

# Rhode Island HERALD

## Jewish Community

PAGES 6-8

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## Women's Health Issues Top Priority of Clinton Administration

by Kimberly Ann Orlandi  
Herald Editor

For centuries, there has been a long standing bias against women within the medical profession. Whether they are teachers, doctors or even patients, women have been treated like second-class citizens by their male counterparts with regards to promotions, tenure and medical treatment. Years ago, when a man and a woman both came into a doctor's office sharing symptoms of a heart attack, for example, the man was usually referred to a cardiologist, the woman to a psychologist. Fortunately, that sexist mentality has begun to change in recent years, but according to Dr. Susan J. Blumenthal, assistant surgeon general in the Clinton administration, rear admiral, and senior science advisor in the Department of Health and Human Services, there is still a long way to go in the advancement of women's health care in this country.

"There is documented differences between men and women," said Blumenthal during a luncheon given by the

Miriam Hospital Women's Association on Nov. 23 at the Biltmore Hotel. Proceeds from the luncheon will be used to purchase a cervical spine positioning device with fiber-optic headlight, an automated blood pressure cuff, and stretchers with mattresses. "Medical students are taught the workings of the human body using a male model, medical tests are usually done on male rats and then we turn around and utilize these findings on female patients," continued Blumenthal.

Blumenthal began her medical career after she herself saw the brash treatment her mother received when she was diagnosed with thyroid cancer. Blumenthal was then only 10 years old but she remembers the experience of feeling "helplessness and fear" when she would visit her mother and see the skull and crossbones symbol, for radiation therapy, on the door of her room, as if it were yesterday.

"It was at that point I decided to become a doctor," said Blumenthal. As Blumenthal was completing her last year at medi-

cal school, her mother was diagnosed with breast cancer. Although she lived long enough to see her daughter become a doctor, Blumenthal vowed "that no other women should have to suffer as she did."

From that point on, Blumenthal has been a one-woman crusade and a guiding force in the advancement of women's health and prevention education. In 1994, Blumenthal was appointed the country's first deputy assistant secretary for women's health within the Department of Health and Human Services, and as such has worked diligently to improve the health care a woman receives and to educate those within the medical profession about the sensitivity needed in dealing with women's health issues. Heart disease, mental illness, breast cancer, lung cancer, domestic violence, all of these health issues affect millions of women each year and it is these issues which have become a top priority of the Clinton administration and the Department of Health and Human Services under Blumenthal. According

to Blumenthal, behavioral and lifestyle factors contribute to more than 50 percent of the top killers of American women. Among the factors are smoking, alcohol and drug abuse, unsafe sexual practices and failure to wear a seat belt.

"It is amazing to me that we in this country have more animal shelters than we do domestic violence," said Blumenthal.

According to Blumenthal, nearly \$600 million has been spent on breast cancer research alone, and since 1995, deaths of the disease have dropped 6 percent. In recent years, Blumenthal was instrumental in getting legislation passed which said that a woman must be included in studies conducted at the National Institute of Health or they would face the possibility of losing federal funding. Since Clinton took office four years ago, his adminis-

tration has spent \$4 billion on women's health issues, that's up 30 percent from when he took



Dr. Susan J. Blumenthal

office. So, according to Blumenthal, there is quite a lot being done in Washington to further the advancement of (Continued on Page 15)

## Menorah Madness Takes Off; Kitschy Kids' Styles Proliferate

by Debra Nussbaum Cohen  
NEW YORK (JTA) — How many ways can Mickey Mouse celebrate Chanukah? Five different Mickey menorahs, licensed from Disney, are now available to answer that question.

If you're more into Winnie-the-Pooh, there are two colorful menorahs displaying the whole gang from the Hundred Acre Wood to choose between.

And the latest this year in kids' character menorahs is the irascible Curious George:

It's menorah madness time — and the last couple of years have witnessed an explosion of styles made of almost every conceivable material.

Two decades ago, there wasn't much available beyond a traditional eight-branched candelabra made in brass, say those who sell Judaica.

Today menorahs are designed for children and adults, as well as aficionados of a wide variety of hobbies. Prices range from around \$30 to \$1,500 — and more.

Bloomingdale's, which will be carrying Chanukah menorahs in its 22 stores coast to coast, is orienting its merchandise this year to kids, said Gabrielle Schein, the buyer in charge of holiday merchandise.

Everything from ballerinas to baseballs, dancing dreidels to bicycles, can be found on child-oriented menorahs.

And the new

menorahs are not just for kids.

Mah-jongg your bag? There's a menorah crafted of the game's tiles.

If animals are your attraction, choose between several different renditions of Noah's Ark menorahs. Just friendly with felines, you say? Cats shown cavorting in front of candles are available on one menorah, as is a rustic moosehead cut out of metal whose antlers each hold up one of the holiday's ritual candles.

If you're into gazing at tiny replicas of the synagogues of Jerusalem, Eastern Europe or the Lower East Side, each is available on its own menorah this year — as is one with tiny Statues of Liberty, each lady holding aloft a Chanukah candle in place of her famous flame.

Klezmer musicians crowd together on another menorah, and this, along with others, is available with a music-box component which plays the Chanukah classic "Maoz Tsur," or "Rock of Ages." Top brands in tableware are also extending their lines into Chanukah.

Waterford offers an elegant crystal candleholder to mark Chanukah's eight nights. Limoges porcelain has produced delicately hand-painted dreidels.

The artistic approach to

menorahs is also booming. Craftspeople — not all of them Jewish — who have been successful in many media have branched out into the menorah market.

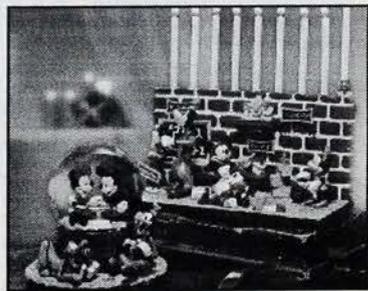
Whether your taste runs to fused art glass, anodized aluminum or hand-painted ceramic, there's a funky menorah available to collect.

"Not a day goes by that I don't get a call from an artist who wants to show me something new," said Claire Schneider, manager of the Treasures of Judaica store at the University of Judaism in Los Angeles.

Adam Berkowitz is a young designer who describes himself as an "industrial sculptor." He creates cabinets, chairs and wall coverings out of environmentally sound materials.

This year, for the first time, he designed a menorah. Crafted from brushed aluminum, with rounded curves, it fits together like a sophisticated puzzle.

"An appreciation for new materials in Jewish objects is trickling done from the secular design world," said Berkowitz, while standing in his drawing- and prototype-filled Brooklyn studio as African music played



in the background.

"I'm trying to interest my generation and younger people in Judaica," said Berkowitz, 29.

"Just seeing what's happening to my friends and the rest of the Jewish community with intermarriage, I feel that in some way by having Judaica with a certain edge and freshness it might spark the interest of someone who otherwise might not light a menorah.

The number of outlets selling menorahs has also expanded in recent years. Once purchased most often in mom-and-pop Judaica stores, menorahs are now also sold in chic galleries and the largest national chains, from Lord & Taylor to Bed, Bath & Beyond. Even the Home Shopping Network has gotten on board.

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# HAPPENINGS

## Entertainment For Kids

### November

- Providence Children's Museum, 100 South St., Providence, 273-KIDS, will hold events Nov. 27, 28 and 29.
- 27 **Geometria Kids** age 5 and up create unusual geometric structures large and small using marshmallows and toothpicks or dowels and rubber bands. 1 to 3 p.m.
- 28 **Michael Parent Returns!** Franco-American singer and weaver of tales extraordinaire, Parent brings his wit, charm and gift of mimicry to children of all ages, 1 to 3 p.m.
- 29 **Game Plan.** Kids 5 and up go gaga for games. Learn to play various board and card games. 1 to 3 p.m.

### December

- 4 **The All Children's Theatre Ensemble** presents "Annie." Dec. 4 and 5, 11 and 12 at 7 p.m. Dec. 6 and 13 at 2 p.m. Vartan Gregorian School Theatre, 455 Wickenden St., Providence. Tickets \$10 children, \$12 adults. Call 331-7174.
- 5 **The John F. Kennedy Library and Museum**, Columbia Point, Boston, Mass., hosts the Children's Hour with a presentation of "Peter and the Wolf," by National Marionette Theatre. Two performances, 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Call (617) 929-4523.

## All Children's Theatre Announces Winter Class Schedule

Robin Anderson, director of education and outreach for the All Children's Theatre, has announced the schedule of winter acting classes. Beginning the week of Jan. 19, these eight-week drama arts classes are offered in wide-ranging subjects suitable for ages 3 to 5, 5 to 7, 8 to 10, and 11 to 14. Most classes are held at the ACT Studios, One Allens Ave. in Providence, while some are also offered at the Red Brick School in Barrington.

The All Children's Theatre Ensemble, founded in 1987 by artistic director Wrenn Goodrum, is a non-profit young people's company devoted to producing quality theater for, and with children in an environment which encourages personal development and fosters self-esteem. Its programs include a performing ensemble, year-round acting classes, statewide outreach programs, a summer theater academy, touring productions to elementary and middle schools and an annual playwriting competition and festival.

Call 331-7174 for a winter classes brochure and for information.

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## Calendar: November 27th to December 3rd

- 27 **Ocean State Artisan's 8th annual Holiday Festival**, Crowne Plaza at the Crossing, 801 Greenwich Ave., Warwick. Sixty-five crafters, decorative painting, floral, quilts, etc. Nov. 27 through 28. Call 785-0899.
- Newport Art Museum**, 76 Bellevue Ave., Newport, presents paintings by Grandma Moses. Through Jan. 3. Call 848-8200.
- Chan's**, Woonsocket, welcomes Elgin Movement, featuring Ken Lyons. 8 and 10 p.m., \$7.
- 28 **Laurelmead Open House**, Nov. 28, 1 to 4 p.m., 355 Blackstone Boulevard, Providence. Call 273-9550 for details.
- 29 **Zeiterion Theatre**, 684 Purchase St., New Bedford, presents "Beauty and the Beast," by the Landis & Company Theatre of Magic, from Texas, 2 p.m. Tickets \$5. Call (508) 994-2900.
- 30 **Muir String Quartet**, Rhode Island College, Gaige Auditorium, 8 p.m. Tickets \$19, elderly \$17, non-RIC students \$14, children under 12 \$9.50, RIC students \$5.

### December

- 1 **Jewelry Crafts for Young Adults and Adults**, Barrington Public Library, 281 County St., Barrington. Clay bead workshop, 7 to 9 p.m., materials \$5. Call 247-1920, ext. 312.
- East Greenwich Photo** presents "Selected Visions." A photography exhibit by Cindy Horowitz Wilson and Eileen McCarney Muldoon. Dec. 1 through 30. Call 884-0220.
- AS220**, 115 Empire St., Providence, welcomes the Hal Crook Trio. Featuring Hal Crook on trombone, Rick Peckham on guitar and Bob Gulotti on drums, \$3. 9 p.m. Call 831-9327.
- 2 **Barrington Public Library**, 281 County Road, Barrington, will hold a discussion of and a reading from *Rhode Island Women Speak*, an anthology of Rhode Island women authors and artists, 7:30 p.m. Call 247-1920, ext. 312.
- Cranston Public Library**, 140 Sockanosset Cross Road, Cranston, presents "From Earth Below," an exhibit of mixed media works and oil by Peter Wise. Dec. 2 through Jan. 3, 1999. Call 943-9080.
- The Cranston Senior Guild of Temple Torat Y'israel** will celebrate Chanukah with a party at the West Valley Inn. Call Sam and Selma Price at 943-3427.
- Blithewold Mansion**, Bristol, welcomes the Chalemeau Clarinet Quartet, 6:30 p.m.

## Lessons in Becoming An Entrepreneur

On Dec. 3, "Products + Brand = Profit" — the Center for Design & Business, a joint venture between Bryant College and Rhode Island School of Design, and the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce are co-sponsoring a program on how manufacturers can improve their profitability by utilizing design.

This workshop is for business people interested in expanding their manufacturing-based enterprises by introducing their own brand name products.

The fee is \$50, \$40 if two or more from same company; \$25 for center associates and chamber members. The program runs from 7:30 to 9 a.m.; location is Providence Chamber of Commerce Auditorium. Call 454-6108 to register.

## Myths & Facts About Diet & Cancer

The American Cancer Society, in conjunction with Rhode Island Hospital, a Lifespan partner, is offering Man to Man, a free public education and group support program for men dealing with prostate cancer. The group will meet Dec. 1 at 6:30 p.m. in the George Auditorium, RIH. Spouses are encouraged to attend. Free parking has been arranged and refreshments will be served.

Linda Kelleher, RD/LDN, will present "Myths & Facts About Diet & Cancer" at this Man to Man meeting. Kelleher is a nutritionist at RIH. Following the presentation and discussion there will be a group support program.

Meeting on the first Tuesday of each month, the Man to Man support group is designed to provide an opportunity for men facing prostate cancer, and their spouses, to talk openly with each other and health care professionals about their concerns.

The program goals are (1) Awareness: to provide awareness of prostate cancer as a major health concern for all men, (2) Patient Education: to provide accurate information about diagnosis and treatment options for men with prostate cancer, and (3) Support: to provide support, encouragement, and solutions to common problems associated with prostate cancer.

Prostate cancer is the most common type of cancer among American men. Approximately one in every 10 men will develop prostate cancer by the age of 85. About 600 new cases of prostate cancer will be diagnosed in Rhode Island men in 1998. Since new diagnosis and treatment methods are constantly being developed, patients need accurate information to help them decide about their course of treatment.

The American Cancer Society is the nationwide community-based voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives and diminishing suffering from cancer, through research, education, advocacy and service. For more information on programs and services offered by the American Cancer Society in Rhode Island, call (800) 364-5520.

If you have an event you would like featured on our Happenings Page, please send it to the Rhode Island Jewish Herald, P.O. Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 02940

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Rainbow Bakery and Cafe, Reservoir Ave.

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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.  
East Side Marketplace, Pitman St.  
East Side Prescription Center, Hope St.  
Rhoda's Judaica, Hope St.

# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Sorrentino Slams Domestic Violence at NCJW Meeting

by Emily Torgan-Shalansky  
Jewish Community Reporter

On Nov. 18, the Rhode Island section of the National Council of Jewish Women invited a record-breaking number of new members to consider a heart-breaking problem—the domestic violence that harms countless women and their families every day.

The NCJW, a national volunteer social service organization noted for addressing controversial issues, invited Mary Ann Sorrentino, an outspoken syndicated columnist and former WPRO talk show host, to discuss the topic during a luncheon at Temple Beth-El.

With a message as direct as any blow, Sorrentino told her audience that domestic violence and its widespread acceptance must be eliminated.

In an address entitled "Domestic Violence: Things our Mothers and Grandmothers Never Told Us," Sorrentino discussed her beloved mother's belief in the outmoded social standards that encourage abuse to this day.

"My mother was widowed at 50," Sorrentino said. "She was

tough and very smart, and she went to work in a jewelry factory in order to raise me."

But when Sorrentino would get back from the office and try to tell her mother about her problems with male colleagues, her mother would continually deliver an upsetting answer.

"She'd say, 'Give him an edge, he's a man,'" Sorrentino recalled. "It didn't matter if I was working for a man who knew half as much as I did but was making twice the money, or if I was bumped out of a job. It was always 'Give him an edge, he's a man.'"

Women raised in her mother's generation, Sorrentino said, were brought up to yield to men in the same way.

Sorrentino also explained that many women still believe that they will be unable to survive without male partners.

"In the movie, 'Lovers and Other Strangers' a young couple go to a wedding and try to tell his parents that their marriage isn't working out," she said.

"The parents gesture at the other couples, saying things like 'She threw plates at him, and they're still together,' and 'He pushed

her down the stairs, and they never split up.' Then, the daughter-in-law asks why people who are miserable together should stay together."

Still, the 'keep your mouth shut and make the best of it' attitude portrayed in the film is prevalent, damaging, and not the least bit comical, Sorrentino said.

"When a woman's self-esteem has been torn down, she believes that without a man, she will not have a roof over her head or a way to support her children," she explained.

In a 1987 job with the Rhode Island Coalition for Domestic Violence, Sorrentino saw how such beliefs could lead to black eyes and broken lives.

"I helped women who had been beaten fill out forms requesting restraining orders," she said. "I also saw elderly people who had been beaten by their sons and daughters and a man who was severely abused by his wife."

According to Sorrentino, such victims are often victimized, yet again, by widespread insensitivity and ignorance.

"If a woman appears with a

black eye, she may be ashamed to say that her husband hit her, because too often the response is 'What did you do to bring it on?' as if there was anything she could have done to deserve it," Sorrentino said. "People may say things like 'You made your bed,' or 'He's your husband.' She may be ashamed to ask for help."

Still, said Sorrentino, the violent cycle of shame, dependency and addiction may be slowed if the attitudes that feed it are altered.

"We need to stop this now," said Sorrentino. "We need to work with young people so that we will not be creating another generation that says these stupid things."

A former director of Rhode Island Planned Parenthood, Sorrentino explained that women in abusive situations need to realize that they have choices.



Mary Ann Sorrentino

"We need to confront domestic violence, and we need to support each other," she said. "We must never give our sisters permission to be beaten."

At present, the Rhode Island section of the NCJW is getting involved in the organization's violence prevention activities.

## Klein Leads Hadassah Through 20 Questions

by Emily Torgan-Shalansky  
Jewish Community Reporter

Jenny Klein, who has been involved in Hadassah since 1917, decided that it was time for something new on Nov. 15.

Then, as the leader of a Lunch and Learn session, Klein stepped to the front of a Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island function room and told a group of 42 members that they would be learning from themselves and each other rather than a speaker that morning.

"I've wanted to do this for a long time," Klein said. "I thank G-d this day has come to me. It's time to question our own personal values."

Klein then distributed a questionnaire printed with 20 inquiries about attitudes towards Israel, Judaism, and Jewish life in the Diaspora.

Noting that the questionnaire had been written by Bernard Riesman of Brandeis University, Klein urged the audience to take their time in answering.

"It is not complicated, but you should do it with your heart and soul," she said. "No one will judge you today."

Silence gripped the room as guests contemplated the questions, and at the end of 20 minutes, it was Klein who broke the silence.

"I want you to count off from one to four, then down at the tables designated for each number," she instructed. "I do not want you to sit with your usual friends."

Groups of ten huddled over the question sheets, and the sounds of agreement and dissent filled the room.

"Do you agree that the first priority of the Jewish Communal Fund is to help Israel?" called out table leaders as they brought their respective groups through the questions. "Does the State of Israel make you proud to be Jewish? Do you think that we have the right to control monies we send to Israel? Can one really be a Jew in the full sense in the Diaspora?"

As the groups nodded and argued, Klein walked through the room and observed.

"This experiment is working," she said of the deeply engrossed women. "I've never seen a Hadassah group concentrate like this."

At the end of the exercise, the



Jenny Klein

Herald photos by Emily Torgan-Shalansky

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## World Aids Day Service to Be Held at Temple Beth El

A World AIDS Day service of hope and healing is scheduled for Dec. 1 at Temple Beth-El in Providence. Led by Rabbi Michael Cahana, the service will also feature singer/songwriter Laura Berkson. Berkson will share original and traditional music during this moving and interactive service. Ethan Herschman, education coordinator at the Boston Living Center will speak about AIDS, healing and community. People of all faiths are welcome.

The service is sponsored by the AIDS Task Force of the Community Relations Council/Jewish Federation of Rhode Island. According to task force chair Roberta Lisker-Goldsmith, "This is the first time a service of healing dedicated to people touched by AIDS has been held in a Rhode Island synagogue."

The service will begin at 6:30 p.m. and conclude at 7:30 p.m. Temple Beth-El is located at 70 Orchard Ave. Coffee and dessert will be served after the service.

For information, contact the Community Relations Council at the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, 130 Sessions St., Providence, R.I. 02906, 421-4111, ext. 163.

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# OPINION

## Fallen Autumn Leaves

My sister, Anita Chernick, came into the world at the beginning of fall when the season is just beginning. The sky remains bright with promise and the trees are still mostly green. Anita was the first born and a first-generation American on my mother's side. When the nurse handed her to my mom for the first time, Anita had blond hair and very expressive eyes.

As the years passed, her hair darkened to brown but her eyes never lost that look that told the world Anita loved life. She liked nothing better than to eat good food during a family gathering with friends or sing to the music of Elvis Presley and later Karen Carpenter and Tony Orlando and Dawn.

Anita began to travel the world in search of adventure. As I glance through her photo albums, I see her smiling face at the buffet table on a cruise ship or sitting at a wedding or shower next to the cake.

Anita was the life of any party she attended. The problem she had was facing everyday life. She was easily disappointed by reality. Of course, having two brothers afflicted with a progressive disease gave her a reason to want to escape. She found, however, that leaving home at 25 was not what she thought it would be. There were bills to pay and less money available for fun. She discovered that surviving in the real world was hard work for a working girl.

My Uncle Abe and Aunt Mina rescued her by letting her live with them. Anita regained the fun she missed while trying to pay a high heating bill. She again booked vacation trips to Mexico, Las Vegas, and most especially Atlantic City. Gambling made sense to someone who thought there had to be an easy way to make life fairer.

Except gambling robbed her of money she needed to save for a rainy day. To Anita, \$50 lost was a small price to pay for having fun in a casino that featured her favorite singers. Besides, Uncle Abe and Aunt Mina paid the rent, the fuel bill, and utilities.

But time marches on and robs all of us of those we love and need most. First, Uncle Abe, a survivor of Dachau, died at 76 on a spring day in 1986. He fought a good fight, but even the brave must fall in battle. Anita believed herself to be a survivor so she carried on as before, for three years, as if there were endless sun-filled tomorrows.

But spring fast-forwarded to winter when Aunt Mina died at age 77 in February 1989. She went rather quickly, leaving Anita alone almost overnight. Anita, at 39, had failed to learn some important lessons of life most of us take for granted. Mom and I didn't understand that Anita began to fall.

Anita put on more weight as she ate candy constantly to sweeten a life gone sour. The apartment was filled with make-up from every counter at the mall. Her only companion was her cat, but could a cat save her from her not facing up to the realities of life?

But a few years passed and Mom thought that Anita would outlive all of us since Mom was now in her 70s and I was suffering from ulcerative colitis. I found myself very involved with my own troubles. My daughter was calling the rescue squad for me more times that I care to recall. I began to look like I had just been in a concentration camp and Mom worried that she would bury me next.

We didn't notice that Anita was not as healthy as we thought. She suddenly suffered

from high blood pressure, but the landlady reported to us that she saw her take her blood pressure regularly. Anita promised Mom to take her prescribed pills to control her blood pressure. We believed her.

Then one November day, as all the leaves were nearly gone, Anita collapsed on the floor of her apartment filled with candy and cosmetics. She laid there for 9 hours, unable to reach the phone. Her work supervisor, who never knew Anita to miss work without calling, broke into the house knowing all was not well. She found Anita there, unable to move. Anita was beyond help. She had never taken her blood pressure pills even once during that year. She lapsed into a coma, but a machine breathed for her. Mom and I looked into her eyes and the look of life was gone forever. It was time to let go.

My stepfather stood there with Mom and me as Anita was removed from the respirator. He looked at me and said, "I thought it would be you who would be in her place." I had to agree with him. But then again, I was always a realist who accepted that life wasn't fair or predictable.

At my sister's burial, the ground was frozen and the sky looked dead. Anita was laid to rest next to both my brothers with my father to the front of the three of them.

That was three Novembers ago. I have recovered well from my illness and regained the weight I lost. But now as the fallen leaves from the trees are swept away by the winds of an approaching winter, I find myself looking intently through Anita's many photo albums. I am still searching for the mystery of life.

## A Telephone Query

To the Editor:

The following is the essence of a telephone query I had in October prior to the election. I did not note the actual names of the caller or the polling organization.

Poller: My name is Jane Smith (pseudonym). If the election were to be held today, would you vote for Myrth York or Lincoln Almond?

George: Robert Healey.

Poller: I'm sorry?

George: Robert Healey. He is on the ballot.

Poller: He is not included in the poll we are conducting.

George: Why?

Poller: You would have to ask the people for whom we are polling.

George: Who are they?

Poller: We are not given that information. We only conduct the actual polling.

George: Your poll does not include all the candidates on the ballot. I can vote for any candidate on that ballot. I will vote for Robert Healey. I think you should note my choice in this poll.

Poller: I am not authorized to vary any of the poll we are conducting.

George: Do you know how many gubernatorial candidates are on the ballot?

Poller: I'm not sure.

George: Your poll is obviously not intended to objectively assess the ballot choices I have. Do you think this poll is fair?

Poller: I can't comment on that.

George: What will you record as the result of this conversation?

Poller: Nothing. You seem uncooperative.

George Bunnwith  
Newport, R.I.

## Have An Opinion?

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

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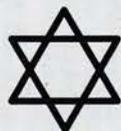
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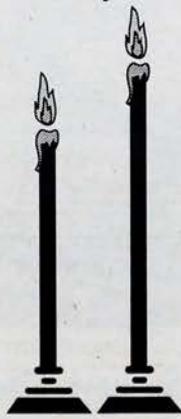
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Candlelighting  
November 27, 1998  
4:00 p.m.



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

## Digging Our Parent's Wells

by Ellen Weinberg Dreyfus

Water is life. Our bodies are mostly water; our planet is able to sustain life largely because of its abundant supply of water. The symbolism of water flowing and nourishing the thirsty land is easily understandable, even by those who have never lacked rain. In Isaiah 41:17-18, G-d promises: "I, the G-d of Israel, will not forsake them. I will open rivers in high places and fountains in the midst of valleys; I will make the wilderness a pool of water and the dry land springs of water." The imagery of water makes the promise of G-d's protection and ultimate redemption more vivid and more immediate.

What can we learn from the image of a well that has been intentionally filled with earth so that it no longer functions as a well? If water is life-giving, then a stopped-up well is the opposite. Why, then, did the Philistines, as we read in this week's parashah, *Toledot*, stop up the wells that had been dug in the days of Abraham and tell Isaac to leave the region? (Genesis 26:15) Why were they ready to make their own land uninhabit-

able? It is not a logical action and seems contrary to normal human behavior.

Nehama Leibowitz suggests that there must be more to the matter than what is literally stated, that this action of the Philistines must be understood to imply something symbolic. She cites Jacob Zvi Mecklenburg in *HaKetav Vehakabbalah*, who suggests that the wells were symbols from the beginning and

that his father dug shows us how he takes his place in *Toledot*, the family story that becomes our national history. He understands the need to reclaim his father's traditions and to ensure their survival. It is an act of maturity that he crowns with further honoring his father's memory by giving the wells the "same names that his father had given them." (Genesis 26:18) Only then did

Isaac's servants find "there a well of spring water." (Genesis 26:19) The term used in the text is *mayim chayim* — "living water," the waters of life.

As we mature, we identify with Isaac's actions: We learn to understand and to seek to reclaim the traditions handed down to us by our parents and, when possible, to honor their work and their wisdom. The lessons we learn from the generations that preceded us are as life-giving as a well of living water.

For further study: Nehama Leibowitz, *New Studies in Bereshit*, World Zionist Organization Department for Torah Education and Culture in the Diaspora.

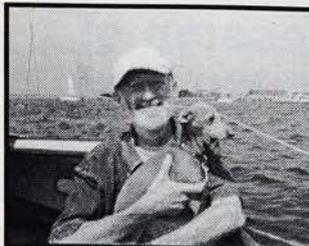
Ellen Weinberg Dreyfus is the rabbi of Temple B'nai Yehuda Beth Shalom in Homewood, Ill.

## Living Torah

that each time Abraham dug a well, he gave it a name that taught a lesson about the true nature of G-d. Each well served as a means of bringing idolaters under the wings of the Divine Presence. After Abraham's death, the local folk reverted back to their idolatry and stopped up the wells in order to erase his teachings from their memory. When Isaac returns to dig anew the same wells, he gives them the same names that his father did "in order" to restore the crown of the true faith to its former glory."

Isaac's digging the same wells

# FEATURE



## The Prophet of Pi

by Mike Fink  
Herald Contributing Reporter

"Pi" opened at the Cable Car and moved along to midnight showings elsewhere in town throughout the month of the turkey. Darren Aranofsky's alternative cinema offering made for a unique viewing experience. How can you show, not state, the drama of numbers? Pi, as you may recall from schooldays, is that bulky factor that holds equations in order. Aranofsky's hero uses the graceful Greek symbol as a key to a pair of contradictory puzzles—the rise and fall of stock market rhythms, and the name of G-d, Author of the Torah.

The dialogue is as fascinating and exotic as the harshly contrasting black and white cinematography. Hebrew letters serve also as numerals. "Mother" and "Father" equal "Child." Words melt to figures, and riddles loop and curve to speak volumes of truth in a chaos of experience. So, our central character, locked in a roomful of computers, peering through the keyhole at invading neighbors benign and exploitive, cracks up as he hears the truth of truths. A supporting cast includes a black lady from Wall Street, an invalid mathematician who warns him of the threat of madness, a Chassidic rabbi who craves facts about Ha-Shem, and simple fellow apartment mates

who gently bring morsels of food to sustain the dreamer. An ant, a broken shell on the beach, the bough of a weed tree, all take on a mystery as our crazy seer encounters living shapes that share the off-circle da Vinci believed was the core of the pattern of our universe.

Such eerie experiments in movie-making always cop out in scenes of violence, betrayal of trust and darkening actions, the sine qua non of today's audience expectations, but before you reach that point of no return, there is plenty to enjoy in

"Pi." Not only the motion picture, but the place as well. Cable Car is perhaps the last of our truly personal theatres.

It gathers within its tight walls a cafe, decorated with old-timey movie posters, a large built-in bubble of popcorn, a simple counter of goodies to take to your seat, a sidewalk cafe in the Parisian style, a projection booth just off the salon with a tiny twisting staircase to its open secrets, and even a brief live act while you wait, not as fine as Maurice at the Organ, but at least a trace of the spirit of the start of cinema: a celebration of local talent. "Pi" suited this setting, where you can stretch out close up on your sofa and make the most of the tail-end of a day or a season.



# We Were Palestinians

by Mike Fink  
Herald Contributing Reporter

I didn't hear the ring or the knock, but my dog did. I made my way downstairs to follow her barking. A large clothbound and goldspeckled volume holding the unbound heap of yellow newsprint within its covers stood between the front doors. They were the weekly *Heralds* from the last year of the war, 1944 through 1945. Of course, I could have come across these appalling headlines in the closets and storerooms of our Pawtucket office. But this group found its way to me via the Rhode Island Historical Society on Power Street. Their name was printed on each front page. Must have tossed it out or put in on the sidewalk in some yard sale. My uphill neighbors picked it up, stored it on basement shelves, and handed the treasure on to my household to have and hold. And hand on to others to peruse and muse over.

Under my lamplight, as twilight reading matter, these reports from the front, announcements of furloughs or discharges, counts of the dead, the displaced, the murdered, the homeless and stateless en route to Palestine, captured enemies, kept me/us riveted to every sheet. Promos for the latest flick, graphic bids for bond drives, simple ads for the products of the era and the area (like full-page compositions for Narragansett beer, and homely notes about bar mitzvahs, engagements, visits and performances contrast with the enormity of the big stories. France is free! But returning Jews can't get their property back. The depression is long gone, but the youthful Rabbi William Braude

warns in a sermon against pride and arrogance. "Like blood in an egg, tainted money is not kosher," he warns. I saw him in his 80s. In the *Herald* dots, he is so idealistic and fresh-faced.

of house, school, cinema, library, temple. The rest was more than story, but story too. How serious was anti-Semitism in the military? Some soldiers report dreadful incidents. Others deny

The Jewish Herald, Providence, RI

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# From Bayla to Bella and Babylon

by Mike Fink  
Herald Contributing Reporter

I hit that control button and grab a quick glimpse from the treasure chest of the glory that was Hollywood—quick before I get caught and have to turn it off for today's junk and the gang of kids at video game play. I witnessed a strange and compelling scene from Michael Curtiz's 1945 screen translation of "The Egyptian." You may remember this ambitious Fox production based on a novel but introducing a new star named Bella Darvi.

She plays a Babylonian courtesan, in a gilt gown and turquoise sphinx-like headpiece, reclining on a divan and stroking her Persian cat. A superb image as she coos and croons her cruel lines. Before offering love to the mysterious youthful physician who, like Moses, had floated through Nile bulrushes as an abandoned foundling, she expects offerings of esteem. He (Edmund Purdom) sacrifices his house, surgical tools of his noble trade, the necklace he won for curing Pharaoh of epilepsy, and even the deed to the tomb of his adoptive parents and guides! Now, what is the secret of passion? The fine lady throws him out into the alley, poorer but wiser in the ways and wiles of

women. There is no love except in hope and regret. This sad and sadistic Babylonian beauty had been sold into slavery, and believes only in her own power—in nothing else.

I found this scene within my small kitchen set startling, strange and strong. It had grace and an edgy dada-istic dramatic force. But what happened to the actors?

Neither one met much success, nor did the movie itself. Bella Darvi, as some among you may recall from a *Life* magazine report, was born Bayla Wegier, in Poland. She moved to France as a child and was arrested and sent to a death camp by the French police and the Gestapo. After the liberation, she returned to take up a life in the streets and cafes of Paris and the postwar gambling casinos. Darryl and Virginia Zanuck found her, took her in, brought her to Hollywood, changed her name to combine the letters of theirs: Dar plus Vi—get it? Nothing worked out, though. The boss paid off her gambling debts, but the boss's wife tired of the ménage à trois and sent her off.

After several suicide attempts, Bella Darvi turned on the gas of her stove and was found gruesomely dead weeks later. Can

you imagine? *Hollywood Babylon*, a cynical gossip-journal written by Kenneth Anger, gives the lurid details among his list of scandals. But the pathos, the tragedy, the meaning of this awful fate doesn't enter his picture, or ours.

It hit me, there among the fragments of time and bright moments of color and sound from the tube, that Bella as person and performer merits some eulogy. A survivor's story, but for what? I found a deeply melancholy meaning in a handsomely mounted motion picture of yore and a reporter's exploitative obit. I leave its mood and tone to anybody who recalls the promise and the poetry of Bella Darvi of Poland, Paris, Holocaust, Hollywood, and the hellish gas chambers of the Nazis that reached even into the soul.

Cantor Jacob Hohen-emser has just come to town. He looks like a boy!

In retrospect, this chapter of our century, so vastly violent, happened so very quickly. War is ending, but the death camps are ravenous and raging, and the winter is white as death itself. Here by our cheerful if anxious hearths, did we feel snugly safe, a great ocean away from the turmoil and the terror? I think I picked up the mood and tone of the time and felt something of its awe and horror, but the bricks and cobbles of Providence locked in a child's world

the charge. "I spoke Yiddish to a captive German corporal. He looked more wounded than if I had shot him," told a Jewish G.I. It is infinitely strange to reread these issues that gathered at my threshold like a pile of unraked brown leaves from the next door oak. Like leaves, the *Heralds* happened, fell out of time, as they had to do, and then found a corner of space and time and came to me. They speak of a time of crisis and high hope, responsibility and opportunity, yesterday that grows into today. I offer a single glimpse like a tiny window on our intimate past.

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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Rededication of Samuel Priest Chapel

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Samuel Priest was an active member of the R.I. business community and a leader of the state's Jewish community. To memorialize their father and his parents, Priest's children donated funds to erect a chapel at Lincoln Park Cemetery in Warwick. It was originally dedicated in 1930, four years after his death.

Now, 68 years later, the Samuel Priest Chapel at Lincoln Park Cemetery has been completely restored and refurbished and will be rededicated in his memory at a special ceremony Dec. 6 at 11 a.m.

Rodney Locke, president of the Chased Schel Amess Association which operates the cemetery, said the association's board of directors decided two years ago that the chapel should be restored and again made available to the community — at no charge.

"The chapel was originally constructed," Locke said, "to provide a place where families could hold funeral or memorial services for their loved ones. Unfortunately over the years the building has fallen into disrepair and has not been used as it was intended. We sincerely hope this extensive rehabilitation and renovation will change that."

The Samuel Priest Memorial Chapel, which stands near the entrance to the cemetery, has a seating capacity of about 100 people. Both the interior and exterior of the building have undergone extensive work.

The roof has been replaced

the chapel. The walkway from the entrance of the cemetery to the chapel has been replaced.

Inside the chapel, a hot-water baseboard system now efficiently heats the building. Water damage done to the walls and the existing stained glass



Samuel Priest Chapel

Photo courtesy of Chased Schel Amess Association

with architectural shingles. The brickwork has been repointed and sealed. The plan plywood doors have been replaced with specially designed ornate doors with stained glass windows that carry out the coloring of the other stained glass windows in

windows over the years has been repaired. The wooden pews have been repaired and cleaned. The tiled floor has been carpeted. The ornate chandeliers and candelabra have been restored. A little-used room at the front of the chapel has been converted to a coatroom.

"It has taken us nearly two years to complete the project," Locke said. "We weren't in a hurry. We wanted to do it right. We wanted to restore not only the physical aspects of the structure — we wanted to be sure it conveyed the feeling and purpose of those who originally put it there and after whom it was named. I think we've accomplished exactly that."

Priest founded Samuel Priest & Co., a Providence-based wholesale dealer and jobber of cloth, and later operated Imperial Printing Co. in Cranston. He was chairman and organizer of the Hebrew Free Loan and president of Ahavath Sholom Synagogue, popularly known as the Howell Street Shul.

## Kent County Hadassah Presents a Whist Party

Kent County Hadassah will be holding a Whist Party on Dec. 1. The card games begin at 7 p.m. The location is Villa Del Rio clubhouse in Warwick. It is not handicapped accessible. The leader/instructor is Norma Kaufman. Donation is \$5 toward Youth Aliyah.

Join us for a casual evening as Norma Kaufman leads us in the Whist. There will be a door prize, game prizes, a raffle and refreshments. Bring your friends! All are welcome. No prior whist experience is needed to enjoy this festive event in support of Youth Aliyah! Call Monika at 885-7173 for further information.

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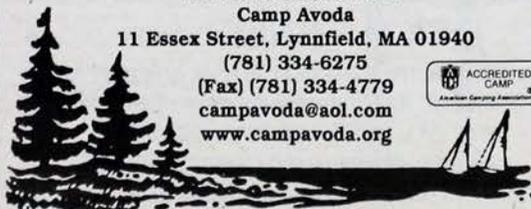
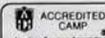
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This camp must comply with regulations of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (105CMR 430.000), and be licensed by the Middleboro Board of Health. Information on 105CMR 430.000 can be obtained at (617) 983-6761.

## Winter Session of Moses Brown Plus

Moses Brown School will offer a variety of courses and activities for its winter session. The courses for children include vacation camps and a safety detective course. Among the adult courses will be the Art and Wellness of Massage. All offerings will be held at Moses Brown School, 250 Lloyd Ave., Providence.

Vacation camps will be offered during December holiday break and spring break in March. This activity is safe and entertaining, with enthusiastic staff members. Children ages 4 to 10 will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of sports, arts, games, and more. The dates and costs are as follows:

Dec. 21 to 24 and 28 to 31, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., \$140.

March 16 to 20, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., \$175.

A safety detective course, for 4- to 9-year-olds will feature situation role-playing, instruction on using 911 and other resource measures, and basic safety and emergency training. This important information is presented in an entertaining way and is geared to young people's attention and ability. The course will be held Dec. 12 at 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. The cost is \$8.

The Art and Wellness of Massage offers adults an alternative way to relieve stress, soothe sore muscles, and lighten the mind and spirit. Classes will be held Dec. 7 and 9 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. The cost is \$90 per pair (class limited to four pairs).

For further information, contact Moses Brown School at 831-7350, ext. 150.

## Stimulating New Activities for Mind and Body

Jewish Family Service Mealsite Coordinator Ronda French recently added some new reasons to participate in the JFS kosher mealsite in Cranston and Kosher Meals on Wheels. Want to learn the calming yet invigorating discipline of Tai Chi? Join a writing workshop led by Harry Anderson? Find out more about aromatherapy? The JFS Mealsite is now offering these new activities in addition to the usual health clinics, weekly exercise, bingo and discussion groups.

Recent programs included aromatherapy with Sue Cvua and meditation with Kathy Bernstein. Special programs have presented a pharmacist with information about medication and Carol Cummings, a representative of Aging 2000, to discuss changes in the Medicare system.

Mealsite events for December include:

Dec. 1 — Tai Chi with Allen Knight

Dec. 10 — Visual and hearing impairment information with Donna Lee of Tech Access

Dec. 14 — Dance therapy with Theresa Pearson

Dec. 17 — Chanukah party with Rabbi Mark Bloom of Temple Torat Yisrael, Rabbi George Astrachan of Temple Sinai and Rabbi Leo Abrami of Temple Am David

Dec. 22 — Tai Chi with Allen Knight

In addition, recipients of Kosher Meals on Wheels have had the opportunity to join a council that meets periodically at the JFS Kosher Mealsite and provides input into menu selections.

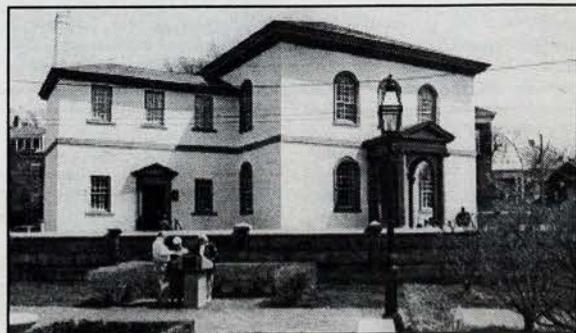
Activities take place at 11 a.m. Monday through Friday, with a hot kosher meal served at noon. Transportation is available. Call 781-1771 for details and to make reservations.

## What Do Touro Members Do on Dec. 25?

Chinese Food And a Movie!

This year join your brothers. Harmony and Friendship Lodges present Dec. 25, Touro style. \*Dine at the Chinese Buffet (across the street from the Warwick Showcase) and see a new movie. All just \$6 per child under 10 years and \$8.50 per person over 10 years (or bagel bucks). Your movie tickets will be mailed to you. You pick the time and movie. Unlimited soft drinks included.

\*In order to observe the Sabbath, we will meet at noon. (No admittance before noon.) Touro members and their immediate families only. Absolute cut-off is Dec. 15.



## You Are Invited to a Hanukkah Party

A Hanukkah party will be given by Congregation Jeshuat Israel, 85 Touro St., Newport, on Dec. 13 from 2 to 4 p.m. at Touro Community Center. R.S.V.P. by Dec. 4 at 847-4794.

## JFS Receives Donations From Bank RI

Jewish Family Service was one of six East Side non-profit agencies selected by Bank Rhode Island to be the recipient of donations for each new account opened at the bank's East Side branch during the grand opening of its East Side branch (next to the Eastside Marketplace). The bank has donated \$25 to the agencies for each new deposit account opened during its first month of operation.

Jewish Family Service was presented with a check during a forum at the bank where the participating non-profit organizations provided information about their services and programs to the bank's customers.

Jewish Family Service Executive Director Paul L. Segal said, "We would like to thank Bank RI for its generosity and welcome its involvement in the community."

# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Cancer Patients Can Look Good And Feel Better

You won't read about the "lipstick theory" in any scientific publication. It is the observation made by the medical professionals that when a female cancer patient starts to put on her lipstick, she is on the road to recovery. The premise is: when you look good, you feel better. On Dec. 7 from 1 to 3 p.m., the American Cancer Society is holding a Look Good...Feel Better program, at no charge. The session will be held at the American Cancer Society office at 400 Main St., Pawtucket, R.I.

Look Good... Feel Better is a unique program designed to help patients maintain their personal appearance while undergoing treatment for cancer. Sponsored by the American Cancer Society, Cosmetic, Toiletry and Fragrance Association, and National Cosmetology Association, the program features cosmetologists who lead group sessions in various locations around Rhode Island or conduct one-on-one consultations.

"Being able to look your best makes a world of difference to someone going through treatment for cancer," said Steve Mallane, program coordinator for the American Cancer Society in Rhode Island's, Look Good...Feel Better program. Sometimes simple changes in makeup, or an attractive way of tying a head scarf, can bring a turnaround in a woman's outlook and bring back her optimism."

In 1998, nearly 600,000 American women will learn that they have cancer. The good news is that more and more people are surviving cancer and part of the reason for the improved survival rates is that many patients undergo "adjuvant therapy" — chemotherapy or radiation treatments even when there is no sign that cancer has spread. While this treatment means more survivors, it also means that more patients must cope with the side-effects of treatment, such as hair loss, skin and nail changes, and weight fluctuation.

Makeup can play an important part in a patient's changing appearance, Mallane said. "Those who have never worn makeup may want to try. Those who have always worn makeup may need to change colors or products. The key concept is, don't be afraid to experiment," he said.

The American Cancer Society offers a variety of services to patients, including free goods and services for patients in need, support programs, and comprehensive cancer information through its (800) ACS-2345 number. Information is also available through the internet at <<http://www.cancer.org>>.

For more information about Look Good... Feel Better, or to enroll in the Dec. 7 program, call Linda or Deborah at the American Cancer Society at 722-8480.

## Future Faces is Looking For Teen Nominees

Jewish Outreach Leadership Training, a program of the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island through a continuity grant from the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, aims to enhance Jewish informal education for teen-agers in our state. Future Faces, a component of JOLT, recognizes Jewish high school teens who either demonstrate qualities of leadership, exemplify the Jewish values of helping humanity or the community, or excel in the arts and sciences.

All Jewish teens in the greater Rhode Island area in grade 11 or 12 are eligible. We are interested in nominees who volunteer their time and effort in the community. Examples might include: working with the homeless or the elderly, being a teacher's aide, working for environmental protection, being a candy stripper or tutor for new immigrants, activity in youth group leadership, community organization or contribution to the arts and sciences.

Nominations may be made on behalf of the teen-ager or by the teen-ager him/herself. The Future Faces teen recognition awards ceremony will be held at Brown/RISD Hillel on Feb. 9,

1999. The application deadline is Dec. 15, 1998. If you feel that you are worthy of this award or if you know of an extraordinary Jewish teen in your community, call Robin Greenberg, Future Faces coordinator, at the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island, 331-0956, for an application.

## Traditional Klezmer Music Fills The Stone Soup

It's hardly surprising to find tradition at an old coffeehouse like Stone Soup but on Nov. 28 two traditions will intersect when Michael Bresler's Klezmer Orchestra makes its always eagerly-awaited appearance at the Undercroft of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 15 Hayes St., at 8 p.m., admission \$8. The evening will open with a Hoot (open mike).

The younger of the two traditions is the annual appearance, the Saturday after Thanksgiving, of the Klezmer Orchestra, composed of some of the finest klezmer musicians in the Northeast. The much older tradition, of course, is the music itself, the sometimes wild, often melancholy music of the Sephardic Jews of Eastern Europe. The leader, Michael Bresler (Fishel in Jewish circles), is himself a leading figure in the expanding klezmer world. A student of the legendary klezmer clarinetist

Andy Statman, he substituted for the maestro when Statman, for health reasons, was unable to complete a nationwide tour. He is steeped in this music, a gloriously eclectic mélange of the music of itinerant Jewish musicians in the Middle Ages, influenced over the centuries in the shtetls by surrounding non-Jewish cultures, not just the music of another wandering people, the gypsies, and then, when carried to the United States by immigrants, it absorbed the syncopated rhythms of early jazz and the brio of the Yiddish theater on Second Avenue in Manhattan.

Bresler himself is a one-man

eclectic stew. Founder of the late, lamented bluegrass group The Neon Valley Boys, he plays not only the clarinet but is a jazz saxophonist and flautist and a formidable performer on the mandolin. He's also one of the funniest men alive, a reverent man with a quick and irreverent wit.

Although klezmer is very much a Jewish music, it has long since escaped the musical ghetto, perhaps because of its "Fiddler on the Roof" appeal. It's hard to imagine a music more fun to listen or dance to. Dancing at Stone Soup. Why not: it couldn't hurt.

## Community Efforts Raise Money for Lifespan Cardiac Initiative

A reception was held at the home of Richard and Sandy Oster on Nov. 1. This event was held in conjunction with the Lifespan Cardiac Initiative. This effort will bring 10 new cardiac programs to the community, equip the hospitals with much-needed cardiac equipment and endow teaching and research positions in cardiology and cardiothoracic surgery. More than 110 community leaders were present to hear about this \$8.5 million program. The featured speaker was Richard Hopkins, M.D., chief of cardiothoracic surgery at The Miriam, Rhode Island and Hasbro Children's hospitals.



Left to right are: hosts Richard and Sandy Oster, Melanie Vecchione; George Vecchione, new president/CEO, Lifespan; Richard Hopkins, M.D., guest speaker; and Alan M. Gilstein, co-chair, Lifespan Cardiac Initiative.

## Prospective Adoptive Parents Invited to Meeting

Adoption Options, the non-sectarian adoption program of Jewish Family Service, offers informational meetings about adoption for anyone interested in exploring the choices.

The next meeting will be held on Dec. 7 at 7:30 p.m. in the Adoption Options Adoption Resource Center at the offices of Jewish Family Service. The agency is located on the second floor of the United Way building at 229 Waterman St., Providence. These information sessions are free and open to anyone interested in pursuing an adoption. Call Adoption Options at 331-5437 in R.I. or toll-free at (800) 337-6513 to R.S.V.P., for information or to arrange a confidential consultation.

## Looking for a special gift?

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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Resource Provides Prayers and Rituals

Is there a prayer for running a marathon?

A blessing for falling in love? There is now, thanks to a new collection of spiritual resources and rituals developed by the faculty of CLAL — The National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership.

Fifty-one special and everyday moments are given religious expression, many for the first time, in the new publication, *Sacred Days 5759-5760/1998-1999*. The collection, available in time for Chanukah gift-giving, includes a weekly engagement calendar good through December 1999.

A marathon runner's blessing joins meditations for gardening, for preparing a family recipe, and organizing a room, among some of the more unusual offerings in the collection. But *Sacred Days* is also a guide to marking deeply meaningful life-cycle experiences — such as celebrating birthdays or pregnancies, taking on new responsibilities, and visiting the sick — in ways that are not always emphasized in traditional prayer books.

*Sacred Days* was inspired by conversations between CLAL faculty members and students

who asked for advice on marking the important events in their lives. When the "right" Jewish resource was not immediately apparent, CLAL's rabbis and scholars, representing every Jewish denomination, returned to traditional sources of wisdom.

The ritual for falling in love, for example, incorporates the story of Jacob and Rachel and the love poetry of the Song of Songs. The ritual invites celebrants to tell the stories of how they met, to recite a blessing thanking G-d for bringing joy to couples, and to study the passages in Genesis where Jacob and Rachel meet and fall in love.

The ritual for running a marathon, meanwhile, includes quotations from the Book of Psalms, such as "Bless G-d, celebrate G-d's praises, who has given us life and has not let our feet slip." (66:9)

*Sacred Days* represents CLAL's work in joining the contemporary needs of Jews with voices from the tradition, and in discovering the ways in which individuals can deepen their experience of holiness in everyday life.

*Sacred Days* includes dates for all Jewish holidays, Torah readings for Shabbat, and candle-

lighting times for 11 cities in North America and Jerusalem.

CLAL is a not-for-profit educational institution founded in 1973. Through classes, seminars and publications it prepares individuals for their roles as Jewish leaders, and through consultations with communal institutions helps to shape tomorrow's Jewish communities. *Sacred Days* is a creation of CLAL's National Jewish Resource Center, dedicated to increasing awareness of sacred practices that enhance and transform North American Jewish life.

Individual copies of the *Sacred Days* calendar are available from CLAL at \$12 per copy, plus shipping (\$2 for the first copy, \$1 for each additional copy being shipped to the same address. Shipment via overnight or priority mail is available at extra charge.)

Payment by check or money order (payable to CLAL) must accompany all orders. Mail orders to CLAL, 440 Park Ave. South, Fourth Floor, New York, NY 10016-8012. Credit card orders may be placed by telephone (212) 779-3300.

For more information, contact Andrew Silow-Carroll, (212) 779-3300 or <acarroll@clal.org>.



### Learning About The Origins of Corn and Thanksgiving

The children at Temple Sinai Nursery School in Cranston did a fall lesson on the origins of corn, Indian corn and Thanksgiving. We learned that the Native Americans were the people who introduced the pilgrims to popcorn. We enjoyed an old Native American treat — popcorn — for snack and made Indian corn projects. Front row: Peter Garber, Ashley Pollock, Brian Troia, and Alexandra Liner. Second row: Robin Greenberg, Abby Schreiber, Caleb Gladstone, Matthew Centore, Jared Shapiro and Nancy Cordeiro. Photo courtesy of Temple Sinai Nursery School

## Scandal and Chocolate Hit The 1998 JCCRI Bookfair

The 1998 Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island Bookfair will be rocked by such special events as Yosef I. Abramowitz speaking on his new book *Beyond Scandal: A Parent's Guide to Sex, Lies & Leadership*, and a Women's Coffee and Chocolate Tasting Social featuring Enid Futterman, author of *A Bittersweet Journey*.

The bookfair begins on Dec. 1 and takes off with a keynote address by Abramowitz. In addition to authoring several books and articles on family issues, Abramowitz is the editor and publisher of the popular "webzine," <Jewish family.com>. His address will focus on the White House scandal and how to respond to your children when they ask difficult questions about power, morality and justice. Abramowitz will speak at the JCCRI from 10 a.m. to noon on Dec. 6.

On Dec. 14 at 7 p.m., Enid Futterman, author of *A Bittersweet Journey*, will speak at the Women's

Coffee and Chocolate Tasting Social. Futterman has been featured in numerous Jewish newspapers and has been a guest lecturer across the country.

"Triumphant Spirit: Portraits and Stories of Holocaust Survivors... Their message of Hope and Compassion" is the name of Nick Del Calzo's nationally touring photographic exhibit which will be at the University

of Rhode Island concurrent with the bookfair. Del Calzo will be featured at the bookfair. Helen Epstein, author of *Where She Came From*, will be a featured

speaker at the JCCRI Bookfair on Dec. 10 at 7:30 p.m. Her appearance is co-sponsored by Second Generation.

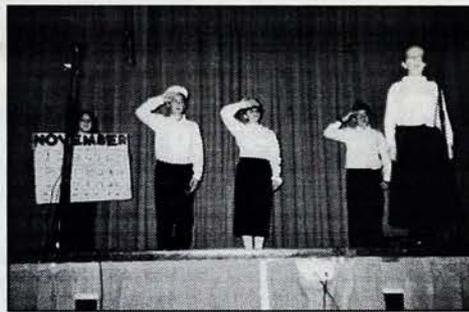
The JCCRI Bookfair promises to be a great opportunity to meet prominent authors and to increase your Jewish library. The bookfair will be held at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island from Dec. 1 to 25. For more information or for volunteer opportunities, call the JCCRI at 861-8800.



### Veteran's Day Remembrance at PHDS

The sixth grade at Providence Hebrew Day School brought the message of Veterans Day to the entire school using an unusual method. The assembly held on Nov. 10 was done as a tableau — a silent enactment of a historical event — with a narrator for each scene. The sixth graders told the story of Veterans Day from its inception after World War I as Armistice Day until the present day.

Also commemorating Veterans Day was a special display at school, which listed the names of veterans connected to the PHDS "family." Each veteran's name and the war they fought in were placed in a star. Next to this was a large cutout of the flag-raising scene at Iwo Jima.



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### 2000 Niche Awards Nominees Now Being Accepted

Begun in 1990, the Niche Awards program recognizes the outstanding creative achievements of American and Canadian craft artists who produce work for craft galleries and retail stores. Judging criteria are based on three main distinctions:

- technical excellence and creativity, both in surface design and form
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- a distinct quality of unique and original thought

The artists presented with Niche Awards are part of a select group of the most brilliant and innovative artists in every media.

Applications for the 2000 Niche Awards are available from *Niche Magazine*, 3000 Chestnut Ave., Suite 304, Baltimore, Md. 21211, telephone (410) 889-3093, fax (410) 889-1320, e-mail nicheaw@rosengrp.com.

The entry deadline is Aug. 1, 1999.

### Scholarship Applications Available For 1999-2000

#### Alisa Flatow Memorial Scholarship

Scholarship applications are now available for the 1999-2000 academic year for those planning to spend the year studying in Israel.

This scholarship fund was established by the family of the late Alisa Flatow. She was killed in a terrorist attack in Kfar Darom, Israel, on April 9, 1995. She was spending the year studying Judaism in Israel.

For your convenience, applications are available only from our website: <www.alisafund.org> or <www.ou.org/alisa>. All applications must be submitted on-line. If the application is downloaded it must be typed or completed in a word processor format before it is sent out.

Deadline for receipt of all completed applications is Feb. 15, 1999. Questions may be directed to Dr. Wallace Greene, executive secretary.

## FEATURE

## Names From Fame and Obscurity — The Power Behind the Peacock

by Kimberly Ann Orlandi  
Herald Editor

As our parents and grandparents can tell us, technology has come a long way since the days of the "radio music box." Satellite feeds, wire transmissions, the worldwide web all make it easier and faster to obtain information from anywhere in the world. But, what about the days when the only place to get your information was the radio? And, what about before that? How did our forefathers endure without cable television?

Without the invention of the radio and the capability to transmit information from New York City to Los Angeles, Calif., via the airways, it is unlikely that our electronic news gathering capabilities would be where they are today, and we have to give credit to David Sarnoff.

Sarnoff's humble beginnings were a far cry from where the communications mogul ended up. He was born into poverty in Uzlian, Russia. His father, Abraham, was a painter who emigrated to New York City in 1896, sending for his family four years later. As a young boy growing up in New York's Lower East Side, Sarnoff had little schooling and even less of a childhood. Because his father was incapable of supporting his family, Sarnoff was forced to find employment, at the age of

10 as a peddler of Yiddish newspapers. Even as a youngster, Sarnoff had a vision of procuring a profit. He realized that by hiring others and selling to smaller vendors in need of distribution, he could create a handsome profit.

In 1906, now 15 years old, Sarnoff joined the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company of America as an errand boy for its founder, Guglielmo Marconi. Here he learned English by reading the newspapers and how to manage an office. He was made manager of the Marconi station in Sea Gate, Brooklyn, and then became the operator of the company's telegraph equipment at Wanamaker's Department Store in Manhattan, where his historic radio reception of the sinking S.S. *Titanic* was received.

Sarnoff became the first person to create a coast-to-coast radio network in 1926, primarily as a result of what he heard in 1912. As a skilled telegrapher, Sarnoff was the man who received the initial distress calls from the unsinkable luxury liner — "S.S. *Titanic* ran into iceberg. Sinking fast." The experience made Sarnoff a national hero, and over the next 72-hour period, then President William Howard Taft ordered radio silence, so Sarnoff could

receive and relay the information to the nation. His efforts brought about a federal law mandating the use of transmitters in all large ships.

When Marconi Wireless was bought out by RCA (the magnate of General Electric, Westinghouse, AT & T, and the



David Sarnoff

United Fruit Company) in 1919, Sarnoff became their commercial manager. The company formed NBC in 1926, and Sarnoff was named the conglomerate's president in 1930. Sarnoff's philosophy of programming dealt with cultural and enriching programs rather than the commercial popular programming of

William Paley at CBS. Sarnoff's radio shows were filled with some of the best and brightest talent of the day, but just before the birth of television, Sarnoff had many of them lured away by rival Paley. In order to promote and project the shows of both NBC and CBS, Sarnoff led the way in the development of the production of the television. For many years, the RCA sets were considered the jewels of the electronics industry.

The Toscanini concerts, which were first broadcast over radio then to television, exposed millions of Americans to the enchanting world of classical music while saving the networks from the governmental controls of the Roosevelt years. RCA later used those concerts in the procurement of RCA Records.

But, Sarnoff's life wasn't all business. He was very active in government and philanthropic affairs and was appointed a brigadier general in the U.S. Army Reserves during World War II by Roosevelt, where he earned the name "the General," which would remain with him for the rest of his life. RCA played a vital role during

World War II bringing the battle home to America. As an officer stationed in Europe, part of Sarnoff's responsibility was to prepare for print and electronic press coverage of the D-Day landing and the progress of the looming invasion. As technology progressed and the impact of television on popular culture increased, television was brought directly to the combat fields during the Vietnam War. It was now possible to bring the conflict directly into the homes of Americans without the sanitizing of World War II and Korea.

In 1968, Sarnoff turned over the reins of command to his son Robert, who had been working in the company since 1948. Everyone knew, at that time, that the only way Sarnoff would announce his retirement was due to an illness, and they were right. On December 15, 1971, friends, family and rivals gathered at Temple Emanue-El in New York City to bid farewell to a communications genius. In the eulogy given by Governor Nelson Rockefeller, he said "Others looked at radio and saw a gadget. David Sarnoff looked at radio and saw a household possession capable of enriching the lives of millions."

## Czechs Charge Skinhead Teen With Attacking Jewish Soldier

by Richard Allen Greene  
PRAGUE (JTA) — Czech police have charged a teenage skinhead with stabbing a Jewish soldier.

The 17-year-old suspect was charged under the country's hate crimes laws with attempting racially motivated murder and promoting fascism. Since the accused was a minor at the time of the alleged crime, he faces a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison.

The executive secretary of the Federation of Czech Jewish Communities said he believed the attack was the first anti-Semitic criminal act since the fall of communism in 1989.

"It's a very alarming incident," said Tomas Kraus.

The Czech press reported that the youth stabbed the 22-year-old soldier at a Prague restaurant in the early hours of Nov. 8. The soldier was reported to be in stable condition in a Prague hospital.

"There are two victims," said Kraus. "This young Jewish man — and the man who attacked him. He is a victim of certain

ideology, and to be in prison for 10 years will ruin his life."

Kraus said the incident could be a result of the failure of the Czech justice system to punish crimes against Romanians, or Gypsies.

Penalties against skinheads have been "mild," said Kraus. As a result, skinheads have more courage, he added.

The Czech Republic has been widely criticized for failing to bring to justice skinheads accused of violence against Romanians, the country's most visible ethnic minority.

Last month, a Czech court handed down suspended sentences of 15 to 22 months against four underage skinheads accused of beating a Romany father of six and leaving him in a road, where he was killed by a truck.

They were convicted of a racially motivated crime, but were never charged with murder of manslaughter.

Skinheads reportedly celebrated outside the courtroom when that verdict was handed down.

## Utensils From Islamic Period Discovered in Tiberias

The largest cache of objects from the Islamic period ever uncovered in Israel has been discovered in Tiberias in archaeological excavations being carried out under the auspices of The Hebrew University of Jerusalem Institute of Archaeology.

The discoveries, found in recent days at the site, located just south of the present day city of Tiberias, consist of some 500 to 600 metal utensils from the 10th to 11th centuries, the period of the Islamic Fatimid rule in the region.

The items were found in three large clay vessels hidden under the floor of a structure that apparently belonged to a smith or a wealthy dealer in metal objects. The objects, which are in excellent condition, include a large candelabra, decorative bowls with writing in the ancient Kufic Arabic script, jugs, pots, bells and other vessels decorated with geometric, floral and animal designs. Other objects found were decorative scales and figurines of snakes and birds.

The excavations in Tiberias were under the direction of Professor Yizhar Hirschfeld of the Institute of Archaeology and Oren Gutfeld, a graduate student at the institute. Participating in the dig, which ended recently, were dozens of local laborers. Financial

backing was provided by the Ministry of National Infrastructures, with additional support from the city of Tiberias.

The houses in which the objects were found are part of a general area of residences and workshops, close to the street

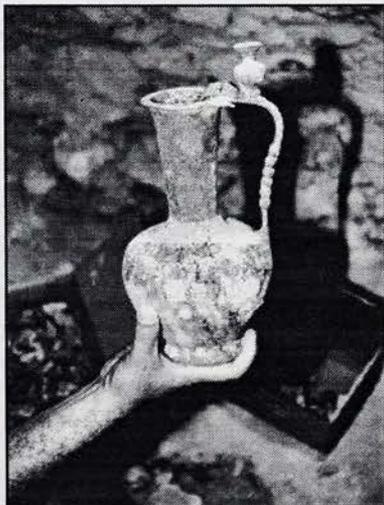
the owner of the objects discovered.

It is expected that this discovery will make a great contribution to research of the period of Islamic rule in the land of Israel and throughout the world.

Since 1925, the American Friends of the Hebrew University has been dedicated to strengthening The Hebrew University of Jerusalem by providing resources to perpetuate the cultural, intellectual and educational traditions of the Jewish people. This support has aided the university in becoming a world leader in research in the fields of technology, medicine, agriculture and much more, as well as making significant contributions to promote peace and pluralism in the Middle East.

The Hebrew University was founded by leading statesmen and scholars including Chaim Weizmann, Sigmund Freud, Martin Buber and Albert Einstein. After its cornerstone was laid in 1918, The Hebrew University opened in 1925. The scholarship and research done at the university formed the basis for

Israel's science, technology, medical systems, education, agriculture and economy. Today, more than 24,000 full-time students from Israel and more than 30 countries attend classes at its four campuses.



A METAL JUG, one of hundreds of items discovered in archaeological excavations, at Tiberias, conducted by the Hebrew University Institute of Archaeology.

Photo by Gabi Laron

which bisected the ancient city of Tiberias. The city was at that time the capital of the Urdun district and had a mixed Jewish, Moslem and Christian population. There is no indication as yet as to the ethnic identity of

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## FEATURE

### From Lomza to Chicago: Lost Torah Rescued in Poland

by Sid Singer  
JUF News

CHICAGO (JTA) — As a domestic relations judge in Chicago, Gerald Bender is bound to promote justice in the court system. But he recently facilitated justice in a different arena: returning a nearly destroyed Torah to the local Jewish community.

Bender's friend Dr. Marek Kaminski, a Catholic emergency medicine doctor, comes from Lomza, Poland, also the hometown of Bender's late father.

Acting on Bender's behalf, Kaminski, who visits Lomza twice a year, negotiated the purchase of a Torah found on the floor of a Lomza building about to be demolished.

Kaminski brought the Torah back from Poland in late August. After Bender, who declined to reveal what he paid, has the Torah repaired and checked over, he'll donate it to a local synagogue — he hasn't decided which one — for regular use.

The texture of the Torah's parchment indicates it was written around World War I, according to Rabbi Mordechai Tarkieltaub, a local scribe, who

inspected the Torah. Tarkieltaub told Bender that 90 percent of Torahs saved from the Holocaust are beyond repair. Despite its age and the way it was found, Bender's Torah is in very good condition, the scribe said.

How Bender, a Lincolnwood resident, and Kaminski, from Eagle, Wis., came to be partners in the affair is a story that could have been taken from the Bible itself.

Kaminski had a friend in Chicago who needed an attorney; he recommended someone he knew, who subsequently overcharged her.

In early 1996, Bender, then practicing law privately, represented the woman as she tried to win back her money from her first attorney. Kaminski testified on her behalf — against the lawyer he had initially recommended.

Bender, meanwhile, had taken the case pro bono; so, as a sign of appreciation, Kaminski said that on his next trip to Lomza, he would buy Bender whatever he wanted.

Bender asked for a kiddush cup and a mezuzah. Kaminski couldn't find a mezuzah, but he did acquire, from an old friend

who deals in antiques, a Torah scroll remnant, which he gave to Bender.

In July 1997, Bender went to Poland himself and met the dealer, from whom he bought more Jewish artifacts. When he asked where the broker's Judaica items came from, the broker told him that many objects are found when buildings are torn down, in the cracks and under the foundation.

By October 1997, it had become known in Lomza that Kaminski was interested in paying cash for Judaica. The antique dealer informed Kaminski that a Torah had become available.

He sent pictures of the Torah to Kaminski, who forwarded them on to Bender, who in turn was immediately interested. Kaminski negotiated a price and bought the Torah for Bender during his trip to Poland in February.

Kaminski said his passion for this cause stems from an intellectual, emotional and religious maturity.

"I came to the United States 20 years ago, and only then did I realize how much was lost. There was a whole Jewish culture that was flourishing" in Lomza.

### Secretary Daley Wraps Up Middle East Mission

U.S. Commerce Sec. William M. Daley wrapped up a five-day visit to the Middle East recently where he met with three heads of state, Crown Prince Hassan and Palestinian Chairman Arafat, trade ministers and business leaders to promote American investment opportunities and economic cooperation in the region. His message of economic reform and elimination of trade barriers was aimed at reinforcing the Wye Plantation peace agreement.

"The Wye agreement provides a background of hope for people in the region who are relieved to see peace between Israel and her neighbors materializing," Daley said during his final stop in Israel, the West Bank and Gaza. "Jobs and economic stability can be both the foundation and incentives for peace. If this region is to compete globally and the people are to prosper, then the pursuit of economic strength must accompany the pursuit of peace," he said.

In the spirit of cooperation, Daley invited the trade ministers of the Palestinian Authority, Jordan and Israel for an informal discussion of the barriers their business people face in trading across borders. For the first time in two years, the group met and addressed longstanding issues of goods delivery, transportation and tariffs, and agreed to follow-up meetings. "I sense a changed psychology, a more positive atmosphere and a true willingness to make progress on these issues," Daley said. "There is a recognition among the parties that the future prosperity and welfare of the people of this region depends on their cooperation. I know the United States is committed to support these efforts," he said.

In Israel, Daley met with Is-

raeli Prime Minister Netanyahu, Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon, and Trade and Industry Minister Sharansky. He traveled to Gaza where he met with Arafat. Together Daley and Arafat cut the ribbon on a water treatment facility in a new industrial park, the Gaza Industrial Estate. On the West Bank, he met with Trade and Economic Development Minister al Masri, and opened the new Trade Industrial Center, a joint American-Palestinian effort, intended to promote and expand commercial ties between Palestinian and American firms. Daley also hosted a dinner and discussion with West Bank business leaders. Today trade between the United States and Palestinians is at a negligible level.

Daley announced that he will return to the Middle East in early 1999, bringing with him American businesses eager to explore trade opportunities with the region. "American businesses feel that the Wye Peace agreement between Israel and the Palestinian Authority will provide new opportunities for them, and, on a larger scale, want to work to help support peace," said Daley.

In his visit to Jordan, Daley toured a manufacturing plant in a unique, new free trade zone — a direct result of peace between Jordan and Israel. He also received a personal tour of a Palestinian refugee camp by Hassan. In Lebanon, he met with President-elect Lahoud, Prime Minister Hariri and Minister of Trade and Economy Jabir. Daley, the first U.S. Commerce Secretary ever to visit Lebanon, witnessed an extraordinary transformation of a country devastated by civil war, but "reconstructed on hope." Daley sent a clear message that American business is back in Beirut — a

(Continued on Page 15)

### Russian Media Accuse Premier of Backing Extremist Legislator

by Lev Krichevsky

MOSCOW (JTA) — As the controversy over anti-Semitism within the Russian Communist Party continues to fester, some newspapers are accusing Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov of supporting the Communists' ultranationalism.

Liberal politicians have been clamoring for the party to be banned after its leaders refused to officially censure Communist lawmaker Gen. Albert Makashov for anti-Semitic remarks he made at mass demonstrations last month. Critics allege that the party's failure to censure Makashov publicly — the leader of the party, Gennady Zyuganov, said he was "reprimanded" — reflects the party leadership's private endorse-

ment of Makashov's publicly stated sentiments.

But Primakov, who has kept silence on the matter until recently, said that he opposed banning the Communist Party.

Primakov added that one has to "be careful with such statements," apparently referring to comments by business tycoon Boris Berezovsky, former Prime Minister Yegor Gaidar and ex-Deputy Premier Anatoly Chubais, who called for outlawing the Communists.

While most legal experts argue that it would be either technically very difficult or "unproductive" to outlaw the Communist Party, two leading daily newspapers criticized Primakov's stand, saying that, in fact, he was endorsing the party lead-

ership in its attempts to defend Makashov.

The leading business newspaper, *Kommersant Daily*, said recently that Primakov's reaction suggests that the "Duma and the government are moving in the same direction — not only on economics but also on the ethnic question." The paper described Primakov's reaction as "dishonorable."

Some analysts speculate that Primakov's stand was due to his desire to win broad support for next year's budget, which is expected to arrive soon in the Duma, the communist-dominated lower house of Parliament.

Meanwhile, the head of the Russian Orthodox Church also criticized Makashov. Patriarch Alexy II said, "Any attempts to foment [inter-racial] hatred destabilize the already precarious accord in society."

In a related development, Russia's prosecutor Gen. Yuri Skuratov announced recently that his agency had found evidence which demonstrates that Makashov's statements incited ethnic strife. He did not clarify, however, whether his office would ask the Duma to strip Makashov of parliamentary immunity.

An unrepentant Makashov continues to make anti-Semitic statements. Recently he appeared on a television talk show and said Jews are "bloodsuckers," and in an interview with an Italian newspaper he said Jewish participation in government, business and mass media should be subject to a special quota corresponding to its proportion of the population.

### Greece to Send Archives to U.S. Holocaust Museum

by Jean Cohen

ATHENS (JTA) — A book published by the Greek government on the history of Greek Jews includes documents from postwar talks between the Allies and Switzerland on plundered Nazi gold.

The book, *Documents on the History of the Greek Jews*, published in English, is based on 159 of the ministry's files relating to the rich cultural, economic and political activities of Greek Jews and to their suffering during the Holocaust.

The Foreign Ministry will ship 25 crates full of archival documents to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington for study. Both the book and the documents will be used at a December conference in Washington on Holocaust-era assets.

The documents include official dispatches from Greek diplomats who attended talks held after the war between the Allies and the Swiss government on Nazi funds held in its banks, which led to the 1946 Washington Agreement under which Switzerland agreed to return \$58 million in looted gold.

"We come to the real problem that the appearance of this volume punctures like a lance in the boil of denial. Nazis expropriated, exploited then killed the Jews. But after the war, who got the loot?" asked Steven Bowman, a professor of Judaic studies at the University of Cincinnati, who helped compile the English-language volume.

Bowman said the book contains many previously unpublished official documents that languished in the Foreign Ministry archives until three years ago.

Greece is one of the only countries that gave back to the remaining Jewish community all the property that belonged to Jews before the war. Some 85 percent of the country's prewar Jewish population of 80,000 perished in Nazi death camps.

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## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT



## Culinary Delights From Around The World

"Foods Around the World" is a major emphasis of the 25th annual Winter Holiday Sale at International House of Rhode Island, 8 Stimson Ave., Providence on Dec. 5 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

There is no entrance fee and the feast of foods that you can take home with you will include baklava, eggplant Parmesan, Indian dal, an assortment of holiday cookies, "Buches de Noel," cranberry puddings, gingerbread boys and gingerbread houses, chocolate candies, and a variety of tasty delights from Poland, Portugal, the Middle East, China, Japan, Italy, England, Scotland, and more.

In addition there will be lots of holiday greens, wreaths, boxwood trees, and table decora-

tions, a variety of gift baskets, unusual picture frames, hand decorated note cards, both new and "retro" jewelry, a "gold elephant" room, and, of course, a white elephant area with clothing, household goods, books, bric à brac, and whatnots! You can also join us for mid-morning coffee, lunch or a light snack in our international cafe.

International House is a non-profit social service agency providing aid and services to temporary international residents in the Rhode Island area and cultural exchange opportunities for Americans. Proceeds benefit our many programs. The house is located at 8 Stimson Ave. off Hope Street, one block north of Angell Street. For further information, call 421-7181.

## Rhode Island Playwriting Competition Rewriting Workshop Deadline is Near

As part of the third annual R.I. Youth Playwriting Competition, the All Children's Theatre is holding a rewriting workshop on Dec. 12, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the All Children's Theatre Studios, One Allens Ave. Providence. The workshop is open to any student interested in reviewing their in-progress play prior to the final submission deadline of Jan. 16. Members of the All Children's Theatre Ensemble will read scenes from plays in progress followed by discussion and suggestions from participating student playwrights, actors, and the competition and festival producer, MaryLee Vitale.

With partial funding from R.I. State Council on the Arts and support from the Sundel-Strauss Family Foundation, this year's expanded third annual R.I. Youth Playwriting Competition included four in-school playwriting workshops held at seven selected high schools from around the state. High school students from Rogers in Newport, Ponaganset in North Scituate, Shea in Pawtucket,

Cumberland in Cumberland, Exeter-West Greenwich in Exeter, Classical in Providence and Burrillville in Burrillville were the beneficiaries of the weekly playwriting workshops.

The competition is open to students enrolled in Rhode Island public and private high schools in grades nine to 12 as of Sept. 1998. Home-schooled students are eligible as well. All submissions, due by Jan. 16, 1999, must adhere to the competition guidelines, available by calling 331-7174 or writing to All Children's Theatre Ensemble, One Allens Ave., Providence, RI 02903. Up to six winners will be chosen by a panel of judges and each winning play will be produced and performed before public audiences during the Playwriting Festival, May 7, 8, 14 and 15 and 7 p.m. at the Vartan Gregorian School Theatre, 455 Wickenden St., Providence, R.I.

For further information, call 331-7174 or e-mail <ACTinProv@aol.com>. Visit ACT online at <www.geocities.com/Broadway/8384>.

## Thayer Street Canned Food Drive

Merchants of the Thayer Street Retail District on the East Side are joining forces this holiday season to collect canned foods for the needy.

From now through Thanksgiving, participating Thayer Street business owners will be keeping canned food donation bins in their stores. Bins can be found in Berk's, the Brown Bookstore, Cafe La France, Cyber Zone, Details, EG Photo, the Meeting Street Post Office, Pie in the Sky, and ZuZu's Petals. Shoppers are strongly encouraged to bring canned food items of any

shape and content to these drop-off locations.

The food drive will culminate in the second annual Thayer Street Canned Food Sculpture Contest to be held at Basha Restaurant at 8 p.m. on Dec. 2. At that time, area artists will compete to produce the most creative canned food sculpture, using the cans collected. Later, the sculptures will be disassembled and the cans will be distributed to local shelters.

For more information, contact Joe Pinto, the director of the Thayer Street Business Association, at 861-5634.



## Holiday Exhibition of Regional American Art at Bert Gallery

The Bert Gallery will help bring in the holidays this year with a special exhibit of regional American art with a seasonal bent. The exhibit will be on display from Nov. 30 through Dec. 24. The Bert Gallery is located on 540 South Water St. and is open Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The show will feature art by local and regional artists, including watercolors by Henry Newell Cady, as well as the early founders of the Rhode Island School of Design, and the Providence Art Club. The exhibit will bring together some of Providence's finest early 20th century artists, including etchers, wood block artists, and oil and water color painters. It will also feature drawing and sculptures from estate and private collections. The fruit and vegetable paintings of Frank Gasbarro and the porcelain sculptures of Jeff Margolin, both contemporary artists, will be on display as well through Dec. 19.

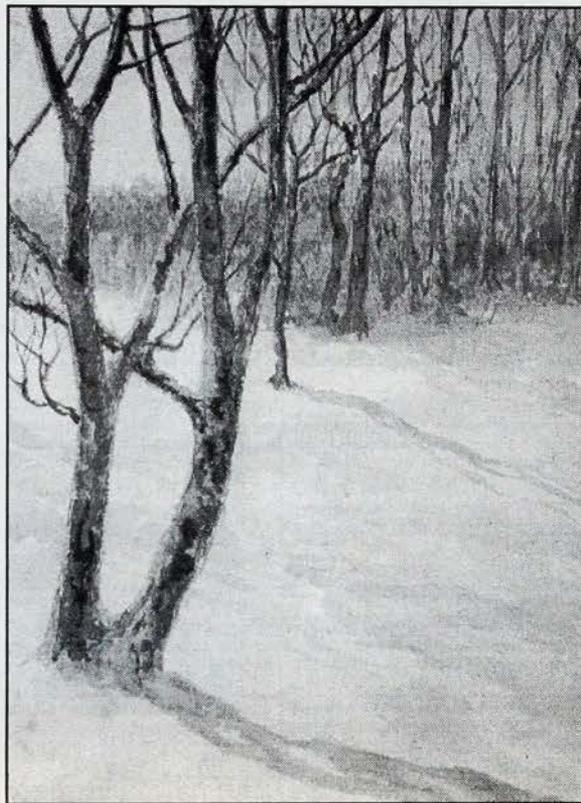
A good way to see this exhibit is on Gallery Night, Dec. 17. Gallery Night Providence, which features 14 art galleries throughout the city, is a celebration of Providence's vast and diverse art community. It occurs the third Thursday of each month from 5 to 9 p.m., rain or shine. Participants may park for free at One Citizens Plaza and take the free ArtTrolleys that loop continuously through downtown and the East Side to all the galleries, including the Bert Gallery.

For more information about this exhibit, or about Gallery Night, call 751-2628.

The Bert Gallery draws from the rich history of Rhode Island

by highlighting 200 years of its art tradition. Featuring artists from the turn of the century, as well as contemporary artists,

the gallery has on display paintings, woodcuts and sculpture from estates and private collections.



Watercolor by Henry Newell Cady

## Family Israeli Dance Workshop

A Family Israeli Dance Workshop for parents, children and friends will be held on Dec. 6 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. The workshop is at the Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center, 333 Nahanton St., Newton.

Designed for children ages 4 and up, the class teaches Israeli dancing in a relaxed and engaging manner. A refreshment break is included. Taught by Pam Kessler, an experienced dancer and member of the professional troupe Hamakor, the workshop is fun for the whole family!

The workshop is \$4 for individuals and \$12 for a family of three or more. Call 558-6480 for registration and information.

## Perishable Theatre Announces Auditions

Perishable Theatre is looking for actors for their winter Mainstage production of "Gretty Good Time" by John Belluso and directed by Vanessa Gilbert. Belluso is a Warwick native currently residing in New York City. His play recently won the Kennedy Center Very Special Arts Award. Gilbert is associate artistic director at Perishable.

Auditions will be held Dec. 1 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Dates of the show are Feb. 27 to March 28 with rehearsals starting Jan. 11. Needed for this production are three men, two in their 40s and one in his mid-20s to mid-30s and three women—one woman (32) suffering from post-polio paralysis with only partial use of her right arm, one woman (64) a friend in the nursing home and one woman (18) preferably of Asian descent.

For an audition slot the actors must call the theater at 331-2695 and make an appointment. There will be a small stipend for the actors. The Perishable Theatre is located at 95 Empire St., Providence, R.I.



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Choice of Top Sirloin, Baked Haddock, Grilled Chicken with Tomato Basil Vinaigrette  
Coffee or Tea/French Vanilla Ice Cream

#### OPTION 3 • \$23.95\* PER PERSON

Choice of Petite Prime Rib, Baked Stuffed Shrimp, Baked Stuffed Shrimp & Sirloin, Baked Scallops & Sirloin  
Coffee or Tea/Chocolate Truffle Mousse Cake

#### OPTION 4 • \$25.95\* PER PERSON

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Coffee or Tea/Chocolate Truffle Mousse Cake

#### OPTION 5 • \$27.95\* PER PERSON

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## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

### 'Triumphant Spirit' Comes to Providence

Photojournalist Nick Del Calzo visits for the opening reception of the newest exhibit made possible by the Providence Journal Charitable Foundation and the Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum.

After visiting Dachau in 1991, Nick Del Calzo's life was changed forever. His views of humanity, or the lack of it, had come to a new realization. "At Dachau I just couldn't grasp it all. I just couldn't understand how a human being can treat another human being like an animal... How hate can be such a force to move someone — and a nation collectively — to do such things," stated Del Calzo.

When the photojournalist and writer returned to his home in Colorado, he began writing letters to Holocaust survivors in his area. "For months, not a response," recalls Del Calzo. Without haste, he set yet another letter to survivors once again. Through the mailing list at Denver University's Holocaust Awareness Institute, he was able to reach Holocaust survivors in Denver and other regions of Colorado.

Finally, Del Calzo received a response. "That's also when I got the first three questions that have been repetitious through this whole project, from every survivor," added Del Calzo. The first question, "Why are you doing this?" Del Calzo's response: "...because the day will come when you'll no longer be here and I want to record, on film, an image of you." The second question, "Are you Jewish?" was a simple answer, "No," Del Calzo told survivors that he was of an Italian descent, culturally, and Judaism was not his faith. The last question, "Who's paying for this project?" reflected the survivors' fears that the project might be an attempt to profit from their personal agony. When the photographer answered, "No one," the survivors felt much more at ease.

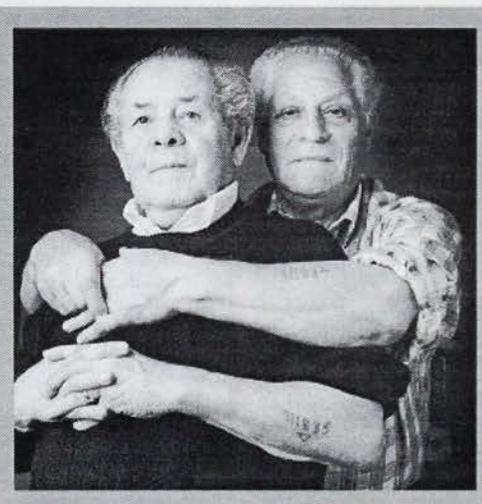
He wasn't Jewish, he hadn't lost any family members in the Holocaust and he hadn't thought much about Nazis or death camps since a college paper he completed on the Nuremberg Trials. Del Calzo was just a tourist when he visited Dachau, but he was also at a crossroads in his life, and didn't

realize it. The sight of the camp and the impressions left with him gave him the inspiration and dedication for his next project.

After photographing local survivors, 20 portraits resulted in Del Calzo's first exhibit at the Denver JCC entitled, "Faces of the Holocaust." The project, in turn, has evolved into "The Triumphant Spirit," an expanded collection of 51 black and white

of triumph of these people who rebuilt their lives... I wanted to show these people as metaphors for the youth of our country," said Del Calzo. "If these people could survive the fear and beatings, starvation and murder, then the youth of our country, feeling hopeless and dismayed, with so many resources, should see that they can achieve whatever they want."

### THE TRIUMPHANT SPIRIT



PORTRAITS & STORIES OF HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS...

THEIR MESSAGES OF HOPE AND COMPASSION

INTRODUCTION BY THOMAS KENEALLY

AUTHOR OF SCHINDLER'S LIST

CREATED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY

NICK DEL CALZO

survivors' faces from across the United States. Del Calzo's project also became a book of more than 70 photo portraits and biographies. His exhibit has traveled throughout the United States for more than three years.

While working on the project for a number of years, Del Calzo said he met some of the most remarkable and fascinating people. They impressed him with their strength, determination and individual paths to success. "The survivors are remarkable... So I thought I would make a record

The Holocaust ultimately remains a mystery to the artist, his contact through photographing and recording the stories of the survivors has assisted him in understanding, "a little bit more."

The "Triumphant Spirit" exhibit will be at the University of Rhode Island in Providence from Dec. 9 through Jan. 3, 1999. The opening reception, with Nick Del Calzo, will be held at URI on Dec. 8 at 6 p.m. The exhibit is made possible by the Providence Journal Charitable Foundation. Call for ticket information if you would like to attend the reception. Del Calzo's book will be available at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island Book Fair and at the Dec. 8 event. For more information, call 453-7860.

Intermountain Jewish News and Rocky Mountain News, as well as Tara V. Lisciandro, executive director at RHMM, contributed to this article.

### Finkelstein Memorial Lecture at URI

Feature Director of Annenberg Institute for School Reform

The 25th annual Robert and Augusta Finkelstein Memorial Lecture, at the University of Rhode Island on Dec. 2 at 7:30 p.m., will feature Warren Simmons, the director of the Annenberg Institute for School Reform at Brown University.

Simmons' lecture, which is free and open to the public, "Making Standards-based Reform a Reality in Schools," will be held in the Barry Marks Auditorium of the Chafee Social Science Center at URI's Kingston Campus.

Simmons previously directed the Philadelphia Education Fund, a non-profit organization that provides technical assistance, professional development, and monetary support to improve Philadelphia's public schools. While there, he played a major role in helping the district develop and implement new academic standards and assessments, standards-based

curriculum resources, and comprehensive reform models.

Simmons received his bachelor's degree in psychology from Macalester College in St. Paul, Minn., and his doctorate in psychology from Cornell University.

In 1973, the University of Rhode Island established the Robert Finkelstein Memorial Lecture Series in honor of the late Robert Finkelstein, a noted Rhode Island industrialist and staunch believer in state and federal support of elementary and secondary education. The lecture series, founded by the generosity of Augusta Finkelstein in memory of her husband, was renamed in her honor following her death in 1997.

Program access will be provided for persons with disabilities. If you need special accommodations or have questions regarding accessibility, please call 874-2098 three days in advance.

### Show Boat — The Staging of an Epic

The setting of "Show Boat" may be from another, earlier time, but the production is strictly state-of-the-art. The staging of a musical of this magnitude involves:

- 500 costumes, 400 hats and bows, and 300 pairs of shoes and boots
- 22 miles of steel cable, 17.5 miles of electrical cable and 2 miles of computer cable.
- 8 computers to operate the lighting, scenery and sound equipment
- 1,000 lighting circuits and more than 500 lighting fixtures
- 120 sound speakers, 83 microphones and 45 radio microphones
- A 25-foot tall, 30-foot long Show Boat
- 55 actors, 20 musicians, 37 stage crew members, 21 wardrobe dressers, 7 wig masters and 4 stage managers.
- More than 500 props, many of which are priceless relics
- A revolving door, retrieved from the Bank of Scotland
- A 1902 Dewit Motor Car
- A 1927 custom roadster
- Four "turn-of-the-century" wagons and carriages
- A bar from a tavern in Connecticut

The performance of "Show Boat" is currently running through Dec. 6. Call 421-ARTS for tickets or charge by phone 331-2211.



CREW MEMBERS MOVE part of the "Show Boat" stage into the PPAC. Herald photo by Kimberly A. Orlandi

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## First Night Providence 99 Buttons on Sale

The colorful new admission button for First Night Providence 1999 is on sale now at more than 250 locations throughout Rhode Island and neighboring areas.

Before Dec. 25, admission buttons are just \$7 — a \$2 savings. For even greater savings, "Value 4-Packs" are available for \$24. After Dec. 25, all buttons are \$9 each. Children age 6 and under are admitted free.

Discounted "Value 4-Packs" are available at the following locations until Dec. 25: AAA, BankBoston, the RI Mall Customer Service Booth, Books on the Square and the First Night office at 10 Dorrance St. in Providence. VISA and MasterCard are accepted through the First Night office for a nominal handling fee.

A First Night button buys admission to nearly 250 concerts, plays, dances, acts, exhibits, workshops and events in a 10-hour marathon of non-stop entertainment in downtown Providence. Children's activities begin at 2 p.m. and culminate in a procession at 5 p.m. to opening ceremonies in Kennedy Plaza. The evening is topped off with the Card's Furniture/First Night Fireworks Finale, just before midnight, to welcome the New Year.

This year's admission button also provides the following additional benefits:

- Free admission to the RISD Museum on Dec. 31.
- Free admission to the Providence Children's Museum between 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Dec. 31.

- Free towing from AAA to button-wearing festival attendees requiring that service during the festival on Dec. 31.

- \$1 off admission to the Roger Williams Park Zoo throughout January.

A complete inventory is printed in the Official Guide to Events, to be distributed in the Dec. 13 *Providence Sunday Journal*.

For more information about festival activities, call the Journal Line at 277-7777, category code 1999 or the First Night office at 521-1166. Information is also available online at <www.firstnightprovidence.org and oso.com>.

### First Night Buttons Are Available

First Night buttons are available statewide at the following: AAA Branch Offices, BankBoston, Bank Rhode Island, Brooks Pharmacy, DB Mart, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care of New England, Providence Public Library, Starbucks Coffee Company, Stop & Shop Supermarkets, X-Tra Mart, YMCAs of Greater Providence, Online at OSO.com, other locations (see "Official Guide to Events" for a complete listing).

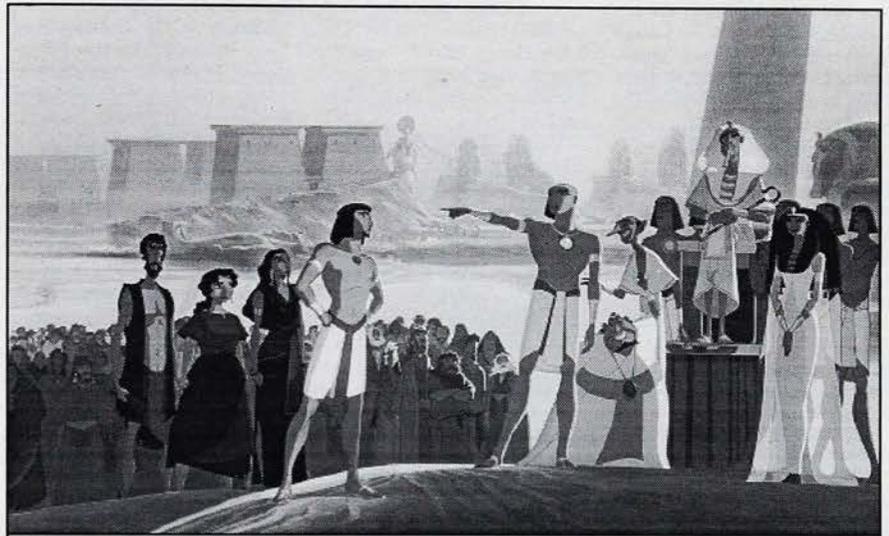
First Night buttons are available during the festival at the following: Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul, Kennedy Plaza, Lupo's Heartbreak Hotel, Providence Civic Center, Providence Performing Arts Center, R.I. Convention Center, RISD Auditorium, The RISD Museum of Art, The State House, and Veterans Memorial Auditorium.

## Shaw's 'Saint Joan' Gallops Into Trinity Rep

Trinity Repertory Company presents George Bernard Shaw's masterpiece "Saint Joan," Dec. 4 through Jan. 17, directed by Amanda Dehnert and featuring Jennifer Mudge Tucker as Joan of Arc. The celebrated Maid of Orleans, having saved France from the invading English, finds herself in a battle for her life in her own homeland.

"Saint Joan" runs in the downstairs theater in Trinity Rep's downtown Providence location, 201 Washington St. Curtain times are 8 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays, 7 p.m. Tuesdays and Sundays, and 2 p.m. on Sundays and select Saturdays and Wednesdays. Ticket prices range from \$24 to \$34, with group, student, senior and disabled discounts available. Tickets are available now at the Trinity Rep box office, 351-4242.

For group rate information, call 521-1100, ext. 223. Visit Trinity Rep's website at <www.trinityrep.com>.



## The 'Prince of Egypt' Comes to The Screen

Born a slave. Raised by kings. Chosen to lead. His story is known around the world; his name is revered by millions... Moses.

"The Prince of Egypt" is an epic drama of heritage and destiny. The story of Moses and his passage from slave to prince to deliverer is one that has endured for thousands of years, inspiring generation after generation with its timeless themes of faith, hope and freedom.

DreamWorks first full-length animated feature, "The Prince of Egypt" stars Val Kilmer and Ralph Fiennes respectively as Moses and Rameses, two brothers raised on a lie and ripped apart by a secret revealed. The film also brings together the vocal talents of Sandra Bullock, Danny Glover, Jeff Goldblum, Steve Martin, Helen Mirren, Michelle Pfeiffer, Martin Short and Patrick Stewart.

Helping to tell the story are six new songs written by Academy Award®-winning lyricist Stephen Schwartz ("Pocahontas") and a score composed by Academy Award®-winning composer Hans Zimmer ("The Lion King"). The film also features the handiwork of more than 350 animators, artists and technicians. "The Prince of Egypt" opens Dec. 18 at the Showcase Cinemas in Warwick and Seekonk.

*Photo courtesy of Dreamworks Animation*

## Antique Show and Sale

The Southeastern New England Antique Dealers Association will hold their 11th annual Holiday Antique Show and Sale with 70 dealers exhibiting. The show will be held on Dec. 5 at 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Dec. 6 at 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Community College of Rhode Island, Warwick Campus. The admission is \$3.50. For details, call 397-4594.

Antique periods and styles include Americana to Victoriana, Federal to Art Deco, and Country to Formal.

Antique items — Art glass, tools, lighting, silver, ceramics, books, jewelry, decoys, oak furniture, nautical items, prints, paintings, advertising items and much, much, more will be available.

Directions (easily accessible): From the north take Interstate 95 South to Exit 12B. Bear left of fork to 113 West. CCRI is 1/4 mile on the left.

From the south take Interstate 95 North to Interstate 295 North. Use Exit 1 onto 113 West to campus entrance on the left.

## Community Players Announce Auditions

The Community Players will hold auditions for their second annual One Act Play/Director's Workshop on Dec. 6 and 7 at 7 p.m. at Jenks Junior High School, Division Street, Pawtucket, R.I. (across from McCoy Stadium).

All roles are open. Needed are five men and four women. Auditioners will be performing cold readings from the following plays:

"The Author's Voice," by Richard Greenburg, directed by Marilyn Dubois

"The Weak Spot," by George Kelly, directed by James Sulanowski

"The Philadelphia," by David Ives, directed by JoAnn Bromley.

The production dates are Feb. 5 and 6 at 8 p.m., Feb. 7 at 2 p.m. For further information, call Brian Mulvey at 781-6637.

**If you have an event you would like featured on our Arts & Entertainment page, please send it to the Rhode Island Jewish Herald, P.O. Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 02940**

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# OBITUARIES

**LILLIAN FEINSTEIN**  
SHARON, Mass. — Lillian (Pector) Feinstein of Sharon, Mass., formerly of Milton, died Nov. 15. She was the wife of the late Louis Feinstein.

She is survived by two sons Alan S. Feinstein and Joel P. Feinstein, nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She was also the mother of the late Sandra Gamm and the sister of the late Ruth, Harry, Jack and Irving.

Services were held Nov. 17 at the Schlossberg & Solomon Memorial Chapel, 824 Washington St., Canton, Mass.

**JEROME FISCHBEIN**  
FALL RIVER — Jerome Fischbein, 76, of Freelove Street, died Nov. 18 at home. He was the husband of the late Shirley (Dumbrow) Fischbein.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., a son of the late David and Hilda (Weintraub) Fischbein, he lived in Fall River since 1966, previously living in New York.

He was a member of Temple Beth-El in Fall River and the Faxon Animal Rescue League. He was an avid photographer and fisherman and was active in the Boy Scouts of America.

He leaves two sisters, Lynn Fischbein of Clearlake Oaks, Calif., and Barbara Landsberg of Boynton Beach, Fla.

A graveside funeral was held on Nov. 23 in New Montefiore Cemetery, Pinelawn, N.Y. Arrangements were by the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

**EDITH HONIG**  
SOUTH KINGSTOWN — Edith Honig, 98, of South Bay Manor, died Nov. 22 at home. She was the wife of the late Samuel Earl Honig.

Born in New York City, she was the daughter of the late William and Rae Sussman and a graduate of Barnard College. She moved to South Kingstown from Florida in 1992.

She leaves a son, William M. Honig of Warwick; a sister, Gladys Robinson in New York; four grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. She was the mother of the late Dr. Carl Honig.

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

**GEORGE LABUSH**  
BOCA RATON, Fla. — George Labush, 93, of 9945 Central Park Boulevard North, Boca Raton, Fla., an inventory clerk in the medical supply industry for many years before retiring, died Nov. 15 at Menorah House in Florida. He was the husband of the late Evelyn Vera (Kahnovsky) Labush, and the late Anna (Feiler) Labush.

Born in Russia, a son of the late Hyman and Pesel Labush, he lived in Providence for 82 years before moving to Florida in 1996.

He was a 1929 graduate of Brown University. In the 1930s and 1940s he was the owner of the newsstand at the former Narragansett Hotel. He was a member and past president of Sons

of Jacob Synagogue. He was past president of the Hebrew Free Loan Association, the Providence Fraternal Association, Moes Chitim, OHC, and the Chased Schel Amess Association. He was a board member of the Providence Hebrew Day School and the Providence Hebrew Sheltering Society. He was active in many other Jewish organizations.

He leaves three sons, Bernard Labush of Delray Beach, Fla., Philip Labush of Sunrise, Fla., and Harold Labush of Cranston; two daughters, Ruth Ross of Providence and Barbara Schutz of Cincinnati; three stepchildren, Glenda Labush of Pawtucket, Paula Pabian and Alan Feiler, both in Florida; 17 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren. He was a brother of the late Samuel and Abraham Labush.

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

**ROSE MILLER**  
PROVIDENCE — Rose Miller, 90, of 1085 North Main St., a clerk at Rhode Island Hospital and an employee of Moran Customs Brokerage before retiring in 1974, died Nov. 16 at home.

A lifelong Providence resident, she was a daughter of the late Morris and Pauline (Goldsmith) Miller.

She had been a member of Congregation Mishkon Tfiloh and its Sisterhood and Hadasah.

She was the sister of the late Louis and Nathan Miller, Jennie Grace Miller, Rae Cramer, Bessie Woloff, Frances Miller and Ida Dunn.

A graveside funeral service was held Nov. 18 at Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

**KURT WEILER**  
PROVIDENCE — Kurt Weiler, 86, of Luzon Avenue, self-employed salesman, retiring 10 years ago, died Nov. 19 at Miriam Hospital. He was the husband of the late Erna (Kahn) Weiler.

Born in Germany, a son of the late Max and Francesca (Meyer) Weiler, he lived in Providence for 58 years, previously living in New York City.

He was the founder of a self-help group for German immigrants and a volunteer at The Miriam hospital for 11 years.

He leaves two daughters, Frances Cohen of Atlanta, Ga., and Linda Cole of Baltimore, Md., and five grandchildren. He was the brother of the late Julius Weiler.

The funeral service was held Nov. 22 in Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Sharon (Mass.) Memorial Park.

**RHODA VENIT**  
CRANSTON — Rhoda Venit, 78, of Smithfield Road, died Nov. 9 at Eleanor Slater Hospital, Cranston.

Born in New York City, she had worked as a telephone solicitor in the garment industry.

There are no immediate survivors. She was the sister of the late Geraldine Kaplan.

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

## Saying Kaddish

*How to Comfort the Dying, Bury the Dead & Mourn as a Jew*

by Anita Diamant

From one of our country's most beloved writers on Jewish tradition, *Saying Kaddish* by Anita Diamant (Schocken Books, Nov. 4, 1998) is a practical guide for dealing with one of life's most difficult moments. With knowledge, sensitivity, and clarity, this book explains how to make Judaism's time-honored rituals into personal and meaningful sources of comfort. The Jewish customs and traditions that surround death and bereavement create a space and time where grief is given its due and healing can begin.

*Saying Kaddish* begins by explaining the wisdom encoded in the ancient prayer of Kaddish — providing both contemporary and traditional alternatives — and guides the reader through Jewish practices that attend the end of life, from the sickroom to the funeral to the week, month, and year that follow.

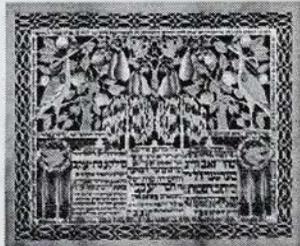
There are chapters describing the traditional Jewish funeral and the customs of Shiva — or the first week after a death when mourners are comforted and cared for by community, friends, and family. Diamant also explains the protected status of Jewish mourners, who are exempt from responsibilities of social, business and religious life during Shloshim — the first 30 days of mourning. And she provides detailed instructions for the rituals of Yizkor and Yahrzeit, while paying careful attention to the emotional toll of loss and bereavement. Specific losses, such as the loss of a child or neo-natal loss, suicide, and the death of non-Jewish loved ones are addressed, as well.

In *Saying Kaddish*, you will learn:

- How to meaningfully and ethically be present with a dying person and comfort him/her during his or her final days, including prayer at the bedside and viddui, or confession.
  - About the traditional Jewish funeral, where the focus is on the life of the deceased and there are no flowers or music, no discussion of heaven, redemption or final reunion.
  - About the first week, shiva, when mourners are forbidden to do work, and community, friends and family are responsible for their care.
  - About the deep comfort of saying Kaddish, the prayer Jewish mourners chant in the company of others, during daily or weekly services throughout the first year after a death.
  - How to face special situations that are not covered by traditional Jewish law or custom, such as the needs of grieving children; the issues involved in mourning non-Jewish loved ones; and the anguish of stillbirth, neo-natal loss, and miscarriage.
- Comprehensive, insightful, and wise, *Saying Kaddish* is an essential guide for Jews, providing indispensable instruction and solace from the wisdom of a caring tradition.

## Saying Kaddish

HOW TO COMFORT THE DYING,  
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**CLASSIFIED****Menorah Madness**

(Continued from Page 1)

Catalogs—those selling only Jewish ritual objects and crafts, along with those who fit in a menorah or other Chanukah object next to their Christmas selections—have proliferated as well, both on paper and on the World Wide Web.

Not all of the newfangled menorahs are kosher, warned some retailers. The moose menorah, which has antlers at different levels, does not meet the requirement for menorahs: that all of its eight candles stand at the same height so that the shamash, which is used for lighting the other candles, is the only elevated flame.

But not all characters are acceptable for the trendy menorah merchandising. Philip Lax, owner of Aviv Judaica Imports, one of the country's largest distributors of Chanukah goods, licensed the right to put Mickey, Winnie-the-Pooh and Curious George on menorahs.

He has been approached by the creators of some characters, including Power Rangers and Superman, to render their characters on menorahs but turned them down, Lax said in an interview in his bustling warehouse in Brooklyn.

Lax, who is Orthodox and permits his own children to use only the oil-and-wick menorahs preferred by the fervently Orthodox community, said that he wouldn't produce a menorah with violent or unpleasant characters.

"It has to be 'geshmakt,'" said Lax, using the Yiddish term for enjoyable, of his kids' designs. "It has to have a 'ta'am,'" or appropriate flavor, he said.

As workers packed orders

full of menorahs, musical Chanukah snow globes and Winnie-the-Pooh Chanukah painted dreidels and glitter cups, Lax said two types of people buy the "kitschy" menorahs—collectors and those "who want a flavor of something Jewish or are trying to get their Jewish child to participate."

But in the experience of one major retailer, most people "choose Noah's arks, or choo-choo trains for kids, which can be charming. When they bring in the real secular stuff, it's almost like they forget the meaning of the holiday," said Daniel Levine, whose Manhattan store, J. Levine Judaica, carries about 300 different menorah styles.

As far as some people are concerned, the Disneyfication of Chanukah is taking things a few steps too far.

"Since when are Mickey and Winnie Jewish?" asked Shari Boraz, proprietor of Galerie Robin Fine Judaica in Hanover, N.H., which focuses on more artistic menorahs in both its traditional and on-line catalogues.

For many menorah mavens, the tried-and-true works well.

"With all the hoopla, the traditional still sells," said Terry Heller, manager of a large Judaica store at Temple Emanuel in Denver, and proprietor of an online catalogue, Artistic Judaica Promotions.

Even with all of the alternatives available today, "some people want it to look like a menorah should," she said.

**Jenny Klein**

(Continued from Page 3)

four groups of participants compared their answers.

The tallies showed that some of the questions, such as Is the first priority of the American Jewish Communal Fund to help Israel? Should all Jews consider themselves Zionists? and Should Jewish religious law be maintained as dominant in Israel?, drew very divided responses.

Others, such as Should Jerusalem always be ours? and Should we influence U.S. foreign policy to support Israel even if we are criticized for it?, yielded almost unanimous approval.

As Klein considered the varied answers that a survey from such a specific population segment had drawn, she said that what used to be nearly uniform support for Israel has changed a great deal.

"If you could be so diverse in your answers, it shows that we still have a lot of soul searching to do," she said.

After the exercise, Klein spoke of the importance of clarifying values.

"Every once in a while, we put our thoughts in a sieve," she said. "What goes through is dross, and what stays are positive attitudes."

Klein encouraged the group to always remain positive towards about their faith and connections to Israel.

"Moses said, 'I put before you life and death—choose life,'" Klein said.

**Women's Health Issues**

(Continued from Page 1)

women's health in this country, but there is still a long way to go. Much of the responsibility, however, rests on the shoulders of American women themselves. According to Blumenthal, women need to take control of their lives and shape their own destiny. To do that, women need to find a doctor with whom they can communicate openly; be aware of their family health history; abstain from smoking; participate in a physical activity; eat smart and limit the fat intake; limit the amount of alcohol consumed; don't start using drugs and visit a doctor annually.

Outspoken within the medical community and fearless when it comes to dealing with the male bureaucrats in Washington, Blumenthal recently approached the head of the C.I.A. and NASA on the possibility of using spy satellite imagery in the detection of small lesions which may be hidden behind breast tissue during a regular exam and mammogram. Currently, Massachusetts General Hospital is using the imagery technology in the early detection of breast cancer.

"Detecting breast cancer early is the best weapon against preventing death," said Blumenthal. "It is the desire of the NIH to make mammography available to all despite economic situations."

Unfortunately, a person's economic wealth vastly alters the methods and types of medical treatment a person receives, but now, thanks to Blumenthal and the legislators, Medicare recipients can now receive mammograms as part of their annual screening, and low cost mammograms are available for those who are not on Medicare

but are unable to afford the cost on their own.

"MRIs, CAT scans, digital mammography are all instruments in the future of breast cancer treatment and detection," said Blumenthal.

The National Institute of Health is currently spending nearly \$27 billion in the research of alternative medicine, as well as aging, teen pregnancy and Healthy Women 2000, which is a program promoting women's health needs. Another issue to deal with, according to Blumenthal, is the managed care system in this country. Although it is cheaper than traditional insurance plans and there is less cost sharing, the consumer has no ability to choose a specialist, and often they are reduced to shorter hospital stays for medical procedures. With 43 million uninsured Americans, many of whom are women, the health care issue is a continuing debate for women. With more than half of the population expected to be minority by the year 2050, and 51 percent of the population by 2030 represented by women, the focus of women's health care is going to be a growing concern in the years to come.

"As we approach the year 2000, we must develop a flexible health care program that puts prevention at the forefront instead of on the back burner," said Blumenthal. "If we stand idly by and watch as husbands continue to lose wives, children continue to lose their mothers and mothers continue to lose their daughters, then we as a nation will be diminished."

**Correction**

In the Nov. 12 issue of the *Rhode Island Jewish Herald* on page 10, Fighting Heart Disease is a Community Effort, the cost of each AED is \$2,800 not \$28,000. The *Herald* regrets the error.

**Moving Forward Study Conducted at Miriam**

The Miriam Hospital's division of behavioral and preventive medicine is conducting a four-year study aimed at helping breast cancer survivors feel better. The project, called Moving Forward, is supported by the National Cancer Institute.

Women who have had breast cancer report increased anxiety, depression and fatigue, as well as weight gain and changes in self-concept and body image. Moving Forward is investigating breast cancer survivors' ability to adopt a home-based walking program. Eligible participants are randomly assigned to a 12-week, home-based walking program or to a weekly telephone contact. Exercise information is provided for the second group at the end of the study.

Women over 18 who have been diagnosed within the last five years with early stage (0, I, or II) breast cancer and are currently inactive are eligible to participate. Additionally, women must have completed surgery and/or other treatments, such as radiation or chemotherapy, to take part in Moving Forward. The program is free for eligible volunteers.

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**Superintendent Search Committee Will Meet**

The Providence Public Schools Superintendent Search Committee will meet twice during December. The dates and times are:

Dec. 9 from 4 to 6 p.m.

Dec. 16 from 3 to 5 p.m.

Both meetings will be held in the School Board Meeting Room on the third floor of 797 Westminster St. in Providence. These meetings are open to the public. Agendas will be posted publicly at 797 Westminster St. prior to each meeting, and copies will also be available at each meeting.

Questions regarding search committee meetings may be addressed to Chris Amiral's office at 863-9485.

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**Secretary Daley**

(Continued from Page 10)

city that has \$13 billion awaiting contractors to help rebuild it.

Everywhere, Daley stressed continued diligence toward the implementation of economic reforms and the promotion of regional economic cooperation. These are the elements that will increase prosperity and raise the standards of living in this region, where less than 7 percent of Middle East trade is with other Middle Eastern countries, compared to more than 60 percent in Europe and 30 percent in Asia. He reminded the government and business officials in all four countries that the United States and President Clinton remain committed to supporting their progress toward a more open trading atmosphere. "The people of this region deserve the stability and prosperity that economic stability can foster. It remains the underpinning of the Wye peace process, an opportunity that governments and the private sector cannot be ignored," Daley said.

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## ATM Safety Tips For The Holiday Season

The holiday shopping season officially launches the day after Thanksgiving, ushering in that busy time of year for gift buying, party planning and spending money. With consumers' hectic holiday schedules, it is not surprising that many rely on automated teller machines for fast, convenient and secure banking. In fact, the holiday season is traditionally marked by high ATM transaction volume which has experts at the NYCE Network, the northeast's largest electronic banking network, reminding consumers to take the proper precautions to ensure that the holidays are happy and safe.

Last year NYCE recorded 26 million ATM transactions for the holiday season. The 1998 season promises to be just as busy.

### NYCE recommends the following safety tips for the holiday shopping season:

- **Trust Your Instincts.** use ATMs only where you feel safe and comfortable. If you feel uneasy about a location, don't hesitate to cancel your transaction and go to a different ATM.
- **Be Aware of Your Surroundings.** If you are walking to an ATM, be alert and do not linger at the machine after you have completed your transaction. If you are in a vestibule, close the door completely upon entering and exiting and do not offer entry to strangers. If you are using an ATM in a crowded mall, make sure there is "buffer space" between you and those around you.
- **Be Prepared.** Have your card ready as you approach the ATM. Put away your money, receipt, card and wallet as soon as your transaction is complete. Never walk around a store, mall or parking lot with your cash or card exposed.
- **Memorize Your Pin And Keep it a Secret.** Never write your personal identification number on your card or in your wallet. When entering your PIN, stand between the machine and the person behind you to keep it private. If you feel uncomfortable at any time, cancel the transaction and leave immediately.
- **Protect Your Purchases.** When using an ATM in a mall or shopping center, place your bags and purchases in front of you. Your purchases will be easily accounted for if they are placed between you and the machine. If you are planning to make numerous purchases, take time to put some of your bags in the trunk of your car in order to make stops at the ATM easier and quicker.
- **Bring a Friend** when using an ATM at night. Always choose an ATM that is well lit whether it is in an enclosed vestibule, on the street or at a drive-up window. A friend can also help watch your purchases as you complete a transaction.
- **Keep the Engine Running** when using a drive-up ATM. Make sure all the doors are locked and only open the driver's side window.
- **Guard Your Card.** If your card is lost or stolen or if you notice suspicious or unauthorized transactions on your monthly account statements, notify your financial institution as soon as possible.

## Giving Appreciated Securities To Charity May Offer Tax Advantages

by Denise I. Kowalewski

"You may do well by doing good." This expression is familiar to many, and the reasoning behind it is that charitable contributions enable you to support a favorite cause and, at the same time, potentially benefit from significant tax deductions. If you are thinking of making contributions to charity, you may also wish to consider the tax benefits that can be realized by donating appreciated securities. You should, of course, consult a professional tax adviser before making any sizable charitable contributions.

### The Basics of Donating

If you have held appreciated securities for a long term (longer than a year), any donation of those securities to a qualifying charity will provide you with a tax deduction equal to the fair market value of your securities on the day you make the gift. The deduction for gifts of appreciated securities is limited to 30 percent of your adjusted gross income. If the total value cannot be deducted in the year the gift is made, the balance of your deduction can be carried forward over five years. This 30 percent of AGI limitation contrasts with the 50 percent of AGI limitation that applies to donations of cash.

For private foundations, the contribution limitations are 20 percent for appreciated securities and 30 percent for cash. A special rule applies to private non-operating foundations, which are often the typical pass-through vehicles used as family foundations. Deductions of appreciated property to PNFs are generally limited to the

contributor's cost. However, for donations to PNFs of appreciated publicly traded stock held long-term and made before June 30, 1998, the deduction may be based on fair market value.

### Why Donate Securities?

Why donate appreciated securities rather than cash? If you sold the securities and donated the proceeds to charity, you would still receive the deduction. However, you would have to pay tax on the capital gain realized on the sale.

If you contributed depreciated securities, the deduction would be limited to the fair market value at the time of the gift. In this case, you might wish to sell the securities and donate the proceeds in order to recognize a capital loss and receive a charitable deduction.

### Timing Issues

The value of a gift of appreciated securities is the average of the highest price and the lowest price on the day of the gift — that is, on the day the gift is considered completed, as outlined below:

- If you submit a letter of authorization giving instructions to transfer securities to the charity's account, the gift is completed when the securities actually enter the charity's account, not the day the letter of authorization is delivered.

- If your instructions are to ship the securities to the charity, the gift is completed when the securities are put in the name of the charity and sent.

- If you send the stock to the transfer agent with instructions to transfer the securities to the charity, the gift is completed when the stock is actually registered in the name of the charity. This could take weeks. If year-end is approaching, you will probably want to choose another method.

- If you endorse your certificate to the charity and put it in the mailbox to be sent to the charity, the gift is complete on mailing. If you choose to deliver the endorsed certificate, the gift is complete on delivery.

- In the case of cash or a check, a gift is complete on delivery or mailing. Keep a record of mailing if the year-end deadline is close.

- In the case of a credit card donation, the gift is complete at the time of the charge.

Please note that these rules apply only to charitable donations. Other rules apply to the timing of gifts to individuals. While gifts to charity are deductible for income tax purposes, gifts to individuals are not.

Part 4 of a series of financial articles courtesy of Dean Witter Reynolds, 1900 Hospital Trust Plaza, Providence, RI 02903.

## R.I. Commission Announces Martin Luther King Jr. Day Mini-Grants

The Rhode Island Commission for National and Community Service announces this year's Martin Luther King Jr. Mini-grant program. In an effort to ensure that service, an important part of Dr. King's legacy, is an integral part of the holiday commemorating his life, the commission will be making a limited number of small grants of up to \$500 for the purpose of planning and implementing community service events on the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. We are particularly interested in service activities which promote individuals of multiple generations working together as well as multi-partner initiatives.

Interested applicants are invited to submit short concept papers of not more than two pages. Concept papers should:

- clearly detail the event to be implemented;
- explain how the service project will be integrated into your community's celebration;

- list your community partners; and

- include your media strategy for letting your community know of your work.

All concept papers must be accompanied by a detailed budget. Eligible applicants must be either a 501(c)3 non-profit organization or have a partnership agreement with a 501(c)3 organization willing to serve as the fiscal agent. Evidence of such an agreement must be submitted with the application. Applications will be reviewed beginning Dec. 7 and awards will be made on a rolling basis; approximately 11 awards are available. The Martin Luther King Jr. holiday falls on Jan. 18, 1999.

Questions and completed applications may be directed to: Rebecca Foster, Associate Director, R. I. Commission for National and Community Service, P.O. Box 72822, Providence, RI 02907, 331-2298, ext. 11; fax 331-2273, or e-mail <ricnes@ids.net>

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