitment to moving the peace process forward. His appearance at the White House meeting, which was originally billed as a briefing with senior administration officials, caught everyone by surprise.

Clinton spoke at length about the peace process, noting that some progress had been made recently, during U.S. Middle East envoy Dennis Ross' visit to Israel and the Palestinian Authority, but that obstacles still remained.

The Jewish leaders, in turn, urged him to intensify peace-making efforts and said the overwhelming majority of Ameri-

can Jews support the Oslo accords and continued U.S. involvement in the peace process.

That message came out at the rally as well.

"For the United States to withdraw from the peace process is unthinkable and would lead to chaos," said Seymour Reich, former chairman of the Conference of Presidents of major American Jewish Organizations.

Indyk, the assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs, suggested that U.S. efforts to break the deadlock between Israel and the Palestinians were close to bearing fruit.

He emphasized that the "clock is ticking" as May of next year approaches, when the interim agreement expires.

Despite speeches which stressed the need for staying the course of the Oslo process, criticism of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's peace policies was implied, but not overt.

Israel's ambassador to the United States, Zalman Shoval, did not attend the rally, citing scheduling conflicts, although the embassy did send a representative.

After hearing excerpts of Yitzhak Rabin's address at the White House signing ceremony in 1993, Leah Rabin took the podium and with glistening eyes, looked over the crowd gathered in what were familiar surroundings.

She and her late husband had frequently attended the synagogue while Rabin served as ambassador to Washington, and had seen their son become a bar mitzvah there.

Recalling Rabin's assassination, she said, "There is a price to pay for peace and he became the price we all had to pay," but added, "When we buried Yitzhak we did not bury the hope."

Steve Spector of Falls Church, Va., left the rally reflecting on how the "hope and euphoria" of five years ago had given way to frustration and the realization that we have to think in more practical terms.

Volkswagen Announces Amount of Fund For Slave Laborers

by Deidre Berger
FRANKFURT (JTA) — Following up on an earlier pledge, Volkswagen has established an \$11.7 million fund to compensate Holocaust survivors who were forced to work as slave laborers during World War II.

Payments could begin as early as the end of this year, company officials said.

The amount of compensation given to applicants will be decided by a board of trustees the company said it will set up immediately.

Volkswagen confirmed that former Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres and former Austrian Chancellor Franz Vranitzky have already agreed to serve on the board.

The announcement came after Volkswagen pledged in July to set up a humanitarian fund "in recognition of its historical and moral obligations."

The company's decision is notable because it is the first time a major German firm has agreed to such compensation payments.

The decision — which came after two class-action lawsuits against Volkswagen and other German firms were filed in New York and New Jersey earlier this month — is expected to put pressure on other German firms to take similar action.

Volkswagen employed an estimated 15,000 to 20,000 forced laborers to maintain production during the war. About 1,500 of these workers were Jewish. The company says it does not know how many of the former workers are still alive.

Some 10 years ago, a study commissioned by the company detailed the role of slave laborers in maintaining production during the war years.

Because of the firm's location in a sparsely populated region in northern Germany, and because many of its employees were drafted to fight in the German army, it relied heavily on forced labor.

In past years, Volkswagen has sponsored humanitarian projects in various European countries to help former slave laborers.

Despite the availability of information about the significant role of slave labor in maintaining the company's wartime profits, Volkswagen, like other German firms, refused to make compensation payments after the war.

German firms have until very recently repeated what has been their standard argument: The German government is responsible for such payments because it is the legal successor to the Nazi regime.

But growing international interest — sparked by the controversies in Switzerland about Nazi gold and the dormant bank accounts of Holocaust victims — has focused attention on other unresolved compensation issues.

A spokesman for the Association of German Industries, Dieter Rath, denied that leading German companies are on the verge of establishing a joint foundation to settle the claims of former slave laborers.

In recent weeks, firms like BMW and Siemens indicated interest in such a solution.

But at a recent meeting of 15 firms, company representatives were unable to agree on a joint strategy. Instead, according to Rath, the companies continue to favor individual solutions.

Meanwhile, Ed Fagan, a New York lawyer who represents former slave laborers in one of the class action lawsuits, told German television that Volkswagen's decision to set up a private foundation for compensation claims will not stop the lawsuit.

Munich lawyer Michael Witt, who also represents Holocaust victims in claims cases, has said that the amount of money Volkswagen is giving to the foundation is inadequate to properly fulfill all claims.

200th Reform Mohel Certified

Jewish Ritual Practitioners Celebrate Milestone

Reform mohels in North America now number 200. Dr. Susanna Walsh of North Yarmouth, Maine, is the 200th mohel, and 25th woman, certified by the Berit Mila Board of Reform Judaism, an organization which oversees the training and certification of Reform mohalim and mohalot in North America. The milestone coincides with the upcoming convention of Reform mohels in Washington, D.C., Oct. 16 to 18.

"We are very excited to welcome Dr. Walsh to a network of professionals who have combined their love of medicine and

Judaism," commented Berit Milah Board Director Tammy Schacher-Briskin. The Berit Milah Board is based at the Los Angeles School of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, though the courses take place throughout the country.

Mohalim and mohalot are Hebrew terms for men and women, respectively, who are trained in the rituals of the Jewish circumcision ceremony, or Berit Mila. According to Jewish traditions, fathers are obligated to circumcise their sons, or may appoint a mohel to do so. Historically, women have not been trained as mohalot. There are, however, no prohibitions against women performing Jewish ritual circumcision, and many families feel more comfortable using mohalot.

Previously, mohels received only informal training from a self-chosen mentor for the circumcision procedure and ritual aspects of Berit Mila. To professionalize and standardize training of medical professionals for this ritual, the Reform movement of Judaism established the Berit Mila Board in 1984. Since then, 200 Reform mohalim and mohalot have been certified. Certified mohels join the professional organization, the National Organization of American Mohalim/ot. Each member of NOAM is a doctor or certified nurse midwife.

Each health professional enrolls in an intensive course and certification process involving more than 35 hours of instruction. He or she emerges with a deeper understanding of the

meaning of the mitzvah (commandment), the sources and history of the Berit Mila ceremony as well as the theology, law and folklore of this Jewish commandment. They also learn how to conduct Berit Bat ceremonies (naming ceremonies for Jewish infant girls) and how to work with interfaith couples welcoming babies into the Covenant and Jewish life.

The first class to train Reform mohels was held in Los Angeles in 1984 and the Berit Mila Board of Reform Judaism was established the same year. Begun by Dr. David James, a New York city obstetrician, and Rabbi Lewish Barth, dean of the Los Angeles School of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, the program has filled a very real spiritual and practical need for young families in the Reform and larger Jewish community.

Members of the NOAM, the professional organization of Reform mohels, will convene in Washington, D.C., from Oct. 16 to 18 for a weekend of prayer, study and discussion of religious and medical issues relating to Berit Mila.

The Berit Mila Board is a joint project of the institutions of Reform Judaism: Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, the Central Conference of American Rabbis, and the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

For more information about utilizing Reform Mohalim/ot, or about a course developing in your area, contact a local Re-

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New York Board of Rabbis Issues Survey of Rabbinic Cooperation

by Debra Nussbaum Cohen
NEW YORK (JTA) — The New York Board of Rabbis has released a collection of hundreds of recent examples of rabbinic interdenominational cooperation from across the country.

But a conflict within the board itself over an interfaith prayer service Sept. 14 in New York illustrates the continuing tensions in relations among Judaism's streams.

The examples of cooperation range from some that seem ground-breaking to others that don't involve substantive interdenominational cooperation at all, like when rabbis offer their own views of the pluralism debate in panel discussions or when congregations around the country, connected with all of the movements, separately host a crash course in Hebrew offered by the National Jewish Outreach Program.

Many of the examples came in two arenas where joint interdenominational work has long been practiced: chaplaincy and adult Jewish education.

Other examples in the New York board's report include:

- New York Orthodox synagogue Kehillath Jeshurun opening up space in its Ramaz Day School to Conservative congregation Or Zarua, which used the room for High Holidays services and its community seder.

- A workshop on intermarriage, held in East Bay, Calif., last June, drawing about 25 Orthodox, Conservative, Reconstructionist and Reform rabbis.

- In San Francisco in August, a communitywide Tisha B'Av service involved Orthodox, Conservative and Reform rabbis.

- In Houston in August, the 14th annual Cantors' Concert was held at a Reform temple,

with Orthodox, Conservative and Reform cantors performing together.

- A group of 38 Los Angeles-area rabbis from each of the four denominations, calling themselves "Darchei Shalom," or Paths of Peace, issued a statement calling for Jews to adopt a code to govern the way Jews with different opinions speak and write about each other.

Rabbi Mark Schneier, president of the New York Board of Rabbis, came up with the idea for the study because these days, "people only hear about the divisiveness and the conflict" within the Jewish community.

The \$10,000 cost of the study was underwritten by philanthropists Charles Bronfman, Michael Jesselson and Michael Steinhardt as part of their joint \$50,000 gift to Schneier's new effort to put together a nationwide association of boards of rabbis.

Just as Schneier released the report, however, the New York board faced a conflict which may, according to some, threaten Orthodox participation in the 117-year-old organization. With more than 800 members, it is the nation's largest local interdenominational rabbinic organization.

The imbroglio began when Reform Rabbi Robert Levine, head of the board's interfaith committee, sent a letter to the membership inviting his colleagues to participate in a Sept. 9 service at St. Patrick's Cathedral on behalf of the city's poor.

Orthodox members of the board — including Schneier — strongly objected, because their interpretation of Jewish law, or halachah, prohibits them from praying in a church and from engaging in joint prayer with non-Jews.

Levine quickly sent out a follow-up letter to board members, trying to present the event as the innocuous gathering that he felt it was.

But at a time when right-wing interpretations of Orthodox Judaism hold growing sway and centrist Orthodox rabbis worry about being tainted as insufficiently strict, it didn't control the damage, which has played out in a series of recent angry articles in the Orthodox newspaper *The Jewish Press*.

The event itself was a success, said Levine after the service, with the massive landmark cathedral filled with Catholics, Jews, Protestants, Muslims and Buddhists.

From the dias looking out over the crowd, he said, he couldn't tell if any Orthodox New York board rabbis ended up attending.

According to Rabbi Irving Greenberg, a longtime analyst of Jewish religious and communal life who predicted in 1985 that religious extremism would polarize the Jewish people into virtually two religions, the flap within the New York board is more reflective of current reality than the examples of cooperation in the organization's study.

While he welcomed Schneier's effort to point out the "moments of light and relief, the big picture is that there's less cooperation and communal activity and willingness to do things together than there ever has been," Greenberg said in an interview.

"No one should fool themselves into thinking that the big picture is truly a good one," he said, when "the atmosphere is one of an almost total breakdown" between the different Jewish religious philosophies.

U.S. And Israeli Lawmakers Join Forces For Missile Defense

by Matthew Dorf

WASHINGTON (JTA) — For a few moments on Capitol Hill recently, Sally Minich and Aviva Grundland united in their grief and their message.

Testifying before what is believed to be the first-ever joint hearing of the U.S. Congress and the Israeli Knesset, Minich and Grundland urged the legislators to support missile defense systems to spare other families their ordeal.

Funding for missile defense development has been a hotly contested item on Capitol Hill this year as concerns grow over missile and nuclear weapons development programs in North Korea, India, Pakistan and Iraq.

During the 1991 Gulf War, an Iraqi Scud missile slammed into a U.S. Army staging area, killing Minich's youngest son, Frank, an Army reserve specialist. A few days earlier Grundland's husband, Eitan, died when a Scud missile destroyed their home near Tel Aviv.

"The same missile takes your husband, the father of your children and leaves you alone for the rest of your life," Grundland told the members of the Senate, House of Representatives and Knesset, who sat together on the dais in the historic House Armed Services Committee hearing room.

"No citizen in the world is at this point safe, especially in Israel, from missiles," said Grundland, who was on the phone with her husband when she heard the air raid sirens sound. Moments later the line was cut off when a missile, one of 38 that landed in Israeli territory, struck their home.

"Today, we've lost the capability to protect the home front," she said.

And that is what brought American and Israeli lawmakers from across the political spectrum in both countries together.

"The missile threat to the people of Israel and the people

of the United States knows no political boundary," said Sen. Jon Kyl (R-Ariz.).

Since the Gulf War, Syria has acquired more advanced Scud missiles, capable of carrying chemical and biological warheads into Israel, and Iran has tested medium-range ballistic missiles capable of hitting the Jewish state.

Despite initial favorable reviews of the Patriot anti-missile batteries used during the Gulf War, the system only hit about 40 percent of its targets. While many more advanced systems are under development in both Israel and the United States, none will be ready for deployment for at least 14 months.

Echoing the sentiment of all the eight lawmakers at the hearing, Uzi Landau of Israel's ruling Likud Party said, "This is a situation which should be totally, totally unacceptable to all of us."

Israel and the United States already cooperate extensively in the area of missile defense. In fact, only hours before the hearing began, the Arrow missile-killing missile successfully destroyed a mock target off the coast of Israel in the first test to combine all of the systems of the joint American-Israeli project.

The United States will likely fund two-thirds of the estimated \$1.6 billion cost of developing and deploying the missile.

But more must be done, the lawmakers argued. The ability of rogues states "to hit Israeli and American troops in the Middle East is far ahead of what we can do to contain it," said Landau, who chairs the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

For Israel, there is "a clear and present danger," added Ephraim Sneh, a retired general in the opposition Labor Party.

During their four-day visit, the Israeli delegation met with top American military officials to discuss merging other missile defense systems and increasing shared technology.

Swiss Bank Account Panel Under Pressure to Finish Work

by Daniel Kurtzman

WASHINGTON (JTA) — One month after Switzerland's two largest banks agreed to pay \$1.25 billion to settle Holocaust-era claims, a panel conducting a sweeping audit of Swiss banks is coming under pressure to wrap up its work.

So far, auditors have discovered just more than \$50 million in dormant accounts belonging to Holocaust victims but some sources say that amount could double by the time the process is complete.

Determining the value of

those accounts is considered a critical part of the settlement reached last month between the banks and Holocaust survivors, which brings resolution to all Holocaust-era claims against Switzerland, with the exception of insurance claims.

As part of the settlement, the banks agreed to pay out all dormant accounts, deducting the amount from the \$1.25 billion sum.

But some Swiss bank officials complain that the process is not moving quickly enough and that as it drags on, they continue to foot the bill.

Paul Volcker, the former U.S. Federal Reserve chairman who is heading the panel adjudicating claims, has defended the exhaustive search, now in its second year, saying that as the panel continues its work, it undoubtedly will come up with more accounts.

Volcker also said that with the process well under way, he expects to resign from the panel soon.

Last year, the Volcker commission published the names of

the holders of 5,570 bank accounts worth \$51.6 million. Since then, 9,500 claims have been filed against 2,377 of those accounts. About 3,300 of those have been accepted as valid, and the rest have undergone an initial assessment and review by independent arbitrators.

The work of matching up claimants to accounts, undertaken by more than 200 auditors from international accounting firms, has been complicated by the fact that claims have been received from 27 countries in 20 languages. And in many cases, there have been multiple claims against a single account.

Most of the claims, about 20 percent, have come from people in the United States, followed by residents of Germany, France, Israel and Argentina.

Although the banks so far have only paid out about 25 accounts, Volcker said the first large group of payments is expected in the next month or so.

Elan Steinberg, executive director of the World Jewish Congress, said he was satisfied with the pace of the process.

Mohel Certified

(Continued from Previous Page)

form rabbi or regional UAHC office. You may also contact Tammy Schachet-Briskin, c/o Hebrew Union College, 3077 University Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90007; phone, (213) 749-3424, ext. 4261; fax: (213) 749-1192; e-mail: <beritmila@huc.edu>.



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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Art Work on Display by Young Victims of the Nazis

One of the most poignant but half-forgotten tragedies of the Holocaust — the systematic imprisonment and murder of thousands of Jewish children by the Nazis — will be marked by an exhibit of art produced by the young victims Sept. 24 to Oct. 9 in the Czech Center, 1109 Madison Ave., in Manhattan.

The collection of 40 water colors was selected from more than 4,000 pieces of art work created by the children while being held in the Terezin Ghetto—a concentration camp in Czechoslovakia — to await deportation to the death camps.

The exhibit is titled "I Never Saw Another Butterfly" — a line from a poem, "The Butterfly," by Pavel Friedmann, a young Terezin inmate, who later died in Auschwitz. The works reflect the fear, courage and vibrancy of children, even in the face of horror and tragedy.

Admission to the exhibit is free to the general public. The hours are Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

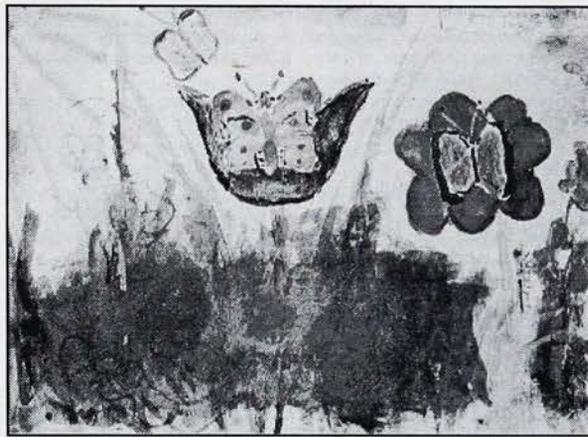
The Terezin Ghetto was maintained by the Nazis from 1941 to 1945. It was known in German as Theresienstadt and served as a concentration camp

for hundreds of thousands of Jews, including a special children's section, prior to shipping them to extermination camps. The children were forced to live apart from their families. Hunger and disease were rampant and living conditions were virtually unbearable.

Nonetheless, clandestine school classes and activities such as drawing, music, lectures and

theater were held, with the help of adult prisoners assigned to supervise the children. The art work, diaries, poems and other writings were secreted by the youngsters and their adult supervisors and were virtually unknown until recently.

The last of the Terezin children were deported to the death camps in October 1944. Only a few survived.



"I NEVER SAW ANOTHER BUTTERFLY." This watercolor was painted by Margit Koretzova, 11, while at the Terezin ghetto — an infamous camp 50 miles from Prague, where thousands of children were held by the Nazis for shipment to the death camps.

Submitted by Richard Cohen Associates

Sports and Recreation Festival at Wachusett Mountain

Want to experience a variety of sports or recreational activities all in one day and raise money for a great cause! Then come enjoy "a day to play" at the Wachusett Mountain Outdoors Sports and Recreation Festival on Sept. 26 and 27 and take part in the "Mountain of Hope" Bike & Hike-a-thon! Each participant to enter the fundraiser receives free admission to the Outdoor Festival! Try your hand at a variety of outdoor activities and sports, and demo different products! Activities include: canoeing, kayaking, in-line skating, skateboarding, hiking, kite flying, mountain biking, fly fishing, ultimate frisbee, basketball, soccer, golf and more!

Take a chance at the 30-ft. climbing wall or check out the extreme stunts of the Schwinn/

Toyota Mountain Bike Trials Action Show!

As always there will be great food, music and scenic fall foliage viewing from the Skyride! Activities are planned rain or shine!

The event will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. Admission is \$4.75 for adults; \$2.50 for children 6 to 15 years old; free for children under 6. Skyride tickets are \$4 round-trip and \$3 one-way. Food, beverage and Skyride are not included in admission.

Wachusett Mountain is located off Route 140 on the Princeton/Westminster, Mass., town line. Call (978) 464-2300 for more information on any of Wachusett Mountain's Fall Festivals. Visit our website at <www.wachusett.com>.

Daily Life of Wampanoags Examined

The daily life of the Wampanoag Indians in the 17th century will be examined in a Brown Learning Community program for families at the Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology on Oct. 3 from 10 a.m. to noon.

The museum's education program staff will lead participants in such activities as open-fire cooking, scraping a deer skin, and making a craft object to bring home.

Registration is required. The fee is \$15 per person or \$25 for a family of up to four people. Call Brown Learning Community at 863-3580 to register or for more information.

The Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology, located at 300 Tower St., Bristol, is Brown University's major museum.

'Show Boat' to Premiere at PPAC

The Tony Award-winning production of "Show Boat," directed by Broadway legend Harold Prince, will make its Providence premiere at the Providence Performing Arts Center, Nov. 20 to Dec. 2.

"Show Boat" is considered to be an American musical masterpiece and a milestone work in the history of musical theater. Adapted by composer Jerome Kern and librettist Oscar Hammerstein II from Edna Ferber's sweeping novel, *Show Boat* boasts a treasure trove of great classic theater songs such as "Ol' Man River," "Can't Help Lovin' Dat Man," "You Are Love," "Why Do I Love You," "Only Make Believe" and "Bill," with lyrics by P.G. Wodehouse.

Tickets are on sale now. Call the Providence Performing Arts Center box office at 421-ARTS. Tickets range from \$31 to \$45. Tickets are also available through Ticketmaster.

"Show Boat" became the most honored show of the 1994-95 Broadway season, winning five Tony Awards including Best Revival of Musical, Best Direction, Best Choreography, Best Featured Actress and Best Costume Design.

"Beachscapes" at Providence Art Club

"Beachscapes" by Vince Grimaldi, photography and poetry, will be shown at the Providence Art Club, The Moite Gallery, 11 Thomas St., Providence, R.I. now through Oct. 2.

Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mon. to Fri.; noon to 3 p.m., Sat.; 3 to 5 p.m. Sun.

Photography Exhibit Features Venice

East Greenwich Photo presents a photography exhibit "Venice." Recent works by Angelo Marinosci, Jr. The opening reception will be Oct. 2 from 7 to 9 p.m. The public is welcome.

Gallery hours are Monday and Tuesday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Wednesday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday noon to 5 p.m. Call 884-0220 for more information.



State Arts Council Receives Education Grant

The Rhode Island State Council on the Arts announced that it will receive a \$10,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency, to support a joint task force with the R.I. Department of Education. This task force would conduct a state-wide education policy planning process designed to make the arts "an important component of the state's education improvement initiatives for kindergarten through grade 12."

The grant is part of a new NEA program designed to extend endowment support in specific states for community cultural planning and development initiatives.

'Norman is That You?!' Opens at Newport Playhouse

The Newport Playhouse and Cabaret Restaurant announces the performance of the play "Norman, Is That You?!" on Sept. 24 to Nov. 15. The play will run every Friday, Saturday and Sunday night, as well as matinees every Sunday.

Doors open at 6 p.m. for the evening performances, buffet service is at 6:15 p.m., and the play begins at 8:15 p.m. Cabaret follows all evening and matinee performances.

Sunday matinees the doors open at 11 a.m., buffet service is at 11:30 a.m., and the play begins at 1 p.m.

Tickets are \$38.95 for each dinner, play and cabaret and \$18.50 for play and cabaret only.

'David & Solomon' at Brandeis

The Consulate General of Israel to New England presents "David & Solomon," A Meeting of Voices from Heaven and Earth, featuring special arrangements of Israel's most popular songs, displaying the vast cultural spectrum of Israeli music.

Starring Shlomo Bar, David De'or and Habrera Hativit. Shlomo Bar, drummer and vocalist, is the founder and moving spirit of Habrera Hativit, Israel's most original and successful ethnic band. David De'or, contra-tenor, exquisitely performs both classical and popular repertoire.

The show is Oct. 24 at 8:30 p.m. at Brandeis University's Spingold Theater, 415 South St., Waltham, Ma. Tickets are \$30, \$25, \$20; call (617) 542-0041, ext. 333.



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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



National Museum of American Jewish History Presents 'Creating American Jews'

An exhibition at the museum explores the evolution of Jewish identity in America

• Gallery talk and reception with photographer Mark Berghash. Oct. 15. The temporary exhibition, "GALUT: Jewish Identity in America: Photographs by Mark Berghash," is comprised of black-and-white portraits accompanied by interviews with his 30 subjects. Join Berghash in a gallery talk as he explains the project's inspiration and how he sought to capture the variety of experiences that make up American Jewry. Free with museum admission.

• Special Theme Tour. Oct. 18, 1 p.m. Jews who came of age in the '60s helped to create an American counterculture — and at the same time, they shaped new visions of American Jewish identity. This guided interpretive tour of the "New Identities" section of Creating American Jews explores this fertile period of American Jewish History. Free with museum admission.

• Eli Faber, author of *Jews, Slaves and the Slave Trade, Setting the Record Straight*. Oct. 25, 3 p.m. Faber discusses his groundbreaking book, the definitive work on the subject, which recaptures an important chapter in both Jewish and African diasporic history. \$7, \$5 for museum members. Funding by the Robert Saligman Jewish Heritage Fund.

The National Museum of American Jewish History is located at 55 North 5th St., Independence Mall East, Philadelphia, Pa. 19106-2197, Tel. (215) 923-5978, Fax: (215) 923-0763.

A Three-Artist Show Opens at Wickford Art Gallery

The works of three Wickford Art Association artist members will be on exhibit at the Wickford Art Association Gallery on Sept. 25 through Oct. 7. Betty Purdum of Jamestown will be exhibiting work in acrylics, Willye Roberts of Newport will exhibit media, and Lois Shapleigh of Newport will be exhibiting water media works featuring shells and stones.

The opening reception will be held Sept. 25 from 7 to 9 p.m. The public is invited to attend and meet the artists.

The Wickford Art Association Gallery is located at 36 Beach St., Wickford. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and noon to 3 p.m. Sunday. The gallery is closed on Mondays. The gallery is wheelchair accessible and shows are free and open to the public. For more information, call 294-6840.

Plantation Days

The grounds of Smith Castle come alive with canvas tents and approximately 150 people who portray the life and skills of the colonial era by way of demonstrations and personas of colonial craftsmen, military and militia groups. Displays of cooking and many living skills are to be found. Soap and candlemaking are but a few of the everyday skills to be found. Demonstrations are ongoing throughout both days. As you stroll through the camps you may hear a group of sailors singing sea songs. Sutlers and traders will be selling the wares of the 1700s. Many special events and displays will be available for your entertainment — fashion shows, the British telling "their" side etc.

The dates are Oct. 3, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Oct. 4, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The location is one mile north from the intersection of routes 1 and 102 in North Kingstown; from route 95 and route 4 take Exit 5A onto Route 102 south to Route 1 north for about one mile. Smith Castle is located across from the State Police Barracks.

It is the location of Roger Williams' trading post and the first inhabitants of southern Rhode Island. It was a well-known way station for the weary traveler. We welcome visitors to Plantation Days.

Admission is \$3 adults, \$2 seniors, and children under 12 free. Food will be available from the Tavern offering a fine Colonial fare. For further information, call 294-3521 or 539-9921.

'Camelot' at PPAC

"Camelot," starring Robert Goulet, will open the 1998/1999 BankBoston Broadway Series, Oct. 13 through 18. Tickets are on sale now. Call the Providence Performing Arts Center box office at 421-ARTS. Tickets are priced at \$31, \$33, \$41, \$43 and \$45. For groups of 20 or more, call 421-2997, ext. 3121. Tickets are also available through Ticket-master.

Based on T.H. White's *The*

Once and Future King, "Camelot" tells the tale of King Arthur's quest for righteousness in the world and the choice he is forced to make between his beloved Queen Guenevere and his most favored knight, Sir Lancelot. Recreating the grandeur and pageantry of the Knights of the Round Table, this production features medieval sets, regal costumes, and props reflecting England in 600 A.D.

10th Annual R.I. Festival of Children's Books

Twelve of America's most popular children's authors and illustrators, along with Lilly the Mouse and Ms. Frizzle, will gather at the 10th annual Rhode Island Festival of Children's Books & Authors on Oct. 24 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Oct. 25 from noon to 5 p.m. at the Lincoln School on Butler Avenue in Providence. Tickets are \$3 per person, per day. The proceeds will benefit family-oriented programs at Women & Infants Hospital and the department of library services' reading motivation projects for youth.

Featured authors and illustrators who will be available to autograph their books include R.W. Alley, Maryjane Begin, Andrew Clements, Joanna Cole, Bruce Degen, Kevin Henkes, Ted Lewin, Emily Lisker, Janet Taylor Lisle, David Macaulay, Chris Van Allsburg and Paul O. Zelinsky.

Children will be able to enjoy performers, participate in crafts, watch book-related videos, enjoy refreshments and, of course, meet the storybook characters Lilly the Mouse and Ms. Frizzle. Adults and older children can learn what's new in children's books.

RISD Announces Exhibits

Rhode Island School of Design, 224 Benefit St., announces the following exhibits:

Oct. 1 — Lecture "Out of the East: Oriental Influences on English Ceramics, 1965-1835."

Oct. 2 — Curator's Lunch Talk, "Gifts of The Nile." Join Florence Friedman, RISD Museum curator of ancient art, for a slide presentation about the behind-the-scenes planning for Gifts of the Nile. Free with museum admission, 12:15 p.m. Call 454-6510 for reservations.

Oct. 3 — RISD Alumni & Student Art Sale. Free, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Benefit Street (between College and Waterman streets).

Oct. 7 to Jan. 17, 1999 — Drawn From The Collection: Part of The Fabric. An exhibition of new work by 10 painters who each selected a piece from the RISD Museum's Asian Textile Collection as inspiration.

Hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday until 8 p.m. Admission is \$5 adults, \$4 seniors, \$1 5- to 18-year-olds, and \$2 college students with valid identification.

Looking For Actors

The Newport Playhouse and Cabaret Restaurant announces auditions for the comedy, "My Fat Friend," written by Charles Laurence. "My Fat Friend" will run from Nov. 20 through Dec. 20.

Auditions will take place at The Newport Playhouse on Sept. 28 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Needed are two men, ages 30 to 50, for lead roles. All other roles have been cast. Call 848-PLAY.



A Fair Country

Rhode Island College Theatre presents "A Fair Country," Robin Baitz' play that focuses on the conflict between a father, who is a U.S. information officer in charge of cultural affairs, and his radical son, who is actively involved in South African politics, in the decade between 1977 and 1987. It will be staged by Rhode Island College Theatre Oct. 1 thru 4 in Roberts Hall Auditorium with evening and matinee performances. The play raises issues about personal ethics and family trust. Displaying taut emotions are RIC juniors Don Carrara of Warwick and Sarah Craveiro of Bristol, who portray his mother. Tickets are \$10 with discounts for senior citizens and students. Call 456-8060.

Photo courtesy of Gordon E. Rowley, RIC

Come Join and Sing

When was the last time you sang in an organized group? Come join our love of four-part harmony. We can all use a little more music in our lives. Share our guest night with us and have some fun.

The Mount Hope Bay Chorus invites you to their Guest Night on Sept. 30 at 7:15 p.m. for "A Little Night Music" fun and friendship at the East Providence Senior Center at the corner of Pawtucket and Waterman avenues in East Providence. Carpooling is available.

For more information, contact Carlene at 941-6165, Shelley at 437-9686, or Mary Beth at (508) 699-7153.



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OBITUARIES

TALA BARCOHANA PAWTUCKET — Tala Barcohana, 91, of 162 Ridge St., Pawtucket, died Sept. 20 at Miriam Hospital, Providence. She was the wife of the late Sion Barcohana.

Born in Iran, a daughter of the late Rubin and Sarah Levi, she had lived in Pawtucket for the past 20 years, previously living in Providence.

She is survived by four sons, Dr. Yusef Barcohana of Providence, Fred Barcohana of Pawtucket, David and Aron Barcohana of Los Angeles; two daughters, Sarah Barlavi of Providence, and Madeline Eslamoli of Los Angeles; a brother, Moshe Levi of Los Angeles and a sister, Khanom Bala of Los Angeles. She also leaves 21 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren.

A graveside funeral service was held on Sept. 20 at Lincoln Park Cemetery, Post Road, Warwick. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

ADA BERNSTEIN FLORIDA — Ada Bernstein, 94, of Sunrise, Fla., died Sept. 15 at Memorial Manor, Pembroke Pines, Fla. She was the wife of the late Martin Bernstein.

Born in New York City, a daughter of the late Samuel and Celia (Gorodetsky) Schwartz, she lived in Florida for 25 years, previously living in Cranston.

She was a former member of Temple Beth-El and its Sisterhood. She was former president of JCRS and a life member of the Jewish Home for the Aged, Hadassah and the Women's Association of Miriam Hospital.

She leaves two daughters, Janith Lamchick of Pembroke Pines and Arlene Lubner of Cranston; seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Max and Jack Schwartz, Henrietta Lillian, Hannah Gerbie, Mae Lobree, Goldie Rubin and Lillian Abrams.

The funeral service was held Sept. 18 in the chapel of Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

ANN GURNICK DAMSKY EAST PROVIDENCE — Ann Gurnick Damsky, 88, of 350 Taunton Ave., a clerk at Guttin's Bakery, retiring 25 years ago, died Sept. 15 at home. She was the wife of the late Samuel Gurnick and the late Moe Damsky.

Born in Russia, a daughter of the late David and Sarah (Maravak) Make, she lived in East Providence for four years, previously living in Providence.

She leaves a son, Dr. Stanley Gurnick of Chicago, Ill., and five grandchildren.

She was the mother of the late Gerald David Gurnick and sister of the late Abraham, Shepsel and Shloma Make, Beatrice and Sadie Bookman and Rose Miller.

Funeral services were held Sept. 18 in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

SHIRLEY FISCHBEIN FALL RIVER — Shirley Fischbein, 72, of 460 Freelove St., Fall River, Mass., died Sept. 9. She was the wife of Jerome Fishbein.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., a daughter of the late Samuel and Fannie Daniels Dumbrow, she was a resident of Fall River since 1980.

She worked as a bookkeeper at Howard Manufacturing, Fall River. She also worked as a receptionist for Dr. Kuniholm. She graduated from Abra-

ham Lincoln High School, Brooklyn, and attended Brooklyn College.

She was a member of Temple Beth-El, serving on the board of its Sisterhood. She was also on the board of the Jewish Home of Fall River and was a Charlton Memorial Hospital volunteer.

A memorial service was held Sept. 14 at the Jewish Home in Fall River.

Burial was in Pinelawn Cemetery, Farmingdale, N.Y. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

YETTA FISCHMAN BROOKLINE, MASS. — Yetta Fischman, 87, of the Coolidge Corner Nursing Center, Brookline, Mass., died Sept. 12 at the nursing center. She was the wife of the late Sidney Fischman. She was born in New York City, the daughter of the late Rubin and Dora (Goldstein) Nachamkin and had lived in Taunton for more than 50 years.

She had been a teacher for more than 60 years. She graduated the former NY Teachers College in 1931, received her BA from Bridgewater State College in 1962, and her MA from Bridgewater State College in 1966. She was a member of the Bristol and MA Retired Teachers Association.

She was a member of Congregation Agudas Achim and its Sisterhood, COMCARE, PRIDE, B'nai Brith, and a life-long member of Workman's Circle. She was a former president of the volunteers for the Bargain Bazar and a Friend of the Library.

She is survived by two sons; Harry Fischman and Eliot Fischman, both of Sag Harbour, N.Y.; a daughter, Blanche Somer of Lebanon, N.J.; two brothers, Irving Nachamin of Silver Springs, M.D., and Gerald Nachamkin of E. Brunswick, N.Y.; and five grandchildren.

Graveside services were held Sept. 14 at Mt. Nebo Cemetery, Taunton. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

HARRY FISHMAN PROVIDENCE — Harry Fishman, 85, of 260 Boyd Ave., East Providence, head shipping clerk at Regal Mfg. Co., Providence, before retiring, died Sept. 15 at Miriam Hospital. He was the husband of Ruth (Schechter) Fishman.

Born in Central Falls, a son of the late Abraham and Rachel (Tetlebaum) Fishman, he had lived in Pawtucket for many years before moving to East Providence 20 years ago.

He was a member of the Hebrew Free Loan Association and Temple Ohawe Shalom, Pawtucket.

Besides his wife, he leaves two daughters, Donna Fishman of Jamestown and Arlene Fishman of Reston, Va. He was the brother of the late Max and Morris Fishman, Annie Rosen, Esther Kramer and Ida Wittner.

The funeral service was held Sept. 18 at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

SAMUEL J. GOLDFARB NEW PROVIDENCE, N.J. — Samuel J. Goldfarb, 79, of New Providence, N.J., the owner with his father of the former Lincoln Furniture Co. in Providence and Pawtucket for 20 years, died Sept. 15 at home. He was the husband of the late Doris (Saltzman) Goldfarb.

Born in Providence, a son of the late Nathan and Minnie (Shuster) Goldfarb, he lived in New Jersey since 1992, previously living in Lauderdale Lakes, Fla., and Pawtucket.

He was an Army veteran of World War II. He was a manufacturer's representative for several furniture companies in New England. An accomplished violinist, he was second violinist in the Broward Symphony Orchestra in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

He was a member of Temple Emanu-El, serving as chairman of the Men's Club, and the House Committee, a member of the Breakfast Committee of Minyanaires and a regular attendee of minyan. He was a member of the Touro Fraternal Association and Overseas Lodge 40, Masons.

He leaves two daughters, Cheryl Miller of Cleveland, Ohio, and Trudy Silverman of Westfield, N.J.; a son, Michael Goldfarb of Orlando, Fla.; a sister, Florence Percelay of North Pompano Beach, Fla., and four grandchildren.

The funeral service was held Sept. 18 in the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

MARJORIE Y. LEIF PAWTUCKET — Marjorie Y. Leif, 75, of 10 Cambria Court, died Sept. 12 at home. She was the wife of Edward Leif.

Born in Providence, she was a daughter of the late Samuel and Rebecca (Wainshallbaum) Young. She lived in Pawtucket for the last 46 years, previously living in Providence.

She attended Rhode Island School of Design before marrying. She was a life member of the Ladies Association of the Jewish Home for the Aged, and a member of the Pawtucket Chapter of Hadassah.

Besides her husband, she leaves a son, Richard Leif of Northboro, Mass.; a brother, Paul Young of North Providence; a sister, Eleanor Ross of Pawtucket, and two grandchildren.

The funeral service was held Sept. 13 at the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Entombment was at Swan Point Cemetery.

CYNTHIA JANICE WARD FORESTVILLE, CONN. — Cynthia Janice Ward, 55, of The Subacute Center of Bristol, Forestville, Conn., formerly Providence, died Sept. 5 at the center.

Born in Cambridge, Mass., a daughter of Roslyn (Weiner) Colson of Providence, and the late Henry B. Colson, she lived in Providence and Hartford, Conn., before moving to Plainville, Conn., many years ago.

She was a 1960 graduate of the Howard School for Girls in

(Continued on Page 15)

Card of Thanks

The family of the late Ruvain Klein, mother, wife, children, grandchildren, are deeply grateful for the spontaneous outpouring of sympathy upon his death. It has indeed been a source of comfort to me and mine in this very trying period in our lives. Your concern, your compassion, your presence have encompassed us. To each individual, to every organization, to all the institutions, we are eternally thankful.

Ruvain Klein Family

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King Richard's Faire

(Continued from Page 1)

Entertainers by trade, Bonnie began singing, dancing and playing classical piano at an early age. Her husband was an actor and off-Broadway producer who later became a successful concert promoter, promoting such entertainers as Bette Midler and Frank Sinatra. When the two first decided to take on this grand adventure, money was tight and the business was not without its struggles. During those trying times, Richard took on both the role of businessman and actor as he portrayed King Richard himself, alongside his wife Bonnie, who portrayed his queen, Queen Katherine. According to Bonnie, the entertainment director at the time fired her husband from the role because "he didn't project enough." She smiles, recalling the story as if it happened yesterday. "I always told him, your plate can only be so full," said Bonnie.

But both Bonnie and Richard stuck to their dream of creating something fun to entertain people, and that dream became a reality and all of the difficulties seemed to fade when, after the faire's sixth year in operation, the business began to take off like a rocket with no end in sight.

After spending 10 years in Chicago enjoying a successful business, Bonnie and Richard looked to branch out and explore other markets around the country. With that, they visited the Atlanta and New England markets, ultimately deciding on Carver.

"There is nothing quite as beautiful as New England in the fall, and fall is what you instinctively think of as a Renaissance festival," said Bonnie.

Richard was a film and theater major and Bonnie a journalism major. As we spoke that sunny afternoon sitting at a picnic table outside her office trailer, she confessed, "I always thought I'd be a journalist like yourself," looking at me and smiling. "But, here I am!"

Bonnie describes her husband as an avid theater lover, something she, too, enjoys to this day and something they passed along to their daughters.

"They went to every concert from Elton John to Frank Sinatra," said Bonnie of her daughters, "but this is the part they liked the most because you could dress up like a princess, wave a magic wand. The whole

forest was theirs."

Aimee, 28, began her career in entertainment at age 7 when her mother enrolled her in ballet classes, which led to an audition for the famous Minneapolis-based Children's Theatre Conservatory. Here she continued to study dance, voice and acting. Aimee went on to graduate from the University of Wisconsin-Madison where she received her degree in film and television with a minor in public relations. Afterspending four years in Hollywood as an account executive responsible for Paramount and Gramercy Pictures and Orion Classics, Aimee now works alongside her mother overseeing the day-to-day operations of the faire.

"She is my computer genius," said Bonnie.

Her younger daughter, Samantha, 24, who also graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Northwestern, is a successful actress in Los Angeles. Although still very much involved in the family business, Samantha divides her time between coasts.

"I'm trying to get her to move from in front of the camera to behind the scenes here," admits Bonnie.

Bonnie says that there are very few people who are bright enough and capable enough to run a business like theirs from beginning to end, traits she proudly says her two daughters greatly possess. From hiring the actors, to accounting for daily box office receipts to having a creative eye for set design, Aimee and Samantha have their hands into all aspects of the business. According to Bonnie, behind the scenes is the place you have the most creative control.

"You can control it more than you can an actor," said Bonnie, "and I'm always afraid she (Samantha) won't be able to control her life." Spoken like a true mom who worries about her child 3,000 miles away from home.

Upon passing through the gates of King Richard's Faire, you are immediately transported back in time to a place known for its gaiety and frivol-

Former Diplomat

(Continued from Page 3)

mat, I was in charge of trying to make America a constructive part of that process."

Like the former USSR, Shore noted that his native Providence had known both prosperity and depression.

Although the city had flourished over the past 20 years, Shore said its economic growth rate and population were both beginning to falter.

According to Shore, these lessons learned as a result of the demise of the Soviet Union may be applied to local politics as well.

"We in Providence are truly blessed, but we too must watch our government. We must establish an establishment of liberty that will attract jobs and capital to the city. Only in this way can we provide for our children and our grandchildren."

ity. With a visit to the local clothier, one can transform themselves into an elegant member of the King's Royal Court or a knight worthy of the affections of a beautiful princess just by slipping into a costume. Court jesters stroll the grounds making the passers-by giggle with glee. Jugglers and musicians play to large crowds as the heavy aroma of roasted turkey basting over an open fire fills the cool autumn air. On another stage, trained tigers and bears showcase their talents as the crowd gasps with surprise then applauds feverishly with delight. More than 100 artisans are scattered throughout the village selling their wares of pottery, jewelry, glass and handmade candles.

Although a part of Bonnie's heart will forever linger on The Great White Way, today, she gets her fill of Broadway shows by investing in them. A little bit here, a little bit there, keeps her love of the Broadway stage alive. Bonnie does admit, however, that she would love to produce a Broadway show, but admits that the struggle becomes more intense for a woman than for a man. She also admits that she's not sure it would be the same without her husband by her side. So instead, Bonnie and Aimee will continue to introduce new generations of theater lovers to King Richard and his little kingdom nestled in the woods of Carver, Massachusetts, or should I say Merry Ol' England!

Sukkot

(Continued from Page 4)

bat. This is the traditional understanding of the text. But there is a more subtle message taught here as well.

While the 39 categories tell us what not to do on Shabbat, they also inform us what we should do the other six days of the week. And what is that? Build a *mishkan*, a dwelling place for G-d in the world. This is our charge — to understand that no matter what work we do in our lives, we must see the purpose of that work as creating a place for G-d to dwell among us. We must see whatever work we do as contributing importantly to the tapestry of our world. That work becomes holy when we act with truth, compassion, love, and humility. We must release the sparks of holiness contained in what we do.

Holiness may be found in the synagogue on Yom Kippur, the Sabbath of Sabbaths (*Shabbat Shabbaton*), but holiness should also infuse our actions on the other days of the year. Sukkot comes along to remind us that the goal of Judaism is not that we should only sit in the synagogue, but that we must build a joyful and holy world with "the labor of our hands" (Psalm 90:10).

Rabbi Michael Cohen is rabbi of the Israel Congregation in Manchester Center, Vt., and the immediate past president of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association. This commentary was distributed by the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College.

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Obituaries

(Continued from Page 14)

West Bridgewater, Mass. She attended Mount Ida College, Newton, Mass.

Besides her mother, she leaves her aunts and uncles, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Leavitt, and Mr. and Mrs. Edward W. Weiner, all of Boca Raton, Fla.; and several cousins.

The funeral service was held at Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St. Burial was in Congregation Sons of Israel and David Cemetery, Reservoir Avenue, Cranston.

First Lady Speaks to United Jewish Appeal

by Matthew Dorf

WASHINGTON (JTA) — First lady Hillary Clinton basked in the warm support of some 2,000 women at the United Jewish Appeal's annual Lion of Judah conference.

Clinton focused on her trademark issues of health care, child care, reproductive choice and human rights in a luncheon speech for women who give at least \$5,000 a year to their local UJA-federation campaigns.

Introduced as a "passionate advocate for women and families, the first lady did not disappoint the enthusiastic donors, who rushed the room in a stampede when the doors opened.

"No one need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world," Clinton said, quoting Anne Frank, the idealistic young diarist who perished in the Holocaust.

"I believe that with all my heart," she said.

The first lady, a lifelong advocate for women's issues, went on to push the women to work, at home and abroad, to make "the progress of nations depend on the progress of women."

Clinton rallied the faithful in the room, who interrupted her with applause nine times during her 45-minute speech.

Recalling the Torah portion, in which Moses prepares the children of Israel to enter the promised land, Clinton urged the women to be "responsible not only to G-d but to one another." The message resonated with the women at the conference.

"She speaks for women everywhere. She's what we're all about," said Marcia Karbank, a Lion of Judah donor from Kansas.

"We need to focus on our futures and what's relevant and important" — not the Lewinsky scandal, said Karbank, echoing the sentiments of more than two dozen women interviewed at the conference.

"She is a class act to be able to come here to give us support at a time when we should be supporting her," said Merry Bodziner from Atlanta.

Like many of the women, Bodziner said she was impressed with Clinton's speech.

"She is absolutely conscious and supportive of what we are about."

Women attending the three-day Lion of Judah conference also heard Israel's new ambassador to Washington, Zalman Shoval, participate in a panel discussion with Nasser al-Kidwa, the Palestinian representative to the United Nations.

(JTA student intern Mica Schneider in Washington contributed to this report.)

Music Concerts Opens Season

The age of 19th-century chamber music comes alive at the St. Martin's Church, Orchard Avenue in Providence, on Oct. 4 with a performance by the woodwind quartet Killing Frost.

Killing Frost was founded by four Boston musicians; Na'ama Lion, Diane Heffner, James Mosher and Marilyn Boenau, on the first day of the frost in 1996 in the hope of bringing the original sound of chamber music to audiences in the Boston metropolitan area. Usually performing in small venues, the quartet has performed at Harvard University, the Brookline Music School, MIT Chapel and King's Chapel in Boston. However, they hope to branch out into outdoor venues in the future.

"The smaller venues really bring a sense of intimacy to the music," said Lion. "It's the place where the music should be heard."

Born in Israel, Lion came to the United States 10 years ago and has enjoyed great success both as a free-lance performer and now as the founder of her own quartet. She has been edu-



Killing Frost

cated around the world, from Tel Aviv to Boston University where she received a doctorate. The quartet performs original music from the late classical period using instruments from that period.

"I play an original 1790s classical flute," said Lion, "and Diane plays a clarinet from the 19th century."

Around the turn of the 19th century, woodwind music en-

joyed great popularity, with several composers writing for quartets, including Rossini, Devienne and Eler. The trend started around 1750 with woodwind divertimento and chamber music composed by Mozart.

Killing Frost's performance will begin at 3:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 adults, \$8 seniors and students, \$1 children under 18 accompanied by a parent. For information call 245-6347.

Johnson & Wales Seeks Best Teen Chefs

Teen-agers from across the nation will have the chance to win thousands of dollars in scholarships to Johnson & Wales University in its 10th annual National High School Recipe Contest to be held March 15 and 16, in cooperation with the American Cancer Society and the American Heart Association.

Each year Johnson & Wales University, the world's largest culinary school, invites high school and secondary vocational senior students to participate in the recipe contest which has attracted growing national attention over the past nine years. Millions of dollars in scholarships have been awarded since the contest began.

High school seniors from across the country are asked to submit original recipes for a healthful dinner or recipes for a healthful bread and dessert. In planning their entries, applicants are asked to follow the nutrition guidelines of the American Cancer Society and the American Heart Association, included with the official entry blank.

Scholarship prizes are awarded for both competitions — the Healthful Family Dinner contest and the Healthful Bread and Dessert contest — which are judged separately.

The grand prize winner in each category will be awarded a \$5,000 renewable tuition scholarship to Johnson & Wales, valued at a total of \$20,000.

Each first runner-up will be awarded a \$4,000 renewable tuition scholarship, and each second runner-up a \$3,000 renewable tuition scholarship.

Deadline for entries is Jan. 29, 1999.

This year the student entries will again be judged by a panel of food professionals on the basis of taste, cost effectiveness, ease of preparation, presentation and appearance, nutritional value, originality, calorie content and creativity.

Entry forms are available by calling the Culinary Admissions Office at (800) DIAL-JWU (342-5598), ext. 2370, or Recipe Contest, Johnson & Wales University, 8 Abbott Park Place, Providence, RI 02903.

Amateur Poetry Contest

The Poetry Guild has announced that more than \$20,000 in prizes will be awarded this year in their 1998 International Poetry Contest. Through this prestigious competition, poets from the Providence area, particularly beginners, are invited to submit original poetry for consideration by our distinguished panel of literary judges. The deadline for the contest is Oct. 15. The contest is open to everyone and entry is free.

To enter, send one original poem, any subject and style, to: The Poetry Guild, Contest UPA-592, 2840 Broadway, #135, New York, NY 10025 or go to <www.poetryguild.com>. The poem should be no more than 20 lines, and the poet's name, address and phone number should appear on the top of the page. Entries must be postmarked or sent via the Internet by Oct. 15. A new contest opens Oct. 16.

The Poetry Guild is one of the largest poetry organizations in the world. Founded over a quarter of a century ago, our publisher has printed books in 14 countries and in 6 languages.

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