

# Rhode Island Jewish HERALD

The Only English-Jewish Weekly in Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts

**Chanukah**  
INSERT  
**Healthwise**  
PAGES 8 & 9

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## French Premier Vows to Step Up Restitution of Nazi-Looted Property

by Lee Yanowitch

PARIS (JTA) — France will create a new body to examine restitution claims by the heirs of Jews whose property was looted during the Nazi occupation of the country.

"We know that no reparation will ever be sufficient because what was committed is irreparable. At the same time, it is fair that those whose property was seized — or their descendants — obtain some kind of reparation," Prime Minister Lionel Jospin told Jewish leaders at the annual dinner of CRIF, the umbrella group of secular French Jewish organizations.

More than half a century after the end of the war, France is still grappling with charges that it is reluctant to come to grips with the collaborationist past of its wartime Vichy government.

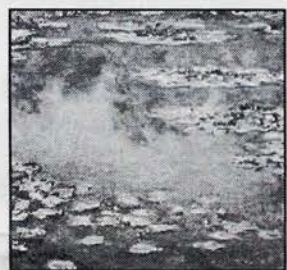
Jospin denied a suggestion by Jewish leaders that banks, insurance companies and other state agencies were dragging their feet in turning over their archives to a government-appointed panel, known as the Matteoli Commission, which is investigating the systematic plundering of Jewish assets during the war.

"The deliberate discrete nature of its work should not mask the extent and quality of the results it has already achieved thanks to the active cooperation of the state agencies concerned," Jospin said.

Yet he promised that his left-wing government would allot

some \$1.75 million to hire more staff for the Matteoli Commission and said he had already asked various ministries in possession of wartime files to devote more personnel to search for records of the confiscations.

Jospin added that the commission would set up the new office to hear individual claims and, once it had completed its probe, would suggest a means of compensation.



It was recently discovered that Monet's famous "Waterlilies" painting, on exhibit at the Boston Museum of Art, was part of the millions of dollars of art work stolen by the Nazis from their Jewish owners.

The prime minister also reassured Jewish leaders that the commission's final report on its inquiry would be completed by the end of 1999.

During the dinner, Henri Hajdenberg, CRIF's president, accused state agencies and financial institutions of balking at the probe.

"Because of a shortage of staff and a lack of goodwill in certain ministries and official bodies, we fear the final official report will not be ready before the year 2000," Hajdenberg said.

Hajdenberg also asked that more than 2 tons of gold plundered by the Nazis and returned to France after the war be allocated to needy concentration camp survivors, the construction of a Holocaust memorial and the creation of a nationwide school curriculum on the Holocaust.

It would "not be moral" for the looted gold "to be used merely to help fill the state's coffers," Hajdenberg said.

Jospin did not reply directly, but he said France had recently pledged about \$3.5 million to an international fund to help Holocaust survivors.

Hajdenberg, who in the past has taken a relatively low profile on the restitution issue, gave a hard-hitting speech at the dinner, making it clear that the Jewish community had to be reckoned with.

He was especially harsh on the insurance companies, accusing them of making no effort to seek out survivors or their heirs while profiting from their money.

"It would be entirely intolerable for the misappropriated savings of the victims to continue to enrich financial institutions, whether private or state-controlled," he said.

## Probe of Nazi Business Dealings Shifting to Role of U.S. Companies

by Daniel Kurtzman

WASHINGTON (JTA) — The investigation into Nazi Germany's business dealings, the bane of Swiss banks and a host of European companies in recent years, has found its way to American shores.

Historians and lawyers researching class-action lawsuits on behalf of former prisoners of war have uncovered evidence showing that two of America's leading automakers collaborated with Nazi Germany, *The Washington Post* reported on Nov. 30.

Documents from German and American archives show that American managers of Ford Motor Co. and General Motors Corp. went along with the conversion of their German affili-

ates into military production plants, even as they were resisting calls by President Roosevelt to increase military production in their plants at home, the *Post* said.

Together, the subsidiaries of the two companies controlled 70 percent of the German automobile market in 1939, and as World War II began, they retooled themselves to supply war material to Hitler's army.

A report by a U.S. army investigator in September 1945 accused the German branch of Ford of serving as "an arsenal of Nazism, at least for military vehicles" with the parent company's "consent." The report also noted that American Ford agreed to a com-

plicated barter deal that gave Germany increased access to large quantities of strategic raw materials, notably rubber, the *Post* said.

Both Ford and GM deny they collaborated with the Nazis or that they significantly profited from the use of forced labor at their German subsidiaries during the war. They maintain they bear little responsibility for the operations of their German subsidiaries, saying they lost contact with them after the war began.

In a statement, GM said the claims are "slandorous and untrue and do a great disservice to the thousands of loyal GM employees and their families who worked for the U.S.-Allied cause during World War II."

(Continued on Page 15)

## Samuel Priest Chapel Rededicated

by Emily Torgan-Shalansky  
Jewish Community Reporter

*Remember your own, and take care of your community.*

On Dec. 6, when the Chased Schel Amess Association rededicated the Samuel Priest Chapel

As a member of Rhode Island's Jewish community, Priest went on to found Samuel Priest & Co., a Providence-based wholesale dealer and jobber of cloth. He later operated the Imperial Printing and Finishing



ARCHITECT NORTON E. SALK (left), Priest's grandchildren Sandra Priest Rose and Jerome Priest, and Chased Schel Amess Association President Rodney Locke gather to celebrate the rededication.  
Herald photo by Emily Torgan-Shalansky

at Warwick's Lincoln Park Cemetery in his memory, the ceremony showed how these Jewish values motivated both the family that built the structure in 1930 and the contemporary community that rehabilitated it between 1997 and 1998.

Morning light streamed through the newly restored stained glass windows as Samuel Priest's grandchildren, Sandra Priest Rose and Jerome Priest, spoke of how the spirit of the recent \$75,000 restoration recalled that of their grandfather.

Priest, a resident of Westport, Conn., explained that Samuel had learned about poverty and human kindness in his native Russia and Lithuania.

"As a young boy, he was apprenticed to a tinkerer who would travel around fixing pots and pans," Priest said. "The tinkerer took him in at no charge and came to like him."

Some three years later, said Priest, when Samuel was about 10 years old, the tinkerer had told him that Eastern Europe's Jewry had no future there.

"The tinkerer paid for Samuel's passage overseas, but he didn't just want him to go to America," Priest said. "Somehow, he had heard that in America, there was a place called Rhode Island that was a haven of religious freedom, and he wanted Samuel to go there."

Although Samuel arrived alone as an impoverished 11-year-old, he soon embarked upon a wildly successful business career.

Co., a textile mill in Pawtucket that employed 400, and also Berry Spring, a beverage bottling company.

"During his remarkable rise, he never forgot the needs of others," said Rose, a Rye, N.Y., resident, of her grandfather. "He brought all of his siblings over to America, he asked his employees to call him 'Sam,' he founded the Hebrew Free Loan Association [and he became president of the Ahavath Sholom Synagogue]."

When Samuel passed away in 1926, his children memorialized him and his parents by donating the funds for a chapel to be used for funeral, memorial and unveiling services. The Samuel Priest Chapel was initially dedicated in 1930.

But according to Rodney Locke, president of the Chased Schel Amess Association, the ensuing decades took their toll on the building.

"About two years ago, we noticed that the chapel was seldom used, and we decided to have a meeting inside it," Locke said. "We saw that the building had fallen into disrepair."

The stained glass windows and original doors had sustained great water damage, said Locke, and the roof leaked badly. Plywood was nailed over decomposing walls, the only source of heat was a coal stove, and the wooden pews and tiled floor had become decrepit.

The need for an extensive re-  
(Continued on Page 3)



# HAPPENINGS

## Entertainment For Children

December

The Providence Children's Museum, 100 South St., Providence, announces the following activities for December:

- 10 **Play & Learn in 'Littlewoods'**, 3 to 4:30 p.m. The museum's littlest learners, ages 2 to 4, enhance their dexterity and development skills with games lead by a friendly exhibit guide in the safe environment of Littlewoods.
- 11 **What Color Day?**, 9:40 a.m. to 1:50 p.m. Preschoolers enjoy the richness of silver and gold in a sparkling room with shimmering decor. Children ages 3 to 5 craft ornaments to hang at home and receive sensational star wands, all made with the colors silver and gold. Same day registration at the admissions desk.
- 12 **The Lambrequins**, 1 to 3 p.m. Join in the singing as The Lambrequins, a select group from Lincoln School in Providence, share the dulcet tones of their glorious singing. Listen to vocal warm-up exercises and sing along as they perform their repertoire of seasonal tunes.
- 16 **Pets & People**, 3 to 4:30 p.m. Does a bird make a good pet? Children ages 5 and up learn aviary information from Jane Deming, who has owned and loved birds for more than 20 years. From everyday care to the expenses involved, Deming's answers help you decide if a bird is the right pet for you.
- 13 **The Stadium Theatre Performing Arts** presents "Annie" by the Theatre Company of Rhode Island. Tickets \$10. 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Monument Square, Main Street, Woonsocket. Call 762-4044.

## IRS Sponsors Small Business Workshop

A workshop will be sponsored Dec. 18 at 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Community College of Rhode Island, Night Campus, Conference Room West, 400 East Ave., Warwick, R.I.

The workshop provides information regarding general tax guidelines to new or prospective small business owners. Topics include: the advantages and limitations of various types of business organizations; rights and responsibilities regarding record keeping; and federal and state filing requirements, employment taxes and business deductions.

The workshop is free; registration is required. Call (860) 240-4149 to register.

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## Calendar: December 10th thru December 17th

- 10 **Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum** hosts a special reception with author Helen Epstein. She will be discussing her latest novel, *Where She Came From: A Daughter's Search for Her Mother's History*. Call Tara at 453-7860.  
**The Cranston Public Library**, 140 Sockanosset Cross Road, Cranston, will showcase the work of members of the Wickford Art Association during the month of December. Call 943-9080.
- 11 **Rhode Island College Symphony Orchestra**, Edward Markward conducting. Roberts Hall Auditorium. 8:45 p.m. Tickets \$7; \$5 seniors and non-RIC students; RIC students free. Call 456-8244.  
**Stuart's Coffee House**, on the ground floor of Bedford Hall on the campus of Providence College, will host the Providence College Jazz Band, featuring guest saxophone soloist Jim Capone. 8 p.m.
- 12 **Rhode Island School of Design Alumni Art Sale**. RISD Metcalf Refectory, 55 Angell St., Providence. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 454-6620.  
**Books on the Square**, 471 Angell St., Providence, hosts a book signing with Mark Binder, author of *Crumbs Don't Count — The Rationalization Diet*. 1 p.m. Call 331-9097 for information.
- 13 **Trinity Rep Conservatory** presents "Waiting for Godot," by Samuel Beckett. New Gate Theatre, 134 Mathewson St., Providence. Dec. 13 through Dec. 16. 8 p.m. For free reservations, call 521-1100, ext. 271.
- 14 **Annual Community Chanukah Dinner**, Jewish Community Center of R.I., 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence. Reservations are required. 6 p.m. Call 861-8800.  
**Perspectives** celebrates Chanukah with a party, 106 Angell St., Providence. R.S.V.P. by Dec. 12. A \$3 donation is suggested but not required.  
**The JCC Book Fair**, N.C.J.W. and the Women's Division of Federation present Enid Futterman, author of *A Bittersweet Journey*, at the Women's Coffee and Chocolate Tasting Social. 7 p.m. 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence. Tickets \$3 advance; \$5 at the door. Call Gena at 861-8800, ext. 188.  
**Books on the Square's** Second Monday Book Club will discuss *The Lunenburg Variation* by Paulo Maurensig on Dec. 14 at 7:30 p.m. The club meets at Books on the Square in Wayland Square, 471 Angell St, Providence, 331-9097.
- 16 **Attention Patriots' fans!** Meet quarterback Drew Bledsoe at Walden Books in Lincoln Mall, Route 116, Lincoln. Drew will sign copies of his new book, *Making The Right Call*. He will only sign copies of his book. 7 p.m.

## Temple Emanu-El Leisure Club Will Meet

Temple Emanu-El Leisure Club will hold their annual Chanukah Party on Dec. 13 at 2 p.m. in the Bohnen Vestry. The afternoon will feature entertainment by Aaron Wold and his klezmer music. Harold Gerstein will serve the traditional latkes and applesauce.

This program is open to Leisure Club members. Come join the festivities.

## Vegetarian Essay Contest

The Vegetarian Resource Group is sponsoring its annual essay contest for students 18 and under. There are three age categories: 8 and under, 9 to 13, and 14 to 18. First prize in each category is a \$50 savings bond.

Entrants should write a 2- to 3-page essay on any aspect of vegetarianism. Vegetarians do not eat meat, fish or poultry. Previous entries have discussed such topics as ethics, culture, health, aesthetics, religion, world peace, world hunger, economics, and the environment.

Entrants should base their compositions on personal experience/opinion, interviews, or research. Being a vegetarian is not a requirement for entrance to this contest. All essays become property of The Vegetarian Resource Group. Submissions should be postmarked by May 1, 1999.

Send entries to The Vegetarian Resource Group, P.O. Box 1463, Baltimore, Md. 21203. Include your name, address, telephone number, grade, school, and teacher's name.

## First Night Celebration For The Kids

The afternoon Children's Festival, including nearly 50 performances and workshops, begins in the Rhode Island Convention Center. A magical ice sculpture enlivens Kennedy Plaza. The Providence Children's Museum and RISD Museum of Art are free to buttonholders.

• **Fred Garbo Inflatable Theatre Co.** — A 10-foot cylinder slithers into view and implodes, spewing big blow-up shapes into the audience. A globulating red cube rolls and tumbles to the edge of the stage, where it quakes, bulges and changes shape before making an hilarious exit. A ballerina dances a can-can, but her skirt grows into a ball gown then a balloon that engulfs her and spirits her away. Meet these lovable, gigantic inflatables and the people who inhabit them in a show that literally bounces with delight. At Providence Performing Arts Center, 4 and 6 p.m.

• **Kevin Locke: Lakota Hoop Dancer** — Reared on a Sioux reservation, Locke absorbed the many teachings of his elders to become a master hoop dancer and indigenous flute player. He travels the world, sharing his precious preserved talents. In the Lakota/Dakota nation, the flute is the essence of the wind and has seven notes, four for the directions, one for the heavens, one for the earth and the seventh for the heart. For the hoop dance, Locke keeps 28 colored hoops in motion in a choreographic feat that is as stunning as it is symbolic. At the Rhode Island Convention Center, Ballroom A, 2 and 4 p.m.; URI/ASF College of Continuing Education, 6:30 p.m.

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

### Providence and Vicinity

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



# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Temple Beth-El Offers Interfaith Service for World AIDS Day

by Emily Torgan-Shalansky  
Jewish Community Reporter

AIDS may be a relentless killer, but it is no bigot.

On Dec. 1, Rabbi Michael Cahana of Temple Beth-El marked the 11th annual observance of World AIDS Day with an interfaith service that offered hope, healing and a reminder that all are equal before a disease that makes no distinctions based on race, creed, faith or sexual orientation.

As he faced an audience diverse enough to show some of the many lives the illness has touched, Rabbi Cahana asked those present to realize that by ravaging so many communities, the epidemic has created one of its own.

"We have come together from a variety of faiths and moral concepts, but in this moment, we are a community," he explained at the event sponsored by the AIDS Task Force of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island. "We are facing pain and hopelessness, and we are trying

to make sense of things that are impossible to understand."

According to Rabbi Cahana, Jewish traditions such as community building, music and prayer can help all whose lives have been altered by the epidemic.

"Thousands of years ago, our ancestors taught us that music lifts the soul," said the rabbi as Laura Berkson played a niggun, or wordless Semitic melody, on her guitar. "It will help to bring us together."

Accompanied by Berkson and assisted by volunteers from the AIDS Task Force, Rabbi Cahana led the audience through a program that combined ancient Jewish prayers and melodies with modern writings and songs about AIDS.

Some portions of the program, such as responsive readings and group singing, helped the audience to share their voices and feelings.

"In the rising of the sun and in its going down, we remember them," Rabbi Cahana read.

"In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter, we remember them," the audience responded to him.

During the private meditations, the chapel was silent except for the soft sounds of weeping.

"AIDS has taken its toll and many of us are numb," read a selection reprinted from *The Color of Light: Daily Meditations For All of us Living with AIDS*. "We've got a lot of grieving to do, and some major weeping and wailing. We need to open up to where our pain lives, where our loss is stored. We need to cry alone, and we need to cry together."

According to Rabbi Cahana, the Jewish tradition of incorporating the sick and bereaved into the greater community is an essential weapon in the ongoing fight against the incurable disease.

"Once when I was visiting an extremely sick woman, I noticed a sculpture near her bed," he said. "It was a vase of sorts, and



RABBI MICHAEL CAHANA and singer/songwriter Laura Berkson stand before a panel of the AIDS Quilt after leading a special service for World AIDS Day on December 1.

Herald photo by Emily Torgan-Shalansky

it was made up of models of her caregivers' hands. We need to be those hands, and we need to let the sick know that we are there for them."

Unfortunately, Rabbi Cahana said, the Jewish community did not initially extend its hand when the AIDS epidemic arose.

"At first, the Jewish community said 'It's not about us,' and that is to the shame of a people who were always considered 'the other,'" he said. "It was never about 'them.' It was always about us, and our lives, and our people and the people who touched us."

As members of a people who have always believed in a single G-d, the rabbi said, Jews must understand and share the strength that can be gained from facing the AIDS epidemic as only one community.

Moving away from the collective hands that support the

living, Rabbi Cahana recalled his experience of seeing one of his childhood friends remembered in the AIDS Quilt.

"My friend George Kelly, Jr., had died, and seeing the quilt that his friends had made for him was very moving," he said. "It was something to know that George was part of a vast network held together by love and people who would remember."

Before the final prayers, the rabbi invited participants to share the names of loved ones and friends who had succumbed to AIDS.

Sobs filled the chapel as the relatively small group of 60 emitted a torrent of names.

"Bill," someone said. "Otis Stuart," said someone else.

While some remembered "Nick," "Bill," "Jennifer" and many more, other participants simply wept.

## Samuel Priest Chapel Rededicated

(Continued from Page 1)

habilitation soon became clear, and Locke contacted Norton E. Salk, a Cranston-based architect and interior designer.

Salk agreed to take on the project pro-bono, Locke said, and the Chased Schel Amess Association formed a Chapel Renovation Committee.

"We met at many times and on many nights," said Locke.

Over the next two years, the roof and walkway from the entrance of the cemetery to the chapel were both replaced. New installations included a hot-water baseboard heating system, ceiling fans and carpeting. The walls, pews, and original stained glass windows were repaired, and restorers worked on the chapel's chandeliers and candelabra. Entrance doors with

stained glass panels that matched the chapel's original windows were commissioned.

"We're very happy and very proud," Locke said as he looked about the serene room that combined neutral shades with furniture and religious fixtures that spoke of the community's history. "Also, we are now able to offer people the use of the chapel at no cost rather than at the \$75 we charged in the past."

Locke presented Rose with a picture of the original structure, and also gave Salk a plaque that recognized his great efforts.

"Norton was here many more times than I or any other board member ever was," Locke said.

Before Rabbi Marc Jagolinzer performed the benediction, both Priest and Rose pointed to how

the efforts of the Chased Schel Amess Association had perpetuated their grandfather's legacy.

"I want to mention something obvious," Priest said. "The initial cash for the building is the smallest part. Most of the time, the names [that original founders give to their buildings] are short-lived. But you have chosen to honor the chapel's origins by keeping its name, and that's a great credit to us and to you. You bring further credit upon yourselves by maintaining this facility at such a high level of beauty and quality."

"This story is about Jews and America, and it is one that continues to inspire us all," Rose said. "You're keeping the memories alive, and I thank you."

## Temple Torat Yisrael Presents Program on Drug Abuse

The Men's Club of Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston, is presenting a program on Dec. 18 with the subject matter drug abuse, as part of our evening services beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Join us as a family for prayer led by Rabbi Mark Bloom.

Carmino Giarrusso, a 12 year veteran of the Cranston Police Department, and instructor for the DARE Program for five years, will be the guest speaker. He will help to better understand the use of drugs by unauthorized persons.

Drug abuse is both a family and social affair. The more we know about it and how to recognize it and know how to prevent it, the better we are prepared to handle it.

All members of the temples are invited. The Oneg Shabbat following the service will be sponsored by the Men's Club.

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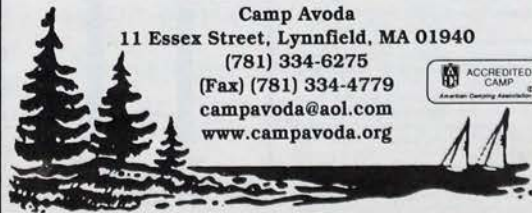
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# OPINION



## The Feinstein Chronicles

December 1998 No. 17



The first winners! Four Rhode Island students found their bank notes in the first winning numbers published last month. Alexandra Gadbois of John Horgan Elementary School, West Warwick; Victoria Dalesio of Wyman Elementary, Warwick; Crystal Jones of Woodridge Elementary, Cranston; and Michelle Weeden of Stephen Olney Elementary, North Providence.

Here are the next winning numbers. If the serial number on your Feinstein bank note matches any of these, send a copy of it to P.O. Box 2065, Cranston, RI 02905, and we'll send a \$25 check for you, \$100 for your school, and \$125 to go to a charity chosen by your class. The deadline for matching these numbers is Dec. 30. New numbers next month.

21195307	21192891	20814001	20458009	20677112
20673992	20673390	20465377	20675431	20671348
20324973	20327821	20473711	20435299	20811112
20010235	20015900	20675721	20456910	20674000

Free ice skating for all Good Deeds youngsters at the Fleet Skating Rink! Also free ice skating rentals. You must come with a paid adult. Good any time this year. Just show a Good Deeds sticker or your 33+ membership card.

Number of signers to our petition to Congress and the President to end hunger in our country has reached 47,000. Updated totals will be shown on the Cox Weather Channel several times each day. You can get a petition form off the web at <www.rifoodbank.org>.

Our \$25,000 challenge to help R.I. needy. If you want to help any R.I. agency helping the needy this month, I'll help you to help them. Ask that agency for details.

P.S. All non-profit agencies helping the needy: Meeting Dec. 12, 10 a.m., William Hall Library, 1825 Broad St., Cranston. Don't miss this!

Alan Shawn Feinstein

## Have An Opinion?

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

SEND YOUR LETTER TO:

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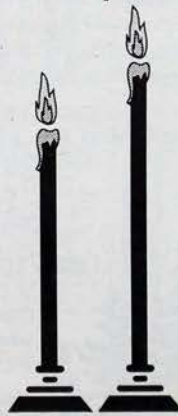
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Candlelighting  
December 11, 1998  
3:57 p.m.



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

## 'As You Make Peace With The Palestinians, Make Peace at Home'

by Professor Franklin M. Fisher

Dear Prime Minister Netanyahu:

Along with the great majority of your fellow Israelis, and indeed the entire Jewish world, I congratulate you on the signing and ratification of the Wye River Memorandum, breathing new life into the struggling process begun so hopefully at Oslo by your predecessors. Reaching an accord that entails painful compromises for Israel, in the face of the vociferous opposition of some of your closest supporters and allies, was an act of great courage and leadership on your part. Though it was not easy, we are hopeful that this historic decision, if faithfully implemented, will prove to be a giant step on the road to lasting peace and security for the people of Israel and to reconciliation with your Palestinian neighbors.

Regrettably, all the threats to the peace — and even the secu-

rity — of Israel do not come from without, nor can they be overcome solely through negotiations with Israel's neighbors. Even as the State of Israel moves toward rapprochement with its Palestinian neighbors, the citizens of Israel increasingly are divided on political, religious, communal, and socioeconomic lines. We are especially concerned about the unchecked forces of religious extremism and intolerance that are setting Jew against Jew, while driving a wedge between Israel and world Jewry. Your leadership and moral courage are needed on the home front every bit as much as in the fateful negotiations across the Green Line.

As the leader of a vibrant democracy, you are undoubtedly aware of the trends and events to which I refer, but allow me to elaborate briefly.

Perhaps the most basic threat is to Israel's democracy itself. While the Diaspora community

has voiced its concerns many times, polls indicate that Israelis take the threats to democracy even more seriously. On the third anniversary of the murder of Yitzhak Rabin, z'l, a shocking 61 percent of Israelis said in a national survey that they did not believe that their country had learned any important societal lessons from the assassination. Forty-five percent of those polled believed the chances of another political assassination are high. According to Rabbi Daniel Tropper, chairman of the organization (Gesher) that conducted the survey, "the findings show that many Israelis do not fully believe in Israel's democracy and feel that, other than talking about the meaning of the murder, little has been done either publicly or educationally."

No less frightening is the mounting series of verbal attacks by religious extremists —

(Continued on Page 15)

## NCSJ Mourns Loss of Russian Leader

"A true friend of the Jewish community and all ethnic and religious minorities has been tragically slain," noted Denis Braham, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, about Russian Democratic Leader Galina Starovoitova. "She will be sorely missed as a voice of reason and democracy in Russia and for her genuine human values," added Howard Sachs, president of the NCSJ. Starovoitova spoke out most recently against the anti-Semitism of fellow Duma member Gen. Albert Makashov and strongly supported the failed effort to pass a resolution condemning

racist remarks that threaten ethnic harmony in Russia.

Starovoitova had close working relations with the Jewish community in Russia. She was one of the opening speakers at a conference on the Jews of the FSU Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow held in June 1996 in St. Petersburg, and co-sponsored by the American Jewish Committee, the Institute for Jewish Policy Research, the Moses Mendelssohn Zentrum, The European Council of Jewish Communities, the St. Petersburg Jewish University, and the National Conference on Soviet Jewry.

"We are extremely dis-

mayed by press reports that an anti-Semitic demonstration by activists from the Black Hundreds took place without police intervention outside the main entrance to the Duma in Moscow at the same time as Galina Starovoitova's funeral in St. Petersburg," stated Braham.

"This behavior in connection to the funeral is especially disturbing in light of the government's indications that they would increase their efforts to contain anti-Semitic incitement," stressed Sachs.

## Judah: Our Overlooked Patriarch

by Rabbi Paul Z. Saiger

Among the prominent themes of the book of Genesis, sibling rivalry, the supplanting of the firstborn by a younger brother, and difficult family dynamics in general. The pattern is repeated with Cain and Abel, Isaac and Ishmael, and Esau and Jacob. In this week's parashah, *Vayeshev*, the focus is on Joseph the dreamer, who torments his brothers by recounting dreams and bearing tales. We read here of Joseph, the young mansold into slavery, who rises to be the most powerful official in the land of Egypt. However, along with this story, *Parashat Vayeshev* contains another thread of patriarchal family history that is both fascinating and informative. This is the story of Yehudah's maturation and growth to become the leader of his generation and ultimately the namesake of both the Southern Kingdom and the Jewish people.

In *Vayeshev*, we see Yehudah, the fourth of Jacob's 12 sons, vying with the firstborn, Reuven, for leadership. When the brothers are scheming to kill Joseph, Reuven suggests that Joseph be put into a pit, but it is

Yehudah's plan to sell Joseph to the Midianites and report him killed to their father that ultimately prevails. It is as a result of this act of negative leadership along with several important subsequent positive acts that Yehudah comes to the forefront.

According to Jewish tradition, Yehudah is severely punished for the evil done to Joseph. In chapter 38 of Genesis,

### Living Torah

we read the story of Yehudah and Tamar, the Canaanite woman chosen by Yehudah to be the wife of his firstborn son, Er, whose life G-d soon takes. In order to continue the "seed" of Er, Yehudah tells his second son, Onan, to "join with your brother's wife." (Genesis 38:8) Because Onan refuses, he, too, dies. Having lost two of his three sons, Yehudah refuses to follow custom and law by providing Tamar with Shelah, the third of his sons. He deals deceitfully with Tamar and is ultimately tricked by her (she masquerades as a prostitute and lures

Yehudah into unknowingly providing "seed" for the next generation).

When Tamar becomes pregnant, Yehudah at first threatens to have her executed for infidelity. However, Tamar proves that it is Yehudah who has been unfaithful to the tradition and, as a result, he ultimately assumes full responsibility for his actions and their consequences. Accused by

Tamar and faced with public humiliation both for his acts and his lack of faithfulness, Yehudah publicly repents, saying: "She is more in the right than I, inasmuch as I did not give her to my son Shelah." (Genesis 38:26)

According to Maimonides, the truest form of repentance occurs when someone has not only publicly confessed his or her sin and sought atonement but has subsequently found himself or herself in similar situation and has refrained from sinning. In this regard, Yehudah is a patriarchal model for growth through repentance. His repentance after being confronted by Tamar is heartfelt. And his subsequent words and behavior make it clear that he has learned

(Continued on Page 15)



## FEATURE



## A First and Last Cousin

by Mike Fink  
Herald Contributing Reporter

She's my youngest first cousin, but her mother is a real Connecticut yankee who counts the Ives composers and artists among her ties. "My father is making a model ship in a bottle of the one that brought her people to these shores," Sarah told me. Her mom raised horses in Kentucky and Illinois, where Sarah was born, the baby daughter with two older brothers.

A series of terrible events occurred. Both the boys were killed in accidents, leaving their sister, now an only child, haunted like a figure in folklore by the swan-silhouettes of her vanished kin upon the horizon of her fate. Then her mother fell from a horse and, for a while, did not even recognize her lastborn.

I met Sarah only once in her childhood, a busy little roundfaced blonde running around the great hall of a house. Decades later I rediscovered her at occasional weddings. "You were the tall thin cousin we were all excited to see again," she told me, and added, "You're a funny man, you know?" But of late, I have very much wanted to get her down to our household for dinner and conversation. Sarah works in a Boston hospital. Her mother told me she likes poetry readings at the coffeehouses, that she once made friends with her eldest

brother's classmate, who was a fine writer. She seemed both shy and busy on the phone, pleased to be asked but a little uncertain of whether or not to say okay and show up at our door.

The day came, or rather the dusk, and I went out to hug her in greeting and guide her into the parlor. Candles burned on a buffet, and champagne popped and bubbled under the chandelier.

Sarah sat beside me and tried to fill in the story of her connection to us. It's not easy to unravel the genetic knots and links, especially in our complicated family of marryin' cousins and second spouses. Her dad depicts the family in his sketches and paintings, and we took her round the house to show our gallery of his prints of her Jewish genealogy. I was thrilled to have her in my house at my table, but I knew it would take more than supper to open her to the warmth of heart and hearth. "Can I just go out and have a smoke?" she asked quietly.

Now here's where the story takes a turn. I had closed the dog in the coatroom. I was afraid to fetch her wrap for fear of disrupting the festive board. I put my jacket over her shoulder

and took her to my studio garage for her cigarette break. Once we were ensconced on the velvet Mission chairs, she poured out her odyssey. Not the real tragic stuff: she can't talk about that. But about what her father and mother said of the Providence relatives. Who was bossy or nervous or unsteady or ungrateful. Sarah couldn't turn to divine Providence because the place was over and done with—except for this bright evening among good words and good things to eat and drink!

"Did we lose relatives in the Holocaust?" she asked. Her father had said, no. I told her about the postcards from Romania that had just stopped, and how our grandparents had wept about it. I tried to describe the atmosphere of this block where both her dad and I had grown up, a small world that suggested the great world where she had roamed, which included their season in China, the guests of government and universities: Her father was a distinguished professor of art.

I made some sounds about going back indoors to partake of some of these fine delights, but cigarette followed cigarette until an unused ashtray piled up. My excellent wife broke in and brought us back, but not without a frown cast in my direction.

And so goes the nature of hospitality and family ties. We looked rather deeply into each other's faces, traits, features. We imprinted one another and took away invisible portraits, a print, a painting, a careful sketch with brush or pen, only in free thought and high hope.

It was a luxury, among the fine wine and the chestnut soup and the apple pie and the tea in sterling, to have a youthful cousin like a visitor from another realm.

## Beaujolais for Buoyancy

by Mike Fink  
Herald Contributing Reporter

In a dark suit and white shirt innkeeper Arthur Robbins passed through the pool and gym oasis and greeted me in the hot tub. "How long have you been coming here?" he asked congenially. "Over a dozen years," was all I could come up with. I'm enough of a regular at the Marriott for the Bluefin Bar to keep a framed record of my review of their annual Beaujolais Nouveau winetaste on the columned wall of its foyer. I belong here by now.

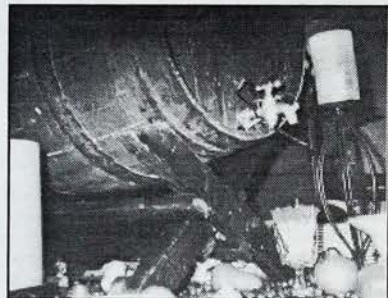
Our host on this once ethnic block brings a picturesque barrel of the fresh vintage rolled into place on a wheelbarrow that looks like a strange surreal sailboat. It's more than a pretty prop though. It's a ritual of renewal and rejuvenation.

The Marriott is not a mere chain spa. It's a mirage in macadam, where the world comes to you after you've parked in a lot with a lovely winter garden of evergreens, summer grasses turned to gold-beige soft sculpture, and a habitat of shrubbery that keeps a seasonal symphony of chirps and melodies. Indoors, chef Philippe, regal in a tall white crown, moves among the crowd bearing trays of good noshes to touch and munch. I won't list the hors d'oeuvres, except to say I wouldn't crunch anything too openly unkosher. I like a gourmet atmosphere, but it's the plain and simple treats I go for. French bread is the biblical staff of life, and chestnuts have the rich and innocent perfume, look, and flavor of December, of kingly Kislev. Beaujolais is the simplest and most direct of early winter brew: It suits the tenor and tone of this town and adds charm and goodwill to divine Providence.

Andy the bartender (whose mother used to run the Beth-El giftshop) greets me warmly and pours me out a goblet of the good stuff, while he reigns over the squared-off counter shaped like the four corners of the great

world here at the center of the universe, the crossroads of the modern and ancient world.

Meanwhile, round the bend and uphill in the road Rabbi Leo Abrami brings another touch of Paris and the French countryside to a second Beaujolais Nouveau winetaste—held by the Alliance Française, of which the rabbi is vice president. The academic setting for this study of subtle shadings on the palate is a palace on Prospect Street.



Roll out the barrel at King Arthur's Court  
Herald photos by Mike Fink

Rochambeau House once held the treasures of the Sharpe family, but it now houses the French department of Brown University, modest offices among the chandeliers, sculpture alcoves and Napoleonic salons and chambres.

There was a summer in the Reagan years when I translated guide books from English to French in my backyard screened gazebo. I bapped and batted my typewriter words of instruction for Foster Family Plan, until the age of the computer made my efforts irrelevant or at least inefficient. The adventure left me with the conviction that our city formed a focus within the universe, where words can beep out their power into the sunshine or the night sky. This is also the month of Chanukah, and of my personal birthday. You sip something youthful and hopeful when you check out the Beaujolais of this turn of the astrological wheel. Like the lights of the menorah, the dark and the bright work together to make something shine forth like joy, like memory, like the kindness of hosts Robbins and Abrami, at their Providence posts.

## A Undiminished Habitat

by Mike Fink  
Herald Contributing Reporter

She likes to swim in good warm water and to soak in the jacuzzi. Sometimes we share a few moments. She talks about crystals, about the comforts of the coming of age, like an oracle not at Delphi but right here in Moshassuck Square. This time she brought up a fine exhibit she had seen in Manhattan, a show on Haitian voodoo art. Billie Mason got her Ph.D. in anthropology, with a special interest in French Polynesia. When she lays eyes on a tattoo, she reads a whole spiritual language into its whorls and swirls. She travels alone to keep up with the strange scholarly world of the student of human designs, and leaves the founding dogs and cats to the care of her kindly husband Gil, who also cares for temporary orphans, foreign residents of local schools. "I'll eat the turkey he prepares for community feasts, even though I know how cruel the cycle is. We are all a mixture of gentleness and savagery, it's in our nature. We're all alike under the tattoos." She makes her pronouncement pleasantly,

mildly, although her words are compelling.

Then there was the plain but pretty girl from Minnesota wearing a smart and neatly fitting safari jacket who stood on a low small stage at the convention center. She spoke into the hand-held mike with the



Rebecca rising from her roots

flat midland accent that bears a trace of Sweden. She said some things about the endangered great cats of the world, the tigers that range from Russia to Manchuria, through India and in the African deserts, in the mountain canyons of America, hunting secretly or openly, furred in black or white, spotted or striped, majestically large or

miniature and elusive. All have very long tails, for balance, for expression, for control, for warmth. It's not exactly a circus act. She does lecture and instruct. "They are endangered because their habitat is shrinking. And because the trinket trade lusts for every part of each superb creature." She warns the crowd to stay together, like a human herd. "A stray invites trouble." But someone in the audience asks if the tigers will be bred.

"No, they are too valuable as showpieces." The nature and art exposition offered some wonderful talk to any wandering guest. I met an Indian from North Carolina who had raised seven sons and seven daughters, all both cursed and blessed with talent. "Talent can be a burden, like a gift from G-d," he told me, and explained the point of view of his tribe. "We call white people 'soulless' because they have no respect for nature," he proclaimed. I snapped a shot of his portrait of his wife, a face called

(Continued on Page 15)

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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Cantors Assembly Launches Drive to Aid Young Hazzan Diagnosed With Leukemia

When Cantor Joshua Gluckstein-Reiss stood on the pulpit of Temple Gates of Prayer in Flushing, N.Y., this Yom Kippur to lead the arduous daylong services, the congregants were impressed with the resonance of his tenor voice and the skill of his delivery.

What they did not know was that, two days earlier, the 28-year-old hazzan had been diagnosed with life-threatening leukemia and was under strict doctor's orders not to officiate.

After services, he was taken to North Shore Community Hospital in Manhasset, N.Y., where he spent 47 days undergoing two rounds of massive chemotherapy.

Today, Cantor Gluckstein-Reiss, the husband of a rabbi, is waging an uphill battle. A complicating factor stems from his ordeal as a child victim of Hodgkin's disease, which left him immune to normal doses of chemotherapy.

Upon his release from the hospital on Nov. 17, the youthful hazzan returned to his home in Flushing. When he has gained sufficient strength, he will be transferred to the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle, Wash., where a bone marrow transplant will be performed.

A nationwide search to find a suitable bone marrow donor and to raise funds for the cost of testing and treatment was launched by the Cantors Assembly — the world's largest body of hazzanim — of which he is a

member. Hazzan Henry R. Rosenblum, president of the Cantors Assembly, announced that the Cantors Assembly Foundation has established a fund to help defray medical expenses not covered by insurance — estimated to be in excess of \$100,000. The assembly sent a



Cantor Joshua Gluckstein-Reiss

nationwide e-mail appeal to Jewish organizations that realized \$15,000 in contributions — "a wonderful example of Jews responding to a fellow Jew in need," Cantor Rosenblum said. Students at the Jewish Theological Seminary immediately organized a blood drive and launched a campaign to locate a matching bone marrow donor. Temple Gates of Prayer held a blood drive of its own.

Born in New York City and raised in Westchester, Cantor Gluckstein-Reiss originally as-

pired to a career in business, though his love of singing and things Jewish lurked just below the surface. In 1992, he graduated with a B.A. degree in economics from Northwestern University, in Evanston, Ill., where he minored in Jewish Studies. While in college, he sang in the choir of North Suburban Congregation Beth El in Highland Park, Ill., where Cantor Rosenblum, now dean of the H.L. Miller Cantorial School at JTS, was then hazzan. It was Cantor Rosenblum who first suggested that he had the potential to become a hazzan.

But the lure of business was strong, and he embarked on a career as a data analyst with a consulting firm in Chicago. For recreation he sang in the choir of Anshe Emet Congregation where Albert Mizrahi, often hailed as "the Jewish Pavarotti," holds forth as hazzan.

His singing with these master hazzanim whetted his appetite for a cantorial career. Given only three days to prepare, he passed an entrance exam and audition at the Cantor's Institute, as the H.L. Miller Cantorial School was then known, resigned from the consulting firm and embarked on his newly chosen calling. At the school, he received multiple awards in hazzanut — and met his wife-to-be. It was at the seminary in 1994 that he married Rabbi Karen Gluckstein-Reiss, a doctoral candidate at JTS — a wedding attended by scores of rabbis and cantors from the seminary. Both are long-time leaders at Camp Ramah in the Poconos, where Cantor Gluckstein-Reiss served as head of the music department and was musical director of Hebrew versions of such musical hits as "Joseph," "Guys and Dolls," "Snow White" and "Damn Yankees."

This May, he earned a master's degree in sacred music and a diploma of hazzan from the H.L. Miller Cantorial School. Before joining his present congregation as a full-time hazzan in 1996, Cantor Gluckstein-Reiss served as hazzan of Temple Beth El in Cranford, N.J., and at Congregation Tifereth Israel in Glen Cove, N.Y. For the past two years, he was acting conductor and co-director of the H.L. Miller Cantorial School Chamber Choir.

According to his wife, Rabbi Gluckstein-Reiss, a donor with a perfect match has been located. It is hoped that a bone marrow

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## A Source of Inspiration

Freidl

by Adam Beraha

Freidl is my Judaic Studies teacher in kindergarten. Each day she greets me with a radiant smile that always makes me feel good. She is tall (at least to me as a kindergartner) and very pretty. She always wears long dresses or skirts. Freidl has curly dark colored hair. Freidl's eyes are deep-set and dark like the color of midnight. When I get in trouble those eyes stare me down and scare me like there is no tomorrow. These punishments make me want to always be on my best behavior.

The event I like to remember about Freidl is the time when I come in from the playground with a scraped knee and I am crying. Freidl makes it feel better. Her sensitive voice is the light that shines on me from her tender care and graciousness. When the kids are mean to an individual, Freidl intervenes and solves the whole problem.

From the side I look on with loving eyes in respect for my teacher. I learn a lot of Judaica. Weekly we study the Parshas HaShavuah, the portion of the week. On the bulletin board there is a primitive, yet beautiful, display of construction paper cut outs and magic marker drawings depicting the portions, theme and story line. We study about 30 portions. Freidl teaches us a song and has us do an art project for each portion. This week I learned about Jacob's servant Eliezer who was sent to find a bride. On Friday all my kindergarten friends and I have the song as our number one song on our hit list.

I show off my knowledge each

Friday night. Friday night we have Shabbat dinner. We have guests and my mom makes the best food. When I come home from school the house smells like chicken soup. Dad asks what the portion is and what it is about. I am quick to give a long detailed answer that involves singing the song and running to my backpack to show the art project made. Then my dad says, "Our Schechter tuition dollars work!" This makes me feel good and always impresses the guests. Finally, when I am starving, the dinner comes out. It is like a party in my mouth and everyone is invited as I am engulfed in a plethora of great food and spices which can only be Shabbat.

On the following Monday, I tell Freidl that I told my family about the portion and she gives me a sticker. This course of events drastically changes my life because it helps me to find out about my Judaism and the sense of belonging. It also inspires me to continue my Jewish involvement at the Alperin Schechter Day School.

Adam Beraha is an Alperin Schechter Day School alumnus, who now attends Classical High School.

Beraha was asked to write an essay describing someone who made a difference in his life. He chose to write about Freidel Zucker, his kindergarten teacher at Alperin Schechter.

He chose to write the article from the point of view of a kindergarten student and tried to capture the feelings of that time. It is a wonderful reminder of the power that good teachers have and the strong memories that they create.

## Congratulations to Our Penny

by Bonnie Ryvicker  
Director of Auxiliary Services,  
JERI

The Alliance for Better Long Term Care held its 20th annual meeting on Nov. 17 at the Providence Marriott. The alliance promotes the quality of life and quality of care for individuals residing in nursing homes, assisted living and residential care facilities. Its performance and impeccable reputation for straightforwardness and honesty, within public policy, has earned the alliance a place on all major state commissions, working to influence change in the long term health care laws and regulations. It is therefore not at all difficult to understand the close connection that the Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island Program has had with the alliance. Both agencies passionately believe in supporting residents and their families in their work to achieve the best possible placement, care and quality of life for a frail elderly population that may be unable to advocate for themselves. JERI has always relied on the expertise of the alliance, and, as our program has gained in acceptance and awareness, the alliance has come to rely on JERI for its expertise. The relationship is clearly a reciprocal one.

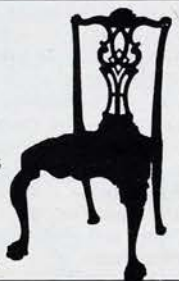
For many years, Mick D'Agostino, the founder of the alliance, has had an award given in his honor at the alliance's annual meeting. This year, Penny Faich, the director of operations for JERI, was with this award. It was given to her since she is a community advocate extraordinaire. As Roberta Hawkins, the alliance's executive director, stated, "She does so much more than her job requires her to do, she really watches out for those who are unable to take care of themselves." Faich would modestly state, "I'm only doing my job." Having had the privilege of working with Faich for more than 25 years, I know that she always goes far beyond what is expected of her. The telephone is her best friend, she quickly responds whenever a family, client or professional has a concern. Indeed, she is a Community Advocate extraordinaire. Her warmth, sensitivity and passion push her to always do the right thing for the client, our community and anyone who cannot speak up for themselves. JERI is proud of the work of all its staff. We are indeed, a team. But today, we all take great pride in Faich's well-deserved award from the alliance. We are so proud of her. Congratulations for a job well done.

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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## There's Dorm Life at N.E.A.T. Women Zionist Leaders Meet For Unity Dialogue

The New England Academy of Torah girls' high school division of the Providence Hebrew Day School, has opened a dormitory for out-of-town students. The facility, located near the school at 60 Taft Ave., is a renovated apartment building. For this first year, four young women live in one apartment, while a second apartment in the building houses a college-age dorm counselor, a kitchen and a dining room. In a third apartment, a young couple serves as dorm parents for the young women, providing guidance and supervision of the young women in their charge.

The dormitory apartments were renovated and furnished this past summer. Before the new residents arrived in Providence, the in-town students helped to decorate the apartment to welcome their new classmates. Although NEAT is attended by mostly in-town students, the dormitory enables girls from other cities, some of which don't have a Jewish high school, to attend one. At the same time, the addition of out-of-town students provides the school with the freshness of new faces, and an augmented enrollment.

While the occupancy of the dormitory is four students this year, NEAT hopes that next year there will be 10 to 12 girls, in two student apartments.

The New England Academy of Torah girls' high school division of Providence Hebrew Day School is an Orthodox institution, with a dual program of Judaic and general studies. The school combines academic excellence with traditional Torah study, while stressing, as well, the importance of good character and communal responsibility. The goal is to produce graduates who are equipped to excel in their studies in higher education, at the institution of their choice, committed to their Jewish heritage and ideals.

The school is headed by two women who are themselves superior models of scholarship and personal character. Marsha Gibber is the Judaic studies principal, and Maureen Sheehan is the general studies principal. As a division of the Providence Hebrew Day School, the high school is under the leadership of Rabbi Mordechai Nissel, dean.

NEAT in particular, and PHDS in general, have begun planning for the coming 1999-2000 school year. For more information about the day school, the high school, and/or the dormitory, call the school office at 331-5327.

Notwithstanding the differences exhibited in recent Israeli elections, leaders representing women's Zionist organizations met recently at AMIT Beit Hayeled in Jerusalem for a unity dialogue, focusing on issues of shared concern, first and foremost of which was education. "The unity of the Jewish people, as always, lies in the hands of the women, especially the education of the next generation," said AMIT President Evelyn Blachor.

Leaders from AMIT, Emunah, Hadassah, Na'amat, and WIZO, many visiting Jerusalem for the Jewish Agency Board of Governors meeting, and the General Assembly, toured the Beit Hayeled facility where AMIT's innovative approach of creating surrogate families gives a new lease on life to children from troubled homes. The concept of "mishpachton," the surrogate family units, in which married couples take charge of groups of up to 12 troubled youngsters each, was pioneered by AMIT. AMIT Beit Hayeled ("child haven") is the largest such facility in the AMIT network.

The staunch commitment of all the leaders of the women's Zionist organizations to the welfare of children throughout Israel was evident in their remarks. There was a strong sense among dialogue participants that men talk while women get

things done. "With us together, it doesn't matter where we live, how we pray, how we conduct various aspects of our activities," said Hadassah President Marlene Post. "We make it very clear that we are one Jewish people, and this is something to be proud of."

"Israeli society is today more advanced and more complex

than ever," said Blachor. "That means that the social problems are also more complex than ever. This is reflected in the deep-rooted problems of many of the children we deal with. As women, we do, create, accomplish, take care of and nurture them. With our help and support, these children become contributing citizens of Israel."



NOTWITHSTANDING THE DIFFERENCES exhibited in recent Israeli elections, leaders of women's Zionist organizations met at AMIT Beit Hayeled in Jerusalem to discuss what unites them. "The unity and future of the Jewish people, as always, lies in the hands of the women, especially the education of the next generation," said AMIT President Evelyn Blachor. Shown from left are: Evelyn Blachor, president, AMIT; Hana Melamed, chairwoman, World Emunah; Marlene Post, president, Hadassah; Dina Spector, president, Na'amat USA; Shulamit Ya'ish, WIZO; Robin Kahn, chairwoman, AMIT Israel; Rochel Sylvestsky, chairwoman, Emunah Israel.



### Perspectives Schedules December Events

**Perspectives Helping Out Event** — Dec. 25 (Christmas Day). Perspectives will join dozens of other volunteers at St. Patrick's Church in Providence to help serve and deliver more than 2,000 meals in one of the largest free holiday dinners in Rhode Island. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Brown-RISD Hillel, and then carpool to St. Patrick's Church. The dinner lasts from about 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., but feel free to volunteer for whatever amount of time you have available.

**Perspectives Children's Book and Toy Drive Throughout December** — Perspectives will be collecting gifts for children in the Olneyville neighborhood of Providence. Bring NEW (unopened) toys and books to each Perspectives event that you attend during the month. Drop off toys and books at Brown-RISD Hillel (Please make sure the item has a note that reads: Attention: Sharon Grainer, 80 Brown St., Providence. Gifts will be delivered to the Joslin Community Center on Dec. 23).

To R.S.V.P. or for more information about these or any other holiday volunteering opportunities, call or e-mail Michael at 861-9973 or <mmsimon@providenceplan.org>.

If you are interested in helping to wrap books at Barnes and Noble in Warwick anytime during the holiday season, call Lee Green at "A Wish Come True," 737-9474.

### 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.

### JTE Has Openings for Production Team Positions

The Jewish Theatre Ensemble announces openings for production team positions for the upcoming presentation of "Two By Two," the Rodgers/Charrin Broadway story of Noah's Ark.

Production dates are the second and third weekends in May 1999. Available positions include director, musical director, and choreographer.

Respond to the JTE, c/o Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence, RI 02906. For additional information, call 861-8800, ext. 108.

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. Call Robin Greenberg, Future Faces coordinator, at the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island, 331-0956 for an application.

### Israel Aliyah Center Presents Israel's Hi-Tech Economy

The Israel Aliyah Center and Hamagshimim presents "Israel's Hi-Tech Economy: Trends and Opportunities" with Michel Habib, Israel's Consul for Economic Affairs.

- Is Israel reaping an economic "peace dividend"?
- What's hot, what's not on the hi-tech scene

Also, featured will be "Beyond hi-tech — employment for the rest of us," with Jay Shofet, Israel Aliyah Center.

The date is Dec. 16, at the offices of Hadassah/Young Judaea, 2001 Beacon St., Cleveland Circle, Brookline.

Chanukah candlelighting is 7 p.m., 8:30 p.m. is employment/internships overview with Jay Shofet. R.S.V.P. to the Israel Aliyah Center at (617) 457-8750 or e-mail <massaliyah@aol.com>.

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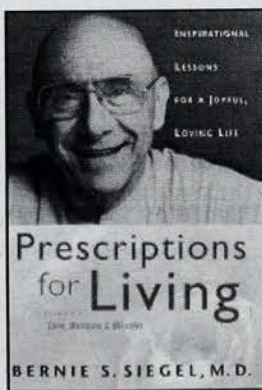
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# HEALTHWISE

## American Cancer Society Gives Guidelines For a Healthier Holiday

During the holiday season, many people set the vague goal of "living healthier." To help make that laudable resolution more concrete, the American Cancer Society is recommending "Seven Simple Choices" each person can make to reduce their risk of cancer.

**C — Cut out tobacco.** Tobacco is the single biggest risk for cancer, and the most preventable cause of death in the nation. Quitting smoking now is the single best thing anyone can do to improve their health. You won't be quitting alone; many smoking cessation programs have geared up to help smokers break the tobacco addiction.

**H — Hold the fat.** Vegetables, pasta, soups, and breads are usually low in fat and full of good nutrients. A high-fat diet increases a person's risk for several common types of cancer, including breast, colon, and prostate. In addition, fatty foods are a major contributor to obesity, which increases cancer risk even further.

**O — Opt for high fiber fruits, vegetables, and grains.** Making healthy food choices and cooking them in ways that don't add fat contribute to good nutrition and a healthy body weight.

**I — Intake alcohol only in**

**moderation.** Too much alcohol increases cancer risk. For women, even moderate amounts are thought to increase risk.

**C — Call your doctor for regular checkups.** Annual doctor's visits, which include cancer-related checkups like mammograms for women and the PSA blood test for men, will help detect cancer in its earliest stage if it ever does develop.

**E — Exercise every day.** Breaking out of a "couch potato" lifestyle will give you more energy and reduce health risks. Even moderate exercise, such as walking, is enough to pay big dividends when it comes to health.

**S — Safeguard your skin from the sun.** Use SPF 15 sunscreen, wear a hat, and stay in the shade to help prevent sunburns, wrinkles, and skin cancer.

For more information, contact the American Cancer Society at 722-8480 or call (800) 364-5520. For cancer information, call (800) ACS-2345 or visit the Internet at <<http://www.cancer.org>>.



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## Carrier Screening of Ashkenazi Jews for Fatal Canavan Disease

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, in an opinion from its Committee on Genetics, has just recommended that Ashkenazi (Eastern European-descent) Jews be offered carrier screening for Canavan disease, a fatal genetic childhood disease for which there is no known cure. Carrier screening requires only a small blood sample that is evaluated by a laboratory with expertise in genetic testing and counseling. As with Tay-Sachs disease, the population at highest risk for Canavan disease is the Ashkenazi Jewish community. Since both Tay-Sachs and CD are common disorders among this population, ACOG is calling for pre-conception carrier screening for both disorders if both members of a couple are of Ashkenazi Jewish background.

"Without a cure for Canavan disease, all efforts toward prevention are critical," said Orren Alperstein Gelblum, president of the Canavan Foundation. "We applaud ACOG's role in helping to make carrier screening for CD a 'standard of care' for Ashkenazi Jewish couples. We never want another family to experience our tragedy." Gelblum and her husband lost their 7-year-old daughter, Morgan, to CD in 1997.

"We have seen how public education of the Jewish community, and leadership from the medical community, have reduced the number of those suffering with Tay-Sachs," said Seth Gelblum, treasurer of the foundation. "We need an ongoing coordinated effort to ensure that

the first time someone hears about Canavan disease, it is not as a diagnosis from their child's pediatrician."

Most parents begin to recognize problems in their infants' development between 3 and 6 months of age. One of the earliest signs of CD is low overall muscle tone and lack of head control. As the child grows, motor skills and mental ability progress very little or deteriorate and speech never develops. Hearing remains sharp, but blindness can occur from optic nerve atrophy. Weakness of the muscles, seizures and severe feeding problems develop and many children with the disease do not live into adolescence.

Canavan disease, like Tay-Sachs, is inherited as an autosomal recessive trait — both parents must be carriers of an altered CD gene for a child to inherit the disorder. A parent who is a carrier is healthy because he or she still has one functional copy of the gene, which produces a sufficient amount of the necessary enzyme aspartoacylase. "When both parents are carriers for CD, there is a one in four chance with each pregnancy that their child will receive two altered copies of the CD gene and have CD," said Judith Tsipis, Ph.D., director of the genetic counseling training program at Brandeis University, and a member of National Tay-Sachs and Allied Disease Association's board. "Even though an Ashkenazi Jewish couple has no family history of CD, and may already have one or more

healthy children, they still may be at risk of having a child with CD. Only carrier testing can tell them for sure."

"With the identification of the gene in 1993 and the subsequent development of the accurate screening test now being offered in several laboratories, carrier screening has become a reality," said Dr. Darryl De Vivo, a medical advisor to the Canavan Foundation. The carrier-screening test is based on DNA analysis of blood samples. Since it is a DNA-based test, it will not identify every carrier, but the test sensitivity is extremely high for persons of Ashkenazi Jewish descent, and virtually 100 percent in families in which the disease-causing mutations have previously been identified. Carrier testing can also be carried out once a pregnancy is underway. Should both parents turn out to be carriers, prenatal diagnosis for CD is available using either chorionic villus sampling or amniocentesis.

Canavan disease belongs to a group of conditions known as leukodystrophies, which result from defects in myelin. Myelin, a substance made up of proteins and lipids, is an integral component of the nervous system. It is commonly known as the "white matter" in the brain, protecting nerves and allowing messages to be sent to and from the brain. In CD, the white matter deteriorates because affected children have a deficiency of the enzyme aspartoacylase, leading to the accumulation of a chemical, called N-acetyl-aspartic acid, in the brain. It is not known exactly how this chemical imbalance causes the destruction of myelin, but all of the symptoms of CD can be explained by this progressive loss of myelin.

More information about the disease and a list of testing sites is available through the Canavan Foundation, 600 West 111th St., New York, NY 10025; phone (212) 316-6488, fax (212) 665-4788 and on the Internet at <[www.canavanfoundation.org](http://www.canavanfoundation.org)>.

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## A New Prostate Cancer Predictor

Some prostate cancers are fast-growing; others grow more slowly. Researchers with the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute in New York say that testing tumor cells for a specific protein may help identify the aggressive cancers earlier.

The protein p27 is abundant in a normal prostate, said Sloan-Kettering's Dr. Carlos Cordon-Cardo. (P27 is different from another protein, PSA, or prostate-specific antigen, often measured to warn of cancer.) "P27 is like a brake on a car," explains Cordon-Cardo. "It stops cells from proliferating." Now, analyzing 130 prostate-cancer specimens, Cordon-Cardo's team has found that on the whole, cancers with lower levels of p27

(Continued on next page)



# HEALTHWISE

## U.S., Israeli Scientists Close to Manufacturing Human Tissue

by Mica Schneider  
WASHINGTON (JTA) — Patients in need of tissue and organ transplants are one step closer to receiving laboratory-produced replacements, as a result of a breakthrough made by a team of American and Israeli scientists.

In January, the scientists became the first to extract human embryonic stem cells — the parent cells of all tissues in the body — and the first to trigger continual cell division. If programmed correctly, this cell division will develop into human tissues and allow scientists to create, from a petri dish, anything from human heart muscle to bone marrow and skin.

The advance is expected to benefit transplant medicine, drug discovery and basic developmental biology. Doctors may utilize it in the future to treat victims of heart disease, diabetes, Parkinson's and Alzheimer's diseases, spinal cord injuries and some kinds of cancers.

"Although a great deal of research needs to be done before these cells can lead to human therapies, I believe that in the long run they will revolutionize many aspects of transplant medicine," said James Thomson, a developmental biologist at the University of Wisconsin at Madison and the head of an international research team that published news of the scientific breakthrough in the Nov. 6 issue of the journal *Science*.

Joseph Itskovitz, an Israeli in-vitro fertilization specialist and a member of the medical faculty at the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa, joined Thompson's collaboration efforts two years ago and provided the study with embryos and research assistance.

"We are searching now for a way to control the differentiation of the cells," Itskovitz said in a telephone interview. "We cannot direct the cells changing into other human tissue cells — it happens on its own randomly."

With so many scientific hurdles to cross, Thomson does not expect his labs to create spe-

cialized cells and tissues overnight.

"We're looking at 10 to 15 years before these treatments go to trial on humans," Terry Devitt, a spokesman for Thomson, said. "Science is a slow process."

Due to the lack of suitable organ donors, the breakthrough is especially critical to transplant surgeons who hope to use the technology to repair or replace damaged or diseased tissues or organs, according to Jon Odorico, a transplant surgeon at the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

"The principal theoretical advantages of this type of treatment for organ replacement over current organ transplantation is the fact that cells can be grown in large quantity, and can be genetically engineered outside the body to escape immune attack," Odorico said.

Thomson expects the most immediate use of the human embryonic stem cell technology development of new drugs. Drugs currently in the trial stage will be injected into the cells to check for their impact on the cells, including possible side effects.

The announcement puts the American and Israeli researchers at the head of a pack of scientists who have worked for 17 years to capture and to isolate human embryonic stem cells.

Devitt explained the embryos used in this project were originally intended for in-vitro fertilization clinics.

"Often times, when a couple uses in-vitro fertilization there are leftover cells," Devitt said. "Some couples chose, in writing, to donate the embryos to research."

Eventually scientists hope to manipulate a human adult cell and clone it to become an embryonic cell. Once a string of dividing embryonic stem cells can be controlled, its uses are unlimited, Itskovitz said.

## Prostate Cancer No Longer Just Classroom Lesson For URI Professor

With students in his epidemiology classes, University of Rhode Island Associate Professor of Pharmacy E. Paul Larrat uses prostate cancer as an example of a chronic disease epidemic.

He tells the students that the disease typically affects people over 55.

So in February 1997 when Larrat's doctor suspected a prostate problem, the professor and vice president of Pro-Mark, a pharmacy benefit company, wasn't worried. "I was too young. I always tell my students that prostate cancer is very age specific. I also have no family history."

Even after an ultrasound and a biopsy of his prostate, Larrat didn't think he had the disease. "I thought it was simply calcification," he said.

Larrat was working with a group of graduate students when he learned the results of his tests. At 37 years old, he had prostate cancer.

"I was a total wreck," said Larrat, who holds a pharmacy degree and a master's in business administration from the University of Rhode Island. He has a doctorate in epidemiology from Brown University Medical School.

"At first, I was totally unfocused, but like any scientist I soon jumped on the Internet and pulled out piles of information on prostate cancer," he said.

He learned that there were four different treatment paths: surgery, radiation, chemotherapy and a wait-and-see approach. He decided on surgery, because surgery is a pretty sure bet for a cure.

"There is a high success rate when cancer has remained in the prostate and hasn't spread," Larrat said. His hadn't spread.

He had the surgery in the spring of 1997 at Johns Hopkins University Medical Center. "From my reading and the advice of my own doctors, I decided on Johns Hopkins because it does many of these procedures."

After four nights in the hospital and another few days in a hotel in Baltimore so he could be checked for any problems, he went home with his wife, Amey, to their two children.

"After a couple of weeks, I was sneaking back in to work part-time," Larrat said. "And last fall, I resumed my running and Sunday night soccer league play in East Greenwich."

For 12 months following surgery, he had to visit the doctor quarterly for follow-up prostate exams and the Prostate Specific Antigen test, a blood test designed to flag prostate cancer.

Now he has to go back twice a year to his doctor for an examination. Next year, he will only have to see the doctor on an annual basis.

"The good thing about prostate cancer is that it is slow growing," Larrat said. "It's the most common cancer (excluding skin cancer) for men."

In addition, the American Cancer Society said that the number of cases found during the past decade has increased

dramatically, largely due to improved detection.

Larrat now knows the importance of seeing a doctor regularly. Prior to that visit to the doctor in February 1997, he hadn't seen one in eight years. But the untimely death of his 53-year-old colleague, pharmacy professor Albert Taubman, in 1996 prompted Larrat to see his doctor.

"I didn't have any symptoms, and I felt great," he said.

Now he teaches his students to stress the importance of regular medical care with their patients when they get in a pharmacy or clinical setting.

Larrat has also become an advocate for knowledge about prostate cancer. "I work with the American Cancer Society on its advisory board and do some speaking for them at local businesses and to groups of health care professionals. Since men don't usually talk about prostate cancer, it's usually just me and a bunch of breast cancer survivors," he said with a laugh.

"I try to make it fun and add my own personal experience."

Larrat also participates in American Cancer Society walkathons to benefit cancer research. "Next year, the College of Pharmacy is going to challenge the College of Nursing," he said.

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### Cancer Predictor

(Continued from previous page)

grew and spread more rapidly, whereas those with higher p27 were less aggressive.

If long-term studies determine that measuring p27 can accurately predict the course that prostate cancers will take, Cordón-Cardo says, "we could tailor therapy for each patient and improve the chances for a cure."

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# FEATURE

## A New Year and a New President at The American Cancer Society

by Kimberly Ann Orlandi  
Herald Editor

On Nov. 15, Dr. Charles J. McDonald, of Barrington, became the first Rhode Island doctor, and first dermatologist, to be installed as the national president of the American Cancer Society. As such, McDonald will establish and implement any policy or procedure for the national cancer organization, act as spokesperson for the society, give lectures and speeches on the society and its goals, and more importantly, become an advocate to Congress and legislators in Washington on the topic of receiving funds for various cancer research projects, in particular colon, prostate and children's cancers.

"Unfortunately, the amount of money given to prostate and colon cancer research is far less than that given to breast cancer research," said McDonald. "With prostate cancer taking the lives of as many men as the AIDS virus and breast cancer in women, that is something I will work to change."

As an active member of the society for more than 30 years, McDonald has served as a member and chair of numerous American Cancer Society National and Rhode Island committees. His interest in the society began in the 1960s during

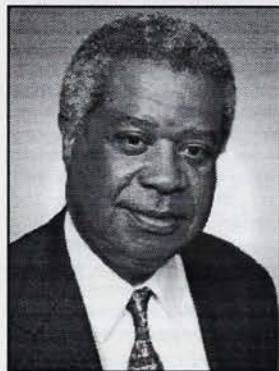
his tenure at Yale University, where he was encouraged to participate in a series of society-sponsored physician education programs. He later served as the Rhode Island Division president from 1980 to 1983.

During McDonald's one-year term as president of the American Cancer Society, he hopes to accomplish a long list of things with regard to money, education, cancer prevention and early diagnosis. Unfortunately, the diagnosis and treatment of prostate and colon cancers, in particular, are difficult at best to identify because the number of research tests conducted on prostate and colon cancer are minimal. McDonald hopes to obtain more funding to conduct more extensive tests on possible treatments and causes of colon and prostate cancer. According to McDonald, the American Cancer Society usually chooses one or two types of cancer to publicize and raise awareness and funds for during a one-year period. McDonald would like to broaden the types of cancer the society concentrates on to include "all types of cancer."

"One cancer is no more important than the other," said McDonald. "They all have the ability to take the lives of loved ones."

Another item on McDonald's

agenda is to raise the public's awareness about childhood cancers. Even though the mortality rate of children with cancer is low, according to McDonald, it's a subject that should be spoken about more often. And lastly, McDonald would like to see the society collaborate with other



Dr. Charles J. McDonald

cancer groups and organizations around the country. According to McDonald, there are 900 organizations in the country with the name "Cancer" in them, but none seem to know about the others.

McDonald, who will retain his duties as professor of medical science and chairman of the

Department of Dermatology at Brown University School of Medicine, as well as physician-in-chief of the Department of Dermatology at Rhode Island Hospital, is a graduate of Howard University School of Medicine. He completed specialty training in internal medicine, dermatology, clinical pharmacology, and oncology at the Yale University School of Medicine. He was a member of the Yale faculty in medicine (oncology) and pharmacology until 1968, when he joined Brown University.

"I have extensive experience and knowledge in all aspects of cancer (oncology) not just dermatology," said McDonald, "but what I'd like to see is more public concern and education over prostate and colon cancers."

In the wake of New York Yankee's outfielder Daryl Strawberry's very public battle with colon cancer, McDonald states that some issues concerning the disease were brought to light as a result, but not enough. According to the National Cancer Institute, 150,000 people in the United States each year learn they have cancer of the colon. The most important thing, according to McDonald, is early detection, especially for those who are at a higher risk than most. By higher risk, McDonald

refers to men with a family history of the disease, African American men, and men over the age of 50. By age 50, men should incorporate a sigmoidoscopy (rectal) exam and fecal occult blood test as part of their annual checkup. If a patient has a family history, their exams should begin at age 40.

"The earlier we find a problem, the greater the chances of survival," said McDonald.

For the next year, McDonald will travel the state and country in the hopes of educating the public about colorectal and prostate cancer. But, he knows that the battle in the fight for federal funds and research grants will be a difficult one, but not one he will shy away from.

"Ironically, as far as Washington and the legislators are concerned, most of Congress is made up of men, most of whom are over the age of 50, and definitely over the age of 40. These men are prime examples of people at risk, and they choose to put our research dollars elsewhere. I certainly hope I can change it within the next year," said McDonald.

For more information on colon and prostate cancer, contact the American Cancer Society, 400 Main Street, Pawtucket, 722-8480, or call the Cancer Information Service at 1-800-4-CANCER.

## Names From Fame and Obscurity The Masterful Magician — Harry Houdini

by Kimberly Ann Orlandi  
Herald Editor

"Ladies and Gentlemen... may I direct your attention to the center ring and 100 feet above, the air. Suspended from a rope and bound in a straight jacket... the amazing magician, Houdini will attempt to free himself from the locked straight jacket."

Harry Houdini made a career out of amazing audiences around the world with his death-defying feats of illusion. The son of a rabbi, Houdini's interest in magic was sparked at an early age.

Born Erik Weisz in Pest, across the river from Buda in Hungary's capital, Houdini changed his name to Ehrich Weiss after his family emigrated to Wisconsin, where his father had answered an advertisement for a rabbi in the town of Appleton. Houdini wasn't like the other boys. He didn't play

ball or run with the other kids. Instead he practiced escaping from locked boxes and performed dangerous stunts on a trapeze he had constructed. When the magicians and circus performers brought their shows into town, young Houdini was awe struck, especially when it came to witnessing the great French, nineteenth-century illusionist, Robert Houdin.

It wasn't long before Rabbi Weiss lost his position as the town's rabbi after alienating most of his congregation with his quick temper and harsh disposition. After the family relocated to Milwaukee, Houdini, at the age of 12, ran away from home to seek his fame and fortune. Rejecting Rabbi Weiss as his natural father, Houdini lived and studied with the master magician Houdin. By adding an i to his last name, Houdini adopted Houdin as his father.

Houdini and his brother, Theo, traveled the circuit performing at fairs, dime museums, on the banks of the Providence River, in Providence, Rhode Island, and on the boardwalks of Atlantic City and Coney Island. It was at Coney Island Houdini met his wife Bess.

The two became partners, The Houdinis, and began on a journey that would leave the legacy of Houdini in the history books as the greatest illusionist to ever perform the craft. He and his wife purchased a rigged trunk from an older performer and mastered the illusion of disappearing and reappearing in the trunk, with hands free or shackled. Houdini was a great gatherer of knowledge and information and wherever he and his wife would perform, Houdini would study with local locksmiths to determine and learn every combination and mechanical construction of locks. Houdini learned that by giving locks a direct blow, hiding picklocks on his body, contorting his body into painful positions, or dislocating his unusually loose joints, he could free himself from every straight jacket and handcuff ever made.

When Houdini pulled into town, it was much like a circus. Local authorities would be called in to maintain crowd control. One Sunday afternoon, as Houdini and his troupe were performing in Providence, they were arrested for violating the state's law of entertaining on Sundays. With their New York lawyer unavailable, the troupe was locked in a city jail cell, at least that's where

the sheriff had put them! Amazingly Houdini, at the request of Bess and the other performers, escaped from his cell and freed his wife and fellow performers. Once out of the jail, the troupe crept back to the circus tent and waited until morning when their lawyer arrived and settled the matter with the sheriff.

Houdini would often challenge those authorities to test his talents, often advertising large sums of money to anyone who could lock him up and hold him captive. Scotland Yard, the Police of Prussia and Bavaria, and the secret police of Tsar Nicholas all failed in their attempts. But no act was as breathtaking to witness than that of the Milk Can and Chinese Water Torture Cell (placed upside down, left to drown, able only to free himself by what seemed to be superhuman powers). Both "tricks" have been attempted by many other magicians over the last 100 years, many with disastrous results.

When his mother died in 1913, Houdini was devastated. He became obsessed with the concept of death and his intention to conquer it. In an act, which seems today as insane as it did then, Houdini was buried alive, left to dig his way through the dark earth towards sunlight. But, Houdini's brief career as one of the greatest vaudeville stars of his time came to an abrupt halt with the introduction of motion pictures. Although he did appear in one silent picture, "The Disappearing Elephant," his popularity was overshadowed by the in-



coming talent of actors Rudolph Valentino, the swashbuckling Douglas Fairbanks, and the ever-entertaining scenes of comedian Charlie Chaplin.

Houdini died on Halloween, 1926, from peritonitis, which was brought on by a blow to the stomach he suffered by a fan. He was laid to rest beside his mother in Machpelan Cemetery, Cypress Hills, N.Y., where Bess joined him in 1943. Houdini was not just a magician, he was a showman. The first of his era to use the media as a public relations tool, Houdini, through his manipulation of the press and his masterful gift of making an audience gasp with excitement at the mere sight of the man submerging himself in a locked box then miraculously appearing on the surface, became the man who "symbolized his people's unnatural ability to survive, even when faced with no way out."

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## FEATURE

## Anti-Semitism in United States Drops, But Remains High Among Blacks

by Julia Goldman

NEW YORK (JTA) — Americans' attitudes toward Jews are improving overall, but African Americans are nearly four times more likely than whites to hold anti-Jewish beliefs, a new survey has found.

A survey released by the Anti-Defamation League indicates that the number of American adults with strongly anti-Jewish views has dropped from 20 percent to 12 percent since 1992, when the agency last conducted a survey of such attitudes.

And the number of respondents who do not hold anti-Semitic views has increased from 39 percent in 1992 to a present majority of 53 percent.

The study measured only attitudes, rather than actual acts of anti-Semitic violence.

ADL National Director Abraham Foxman attributed the improvement in attitudes to education and advocacy by groups such as the ADL and the American Jewish Committee, though he said there was no "exact science of cause and effect."

He also credited mass communication with promoting "a greater openness of people interacting" and commended the efforts of political leaders who have spoken out against hate, including anti-Semitism.

The last reason, Foxman said, "here in the kishke of history, is good times. Americans are doing well, and when they're doing well, there is less of a need to scapegoat."

"When it comes to scapegoating, Jews are the top of the hit parade," he said.

The survey, conducted in October by the Boston firm of Martila Communications/Kiley & Co., confirms trends over the last three decades in which the number of Americans in the "most anti-Semitic" segment of the population has dropped steadily.

Age and education were seen as the most important indicators of anti-Semitic attitudes, with those over 65 and those with only a high school education more likely to harbor anti-Jewish feeling.

But more African Americans at all educational levels were more likely to hold such views.

The ADL's survey of 999 Americans over the age of 18 was based on an "index of anti-Semitism belief" developed in 1964 by researchers at the University of California for the ADL's baseline study of American anti-Semitism and prejudice.

The index groups respondents in one of three categories of increasing anti-Jewish feelings, based on responses to 11 key

questions concerning perceptions of American Jews with regard to business ethics and influence on Wall Street, Jewish loyalties and Jewish power.

A solid majority of respondents believe that "the people who run the TV networks and major movie studios do not share the moral and religious beliefs of most Americans" — but they did not "think the programming decisions of network executives are influenced by the fact that they might be Jewish," according to the report.

The survey, whose margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3 percent, highlighted black-Jewish relations as an area of lingering concern, despite improvements.

It found that 34 percent of black Americans fall into the most anti-Semitic category, compared to 9 percent for white Americans.

These results are down slightly from 1992.

Foxman pointed to the anti-Semitic rhetoric of African American leaders — such as the Nation of Islam's Louis Farrakhan and Million Youth March organizer Khalid Muhammad — as having fostered virulently anti-Semitic stereotyping among African Americans.

In addition to the original population sample, researchers surveyed 331 African Americans to increase the reliability of the results for that group.

Hugh Price, president of the National Urban League, said that despite the slow pace in which African Americans have relinquished their anti-Jewish beliefs, "the direction is one that I'm encouraged by."

He cited coalitions between black groups like the Urban League with Jewish defense agencies and other ethnic advocacy groups as one sign of improvement.

Foxman noted improved relations "on the ground," but called for a more "vigorous effort" in combating anti-Semitism among African Americans, "so it doesn't become a chronic disease."

## Israeli Supreme Court Ruling Reignites Battle Over Pluralism

by Avi Machlis

JERUSALEM (JTA) — A landmark ruling by Israel's Supreme Court has touched off the latest battle over religious pluralism in the Jewish state.

Some Orthodox groups, seeing red, have launched a campaign against the ruling, which requires Reform and Conservative representatives to be installed on local religious councils in five cities.

On Nov. 23, spiritual leaders of the fervently Orthodox United Torah Judaism bloc instructed their four Knesset members to pull out of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's governing coalition if Reform and Conservative delegates take their seats on the councils.

But, not yet ready to push matters to the brink, UTJ leaders said their move did not necessarily mean they would support a no-confidence motion to bring down the government.

If they withdraw, the right-of-center coalition would lose its Knesset majority, which is already shaky with a razor-thin two-vote edge.

According to the decision by the group's Council of Sages, the inclusion on religious councils of Reform Jews, who "uproot and disgrace the Torah," would deal a severe blow to the provision of religious services in Israel.

"We feel bad that in a democratic society like Israel the court should force religious people to believe that the Jewish religion is pluralistic," said Rabbi Avraham Ravitz, a UTJ Knesset member.

The local religious councils, supervised by the Religious Affairs Ministry, have exclusive jurisdiction over marriage, kashrut, burial and other religious matters for all Jews living in Israel.

The councils are supposed to include delegates in proportion to the composition of political lists on local city councils. The secularist Meretz Party has supported the inclusion of representatives from Judaism's Conservative and Reform streams.

Like UTJ, other Orthodox

groups were also stunned by the court's ruling, but they did not immediately threaten the government.

The National Religious Party, a more moderate Orthodox grouping, scheduled meetings recently to draw up a plan of action.

In the coming weeks, the NRP and the fervently Orthodox, or haredi, parties may forge a united front to fight the decision.

The campaign comes in the wake of a Nov. 19 Supreme Court ruling requiring the Religious Affairs Ministry to immediately appoint conservative and Reform members to the local religious councils in Jerusalem and Kiryat Tivon, a town in the Galilee, by Dec. 3.

Earlier last month, the court issued a similar ruling for councils in Haifa, Tel Aviv and the southern desert town of Arad.

The rulings ended a nine-year struggle by representatives of the non-Orthodox streams in Israel to secure representation on the councils.

In the final court hearing, an Orthodox-dominated ministerial committee proposed appointing completely secular delegates to the councils — including an owner of a non-kosher restaurant that opens for business on the Sabbath — instead of Reform and Conservative representatives.

They claimed the liberal representatives are not committed to advancing religious services.

Attorney General Elyakim Rubinstein refused to back the government, saying the ministerial committee's position is indefensible.

"That in a nutshell expresses the tragedy of Orthodox life in Israel," said Rabbi Ehud Bandel, president of the Masorti movement, as the Conservative stream is known in Israel. He is

to be appointed to the Jerusalem religious council as a result of the court ruling.

Despite the tough Orthodox rhetoric that followed the Supreme Court ruling, Bandel appealed to Orthodox groups to accept the decision.

"If we would only get the chance to sit together, we will very quickly realize that the things that unite us are much greater than the things that divide us," he said.

The NRP, carefully choosing its words, implied it could accept a Conservative representative — but not a Reform delegate.

"Our position, of course, completely negates the inclusion of Reform [Jews] on the religious councils," said Zevulun Orlev, secretary-general of the NRP.

Orlev said he doubted that the NRP — which has nine Knesset members in the governing coalition — would create a coalition crisis, since this would probably not solve the problem.

He added that the NRP would discuss "constructive approaches," including new legislation, to prevent the inclusion of Reform and Conservative representatives on the councils.

But the religious parties will have difficulty mustering a Knesset majority among coalition members to pass any law whose aim is to bypass a Supreme Court ruling.

Meanwhile, Orthodox leaders are looking for some way to deal with the ruling.

Chief Sephardi Rabbi Eliyahu Bakshi-Doron recently reiterated his proposal that the religious councils be eliminated altogether.

Employing similar thinking, UTJ's Ravitz said the haredi parties may try to have some of the councils' functions transferred to the Religious Affairs Ministry.

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# MILESTONES

## Arlene Selmonosky Marries Lee Miller

The Vilna (Shul) Center on Beacon Hill in Boston, Mass., was the setting for the wedding of Arlene Vera Selmonosky and Lee Howard Miller on Oct. 4. The Vilna Shul is a historical landmark currently under restoration.

The bride is the daughter of Dr. Carlos and Sonia Selmonosky of Ellijay, Ga. The bridegroom is the son of Sara and Paul Sheiber of Franklin, Mass., and Lawrence Miller of San Francisco, Calif.

The bride is the granddaughter of Rosa Selmonosky of Ellijay, Ga. The bridegroom is the grandson of the late Edith and David Linder of Providence, R.I., and the late Betty and Jack Miller of Providence, R.I.

Rabbi William Kaufman of Temple Beth El, Fall River, Mass., officiated at the 11 a.m. ceremony. The reception was held at Dakotas Restaurant in downtown Boston.

The bride was given in marriage by her parents. Rabbi's Kaufman's daughter, Beth Kaufman Kramer, a friend of

the bride and bridegroom, introduced the couple.

Attendants (chuppah holders) were Beth Kaufman Kramer, Dr. Sari Enschede, Scott Gladstone, and Richard Samdperil. Guitarist and attendant was Jon Seltzer. Daniel Selmonosky, brother of the bride, escorted his grandmother. The ring bearers were Meredith Glick and Salvatore Miller, cousins of the bridegroom.

The bride graduated from Brandeis University and received her master's degree in fine arts from the University of Massachusetts. She is an artist and currently teaching in San Jose, Calif. The bride will retain her maiden name professionally.

The bridegroom graduated from Goddard College and received his master's degree in fine arts from Emerson College. He is a screenwriter and an assistant professor at Cogswell College in Sunnyvale, Calif.

The couple will honeymoon in Tahiti in January. They are currently residing in San Jose, California.

## Lillian Goldstein Celebrates 100th Birthday

With great pleasure we invite you to share our simcha in honor of our mother, Lillian Goldstein, on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

Join us on Dec. 20 at 11 a.m. at Temple Beth-El. Services will be followed by lunch and festivities. Reply to Esther and Al Gold at (508) 673-5961.

## Moses Brown Students Will Serve on Philanthropy Board

Moses Brown School congratulates two members of its junior class for having been selected as two of the 18 students to serve on the Youth in Philanthropy Board, a program initiative of the Rhode Island Foundation and Alan Shawn Feinstein. Andrew Van Degna of East Greenwich and Lauren Wier of West Warwick were chosen by an advisory board of community leaders. Criteria for selection includes commitment to public service, motivation to work as part of a team, and the demonstration of a genuine desire to help others. The committee was particularly impressed with the interest of the two Moses Brown students in challenging traditional problem-solving methods in the state.

The YPB will provide an opportunity for Degna and Wier to play a role in improving life in Rhode Island. Duties of the board will include: planning and executing a campaign to invite non-profit organizations to apply for grants, reviewing proposals, conducting site visits, and making recommendations to board of directors. The YPB is designed to empower members, build self-esteem, and strengthen the teamwork concept.

## ASDS Names 32 to Honor Roll

Thirty-two Middle School students at the Ruth and Max Alperin Schechter Day School have been named to the Honor Roll for the first quarter of the 1998-1999 school year.

In order to achieve the Honor Roll, students must attain an average of 3.6 and above in general studies and Judaic studies subjects.

### Honor Roll Students Grade Eight

Esther Friedman, Rachel Furman, Jonah Gabry, Noah Jablow, Elana Kieffer, Rebecca Levine, Aaron Matusow, Benjamin Matusow, Limor Nevel, Noga Nevel, David Radparvar, and Sandy Schneider.

### Grade Seven

Adam Cable, Rebecca Chaika, Kendra Kobrin, Spencer Kurn, David Levinson, Benton Odessa, Alina Nega-nova, Benjamin Savitzky, Denille Wachtenheim, Leah Weissburg, and Michael Wolpert.

### Grade Six

Aaron Abrams, Shira Adler, Molly Goodwin, Miriam Klein, Chloe Licht, Maia Masuda, Hannah Mellion, Anna Siradze, and Jessica Spellun.

## Memorial Hospital Announces Chiefs and Directors of Services

Memorial Hospital of Rhode Island announces the following chiefs and directors of service for fiscal year 1998-1999:

Bradley Shapiro, M.D., radiologist-in-chief; Frank J. Schaberg, M.D., surgeon-in-chief; Paul Levinson, M.D., chief of endocrinology; Donald G. Kaufman, M.D., chief of gastroenterology; Joseph Friedman, M.D., chief of neurology; Samuel Greenblatt, M.D., chief of neurosurgery; and Robert Crausman, M.D., director of inpatient internal medicine.

## Cranston Student Member of Dartmouth Class 2002

Celine B. Arsac of Cranston has enrolled as a member of the class of 2002 at Dartmouth College.

Arsac, daughter of Roberta and Lucien Arsac of 246 Park Ave., Cranston, is a graduate of Cranston High School East.

Dartmouth, the nation's ninth-oldest college, was founded in 1769. Noted as a highly competitive institution, Dartmouth's enrollment includes more than 4,000 undergraduates and 1,000 graduate students in the arts and sciences and graduate schools of business, engineering and medicine.

## Hope High Will Hold 50th Reunion

The Hope High School class of January 1949 is planning its 50th reunion. Help is needed to locate the following class members:

Beverly Adams, Elizabeth Ballard Eaton, Barbara Blau D'Ambra, Barbara Bolotow Levy, David Brody, Frances Calcione, Harriet Cappon Maler, Mary Chalko, Florence Cohen Narva, Clara Fraser, Barbara Goldstein, Sylvia Gordon Law, Agnes McGurn, Edward O'Neill, Jr., Paul Quinn, Deborah Rosen Isaacson, Stanley Rubin, Pearl Sigers, Alfred Silverman, Peter Skalaska, James Smith, Elliot Terzian, Aram Tomasian.

If you have any knowledge of these classmates or have not received any informational flyer, call Vincent D'Adamo at 231-8149 or e-mail <eabuckley@juno.com>.

## Shulman Recognized for Service to Jewish Vocational Service

James R. Shulman has been selected as a winner of the 1998 William S. Ederly Community Service Award for his commitment to Jewish Vocational Service of Greater Boston. Shulman has served as a volunteer for 12 years at JVS, a non-profit agency that helps people from all walks of life achieve their economic potential by providing a wide range of employment and business services. He is currently serving as president of the organization's board of directors and has played a key role on its committees.

Shulman served as chair of the JVS Skills Training Committee from July 1991 through June 1993, facilitating better access to employers who hire JVS clients. Since the inception of the JVS Microenterprise Division in 1992, he has participated in its training, technical assistance and lending efforts, which have created more than 250 jobs for Boston residents with low incomes. As agency president, he led volunteer efforts which raised \$80,000 for JVS.

The Ederly award is presented by State Street Corporation in recognition of the time, energy and talent a State Street employee has contributed to volunteer efforts. Shulman, who is vice president of Asset-Based Finance at State Street Bank, was presented with the award by State Street Chairman Emeritus William Ederly at a ceremony held in Boston on Nov. 5.

## Shawn Christian Dwares



Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Dwares of Plantation, Fla., announce the birth of their second child, and second son, Shawn Christian, on Nov. 13. Paternal grandparents are Shirley Gold of Warwick, R.I., and the late Robert Dwares. Great-grandparents are the late Morris and Esther Hassenfeld Gold.

## Jacob Alexander Shapiro & Ari Jon Shapiro



Mr. and Mrs. Michael (Andrea Rubin) Shapiro of 21 Holly Lane, Beverly, Mass., announce the birth of their twin sons, Jacob Alexander and Ari Jon, on Oct. 30. Jacob and Ari were welcomed home by their brother, Benjamin, age 3.

Maternal grandparents are Carl Rubin and Barbara Rubin. Paternal grandparents are Maury Shapiro and Dolly Shapiro. Great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Rubin, Mr. and Mrs. John Kaufman and the late Rose Kaufman.

## Tori Frances Geller



David and Debra (Resnick) Geller and their son, Cyrus Ian, of Warwick, R.I., announce the birth of Tori Frances Geller, born on Nov. 11.

Maternal grandparents are Harry and Paula Katzman of Warwick. Paternal grandparents are Phillip and Sylvia Geller of Cranston. Great-grandparents are Bernard and Mildred Lazar of Warwick; Ruth Gorman of Warwick; the late Robert Gorman; Marion Geller of Cromwell, Conn.; and the late Cy Geller.

Tori Frances is lovingly named for her late great-grandfather Robert Gorman and her great-aunt Frances (Pepper) Resnick.

## Holiday Bazaar at Michael Rose Spa

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



## Weekly Film Series Continues at RIHMM

The Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum, located on Elmgrove Avenue in Providence, will continue the weekly film series beginning Jan. 8, 1999.

All films are free and open to the public. The March/April 1999 film schedule will be available at the end of February.

### Film Series

**Jan. 8 — 10 a.m., "Kovno Ghetto: A Buried History"** pieces together the story of Jews from Kovno, Lithuania, through the World War II years, approximately 100 mins.

**Jan. 13 — 10 a.m., "Assignment: Rescue."** The story of the Varian Fry and the emergency rescue committee, 1/2 hour.

**Jan. 19 — 10 a.m., "The Only Way."** True story of the rescue of Danish Jews, 86 mins.

**Jan. 27 — 10 a.m., "Murderers Among Us: The Simon Wiesenthal Story,"** 157 mins.

**Feb. 5 — 9:30 a.m., "America and The Holocaust: Deceit and Indifference,"** 87 mins.

**Feb. 10 — 10 a.m., "Forests of Valor."** A story of bravery and courage of Jewish underground fighters and partisans in eastern Europe, 52 mins.

**Feb. 25 — 9 a.m., Film-a-thon, "Judgment at Nuremberg."** Two-time Academy Award winner. Bring a brown bag lunch; this film runs six hours!

All films are free and open to the public.

For more information about the film series or the RIHMM, visit the museum on the lower level of the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island or call Tara V. Liscandro, executive director, at 453-7860.

## Life in a War Zone — A&E Inside Story

*"Why would anyone give up their Middle-American paradise for a playground surrounded with barbed wire?"*

"Remember how to say hippo in Hebrew," Mrs. Bornsteinsaid to her young daughter on what will be their last visit to the Baltimore Zoo.

As Palestinians and Jews have now come to an agreement of peace with the Wye Memorandum, Broadcast News Network documents two families in search of a "better life" which will include the likes of kosher Pizza Huts and Burger Kings amidst school bus rides with an armed guard and the impending service each child must give to Israeli's military at the age of 18.

The Bornsteins and the Nachmans have decided to give up their life in American suburbia to make a pilgrimage to their "homeland" and join the 20 percent of Jewish Americans that make the population of the Israel's Westbank.

So Americanized is their new home of Efrat, that the Hebrew language is barely heard at the local pizzeria. However, the military helicopter circling above a field where a carefree game of baseball is happening is a constant reminder of how volatile this new home can be.

In the local shopping district it is made very clear that these two combative nations are not just living in the same land together, but doing it cheek to cheek. A local dry cleaner owned by a Jewish couple employs a full staff of Arabs who speak openly about their disgust for all Jews, including the ones who sign their paycheck. As one Arab describes it, the choice of the Jews to settle here was the "biggest mistake of their life."

Yet, this war of land is not limited to different nations and religions, but very much a debate between the Jews themselves, including our two family subjects. A local group that believes that American Jews should stay in America and promotes compromise released a

survey showing 60 percent of Jews would relinquish control of their land for peace. That group, itself organized by an American Jew, is confronted by fellow Jews in protest.

A debate that has gone on for years, it is determined to break down families as well. Nine-year-old Yoni tells us of his change of heart that goes against his father's views. "Now I see how much the Arabs help us, we need them and I think they also deserve to be here. Why don't we just give up some of our land, it's not that hard, it's happened before here in Israel."

Barely a year since Rabin's assassination BNN paints an intimate portrait against a political backdrop of uncertainty. Using Sharp digital viewcams and a handful of additional BNN camera personnel, the Nachmans and Bornsteins provide "home video" that takes the viewer on a virtual journey to "Life In A War Zone."

"Life in a War Zone" — an "A&E Inside Story" will air Dec. 12 from 4 to 6 p.m.

## Perishable Theatre Presents Holiday Home Shows

Saturday mornings at 11 a.m. through Dec. 19, Perishable Theatre will be presenting their Holiday Home Show Series. The

sion of the Homoginoids," an intergalactic musical parable about prejudice, tolerance and the appreciation of differences.

Combining live actors, life-size puppets, comedy and some swingin' jump blues, "Invasion" is a science fiction spectacle about the necessity of getting along.

Dec. 19 — SFYA's "The Peaceable Kid" is a theatrical voyage to the American West for the entire family. It features a colorful roster of eccentric "wild west" characters and some Texas-style funk music for an exciting, thought-provoking and fall-down-funny performance about how to solve conflicts creatively.

The Perishable Theatre is located at 95 Empire St., Providence, R.I. For more information, call 331-2695.



**Invasion of the Homoginoids.**  
Photo by Gary Potvin, Perishable Theatre

theater's award-winning Shows For Young Audiences will be performing their newest piece, "Invasion of the Homoginoids" and SFYA's popular "The Peaceable Kid." Perishable Theatre is proud to present what is sure to be the best children's entertainment value in town. \$3 for kids? It's cheaper than a movie and it's fun, informative, live theater.

Dec. 12 — SFYA presents the Home Show premiere of "Inva-

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USAOPOLY pays tribute to the Ocean State with the introduction of the Monopoly Game: Rhode Island Edition. All Hasbro, Inc., and USAOPOLY game profits from the sale of the Monopoly Game: Rhode Island Edition will benefit the Hasbro Children's Hospital. Additionally, Filene's Department Store is donating \$10 from every game sold at retail to this worthwhile organization. Players will take risks and make deals for the chance to own it all in this classic game which reflects the rich diversity of commerce, art, education and history that thrives within the state's borders.

The Monopoly Game: Rhode Island Edition is based on the original game design with the traditional four corners ("Go" — "Go To Jail" — "Free Park-

ing" — "Just Visiting/Jail") and the rules remaining the same. However, this specialty edition is sure to call attention to this beautiful coastal state. Players can vie for hot locations along the sun shimmering Ocean State coast such as the historically charming Point Judith Lighthouse known to all Atlantic Ocean mariners, T.F. Green Airport, Providence Children's Museum, Eastside Marketplace or Newport Creamery.

Specialty editions of the Monopoly Game are available at Filene's in the Warwick Mall in Warwick, R.I., or in the Emerald Square Mall in North Attleboro, Mass., as well as major department stores, specialty stores and



**Monopoly Game: Rhode Island Edition**  
Photo courtesy of Hasbro, Inc.

souvenir shops. To find a local retailer, call (888) 876-7659. The approximate retail price for city, state and college-specific editions such as the Monopoly Game: Rhode Island Edition is \$30.

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Choice of Petite Prime Rib, Baked Stuffed Shrimp, Baked Stuffed Shrimp & Sirloin, Baked Scallops & Sirloin

Coffee or Tea/Chocolate Truffle Mousse Cake

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# OBITUARIES

## ANNA HERMAN

PROVIDENCE — Anna Herman, 100, a resident of Summit Medical Center, 1085 North Main St., business manager for more than 25 years of the former Electrix Corp., Cumberland, which was founded and owned by her husband, died Dec. 1 at the center. She was the wife of the late William P. Herman.

Born in New York City, a daughter of the late Samuel and Lena (Goldstein) Feinstein, she lived in Providence since 1934, previously residing in Bridgeport, Conn., and New York City.

She was a member of Temple Beth-El and its Sisterhood, the Council of Jewish Women, and the Women's Associations of Miriam Hospital and The Jewish Home for Aged.

She leaves a daughter, Susan R. Lapidus of Los Angeles, Calif.; a sister, Blanche Besserman of Miami, Fla.; a brother, Jack Feinstein of Delray, Fla.; two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

The funeral service was held Dec. 3 at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Bnai Israel Cemetery, Fairfield, Conn.

## MIRIAM J. KALMICK

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Miriam J. Kalmick, 66, of Charlotte, N.C., died Nov. 12 at Presbyterian Hospital, Charlotte. She was the wife of Melvin Kalmick.

Born in Providence, she was a daughter of the late Joseph and Esther (Leberstein) Grossman.

Besides her husband, she leaves three daughters, Audrey Litzinger in Texas, Debra Darlin in North Carolina and Brenda Salisbury in Pennsylvania; two sons, Richard Kalmick in Texas and David Kalmick in Louisiana; four sisters, Sarah Zenofsky, Bertha Grossman and Florence Sarenson, all of Cranston, and Emma Cohen in California; a brother, Myer Grossman of Providence; and 12 grandchildren. She was a sister of the late Dora Galer and Samuel Grossman.

The funeral and burial were held in North Carolina.

## ETHEL MANDELL

PROVIDENCE — Ethel Mandell, 84, of 75 East St., died Dec. 5 at Miriam Hospital. She was the wife of the late Frank Mandell.

Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Abraham and Sarah (Krauss) Finklestein, she had lived in Cranston and in Warwick for 25 years, moving to Providence in 1994.

She leaves a daughter, Shelley Marcus of Newton, Mass.; three sons, Larry Mandell and Stephen Mandell, both of Warwick, and Robert M. Mandell of Farmington Hills, Mich.; a sister, Beatrice Sterbacov of Stoughton, Mass.; a brother, Philip Finklestein of Cranston; and four grandchildren. The graveside service was held Dec. 7 and coordinated by Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

## HARRI SUTTON

PROVIDENCE — Harri Sutton, of 40 Sachem Drive, Cranston, formerly of Providence, died Dec. 5 at Miriam Hospital, Providence. She was the wife of Dr. Leonard Sutton.

Born in New York City, the daughter of the late Sidney and Ronnie (Marcus) Flaume, she moved to Providence in 1948 and spent many years alternating between there and Kennebunkport, Me., before settling recently in Cranston. She earned a bachelor of arts degree from Hunter College in New York City.

She was a volunteer and former officer at Irvington House in New York, and a vice president of the women's auxiliary of Brandeis University in Waltham, Mass.

In Providence, she was a member of the Miriam Hospital Women's Association and Temple Emanu-El.

Besides her husband, she leaves three sons, Ira Sutton of Chelmsford, Mass., Mark Sutton of Kennebunkport, Me., Craig Sutton of Framingham, Mass., and six grandchildren.

The funeral service was held Dec. 8 at Temple Emanu-El, Morris Avenue and Sessions Street, Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## Father of The Jewish Internet Passes Away

Rabbi Yosef Yitzchak Kazen, director of Chabad Lubavitch in Cyberspace and considered by many the pioneer of Jewish education on the Internet, passed away on Dec. 2, at age 44.

Kazen was born in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1954 to Rabbi Zalman and Mrs. Shula Kazen, escapees of Stalin's prisons and the Nazi Holocaust. The Kazen home was always a center of Jewish activity and Yosef Yitzchak, youngest of seven siblings, grew up helping to resettle Russian immigrants, preparing and delivering meals to the poor, and volunteering for all types of communal activities.

As a young boy Yossi Kazen left home to study in New York, near the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson, of righteous memory, whom he loved dearly. He was an early volunteer of the now ubiquitous Mitzvah Tanks, the Lubavitch international telephone hook-ups and many other original ideas and programs, and was endeared to many friends.

Even before the web, Kazen was one of Lubavitch's technological innovators, and helped develop the systems whereby the Rebbe's talks were broadcast via telephone to far-flung Lubavitch outposts around the globe.

But there was much better to come.

With the advent of computer communication technology, Kazen immediately recognized its potential for reaching an almost limitless audience, particularly people limited by geographic or other limitations.

In 1988, long before the Internet was popularized, Kazen reached out to thousands of people on Fidonet, an online discussion network that was distributed on several thousand nodes around the world. So primitive was the technology that it would sometimes take three days for messages to travel from one part of the world to the next.

From early morning to late at night Kazen could be found slaving away — digitizing and entering thousands of documents into what became the world's first virtual Jewish library, and enabling thousands of people to

learn about Judaism for the first time — and in an in-depth fashion.

As soon as the news spread on the Internet, tributes began pouring in from all over the world — and from all parts of the Jewish world.

A. Engler Anderson, editor of *Shamash* — The Jewish Internet Consortium which is based at Boston's Hebrew College, said that Kazen "was a pioneer of the use of the Internet for religious study and dissemination of religious materials. The title 'visionary' is definitely applicable to him. He saw it when most others did not."

The Jewish Theological Seminary's Michael Starr said that Kazen's site became the standard bearer for the Jewish Internet world. "[His] site was the one by which all the others were judged."

Kazen's exploits in helping to set up a Passover service on a boat off Antarctica, providing information for a Jewish defense officer in Saudi Arabia, and teaching an Irish minister about Judaism earned him prominent coverage in media outlets like the *New York Times*, "CNN," *USA Today*, "Good Morning America" and many others who were fascinated by this man's vision in helping to educate through the Internet.

His outreach is immortalized in the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History collections exhibit about the Internet. Many books, including the popular *The Soul of Cyberspace*, feature his ideas on Internet education as well.

In mid-1998 Kazen was diagnosed with lymphoma but refused to notify his thousands of Internet admirers. In fact, between painful treatments at New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center, he would dial up and respond to e-mails on his laptop.

Rabbi Kazen was interred at the Old Montefiore Cemetery in Queens, in proximity to the resting place of the Lubavitcher Rebbe.

Donations to his memory can be made to the Rabbi Yosef Kazen Memorial Fund, Machne Israel, 770 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11213.

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## Network Volunteer Program Seeks Volunteers

If you care about the issues of domestic abuse and sexual assault and want to lend a hand to victims, you are a perfect candidate for the Network Volunteer Advocate Training Program.

The network is an innovative statewide partnership among agencies dedicated to ending violence against women, with the goal of serving the needs of survivors in Rhode Island. It is comprised of the Sexual Assault & Trauma Resource Center of Rhode Island and the Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence and its six domestic violence member agencies.

The Network Volunteer Program, which is the first of its kind in the country, is designed to train volunteer advocates statewide to work with victims of

sexual assault and domestic abuse. Upon completion of the training, volunteers will be ready to work at one of the local battered women's agencies or the Sexual Assault & Trauma Resource Center of Rhode Island. There is currently a special need for volunteers who are interested in responding to sexual assault and domestic violence victims at hospitals and police stations throughout the state.

The next training will begin Jan. 23, 1999. If you are interested in joining with others in working to end violence against women or if you want more information, contact Barbara Hart at the Network, 421-4100 or Jennifer Longa Rainone at the Sexual Assault & Trauma Resource Center of Rhode Island, 421-4100.



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## American Cancer Society Suggests 10 Ways to Give

In December, many people from the Rhode Island area consider charitable giving, both to reflect the generosity of the season and to gain tax advantages at the end of the year. The American Cancer Society suggests 10 ways to give that will not only touch those you love, but will improve the lives of cancer patients in the local community.

**1. A gift of money.** Writing a check is the most common way people give to the American Cancer Society. The society also accepts credit cards for contributions of \$20 or more.

**2. A gift of volunteer time.** Volunteers are key to the American Cancer Society's ability to serve cancer patients, carry out educational programs, and provide other services. For more information about volunteer opportunities, call 722-8480.

**3. A tribute gift to honor others.** Instead of sending holiday greeting cards, make a gift to the American Cancer Society and have your name included in a community greeting card published in the local paper. In addition, companies that traditionally give gifts to their employees can consider making a gift to the American Cancer Society for the same amount.

**4. A gift in memory of a loved one.** The American Cancer Society will send a notice to the family of someone who has died to let them know they're thought of this holiday season.

**5. A gift of stocks or other assets.** Securities, mutual funds, bonds and other investments can yield double tax benefits. Not only are they usually deductible from income tax at their

full value, but they also avoid capital gains tax that normally would have been due when the assets are sold.

**6. A gift of real estate.** For someone considering moving from their home, giving the property to the American Cancer Society would mean placing the proceeds in a trust to provide income for the donor for life, or for a period of years. The remainder then goes to support the society's cancer control programs.

**7. Name the American Cancer Society in your will.** Bequests for even modest amounts will make a difference in the fight against cancer.

**8. A gift of an automobile.** The American Cancer Society accepts cars, boats, and RVs as contributions. Sixty percent of the value of cars, and 50 percent of the value of boats and RVs goes to the fight against cancer. For information, call the Cars for a Cure hotline at (800) 787-4337.

**9. A gift of life insurance.** Name the American Cancer Society as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy, for a set percentage or for "what's left." You may even own policies which have cash value but are no longer needed for their original purposes.

**10. Plan today for giving tomorrow.** The end of the year is an appropriate time to take a look at your total financial picture and to make plans for the future. The American Cancer Society has many giving options which offer you the greatest tax advantages while making a difference in the fight against cancer.

## Preparations May Help Women Face Life's Financial Transitions

by Denise I. Kowalewski

There are some transitions in a married woman's financial life that nobody likes to talk about in advance. But often, the possibilities of widowhood or divorce are very real. Wives do outlive their husbands and married women do become divorced. Regardless of the reason, nine out of 10 women will have to handle their own finances at some time, so it's not negative thinking to plan ahead for these possibilities.

In fact, it is critical that married women, employed or not, develop their own financial identity and become capable of supporting themselves. Such preparation will allow a woman to cope, both emotionally and financially, from a position of strength if she needs to. While there is no perfect system for preparing for such transitions, here are some ways to put your finances in order before the need arises.

- Discuss with your husband all of your assets, including those jointly and singly owned, as well as what is in each of your wills. (If you have no wills, you should have them drawn up.) Learn about other financial dealings you have singly and jointly. Discuss what arrangements would be made for any minor children should the need occur.

- Know the location of up-to-date records for all single and joint checking and savings accounts, insurance policies, employment earnings, tax forms, insurance papers, wills and investment accounts, and what they contain.

- Know the basic ways property can be owned and how the property laws in your state can affect you in case your husband dies.

- Start retirement planning for each of you, in the form of IRAs or other tax-deferred savings, even if retirement seems a long way off.

### As a Wife, You Should Also...

- Establish credit in your own name, as well as learn about the credit records of any joint accounts.

- Set up emergency funds in your own checking and savings accounts to cover three months of living expenses.

- Consider having your own investments.

- Know what benefits you will be entitled to from your husband's pension and he from yours).

### In the Event of Widowhood...

While advance preparations may help ease some of the financial burdens of widowhood, you may also need to:

- Know that joint bank accounts are often frozen at the time of a death; if you need a source of emergency cash, an account already in your own name will serve you well.

- Notify insurance companies, Social Security, pension and veterans' benefits agencies and apply for benefits.

- File your husband's will for probate.

- Transfer titles of stocks and bonds to your name.

- File any required estate tax forms. Review and understand state and federal tax laws. Review income tax status.

- Have yourself or a person of your choice appointed guardian of your minor children.

- Conduct a financial review as soon as feasible, including:

- Establishing your own credit history immediately, if you have not begun to do so already

- Organizing your personal files and records

- Conducting a complete review of your assets and liabilities, and recalculating your net worth

— Determining your goals for the future by: establishing a new budget, reviewing your will and re-evaluating your life insurance coverage.

### If You Are Facing or Contemplating Divorce...

Divorce is usually not a pleasant situation to contemplate in advance. However, if you are facing this life change, you will want to:

- Review past tax returns to determine assets that are jointly or singly owned. Prepare a financial statement listing all assets singly and jointly owned, as well as all debts. Calculate what part of any support payment might go for taxes.

- Review your husband's pension and life insurance (which could be considered in a divorce settlement), as well as investments, health and disability insurance records.

- Know how property is held and how it can be divided in your state.

- Prepare a monthly budget to determine what you need for living expenses.

- Establish your own credit history and keep emergency funds in your own checking and savings accounts. Review your credit ratings so you will not face any surprises.

- Set long-term goals, which may include paying down debt, funding your children's education and preparing for your own retirement.

No one can predict what transitions will occur in a lifetime. However, if you become informed about how finances work and establish your own financial identity, even if you never need to use these skills, you'll be better prepared to help manage your family's financial future.

This article does not constitute legal or tax advice. Investors should consult their personal legal and tax advisers before making any legal or tax-related investment decisions.

Part 6 of a series of financial articles courtesy of Dean Witter Reynolds, 1900 Hospital Trust Plaza, Providence, RI 02903.

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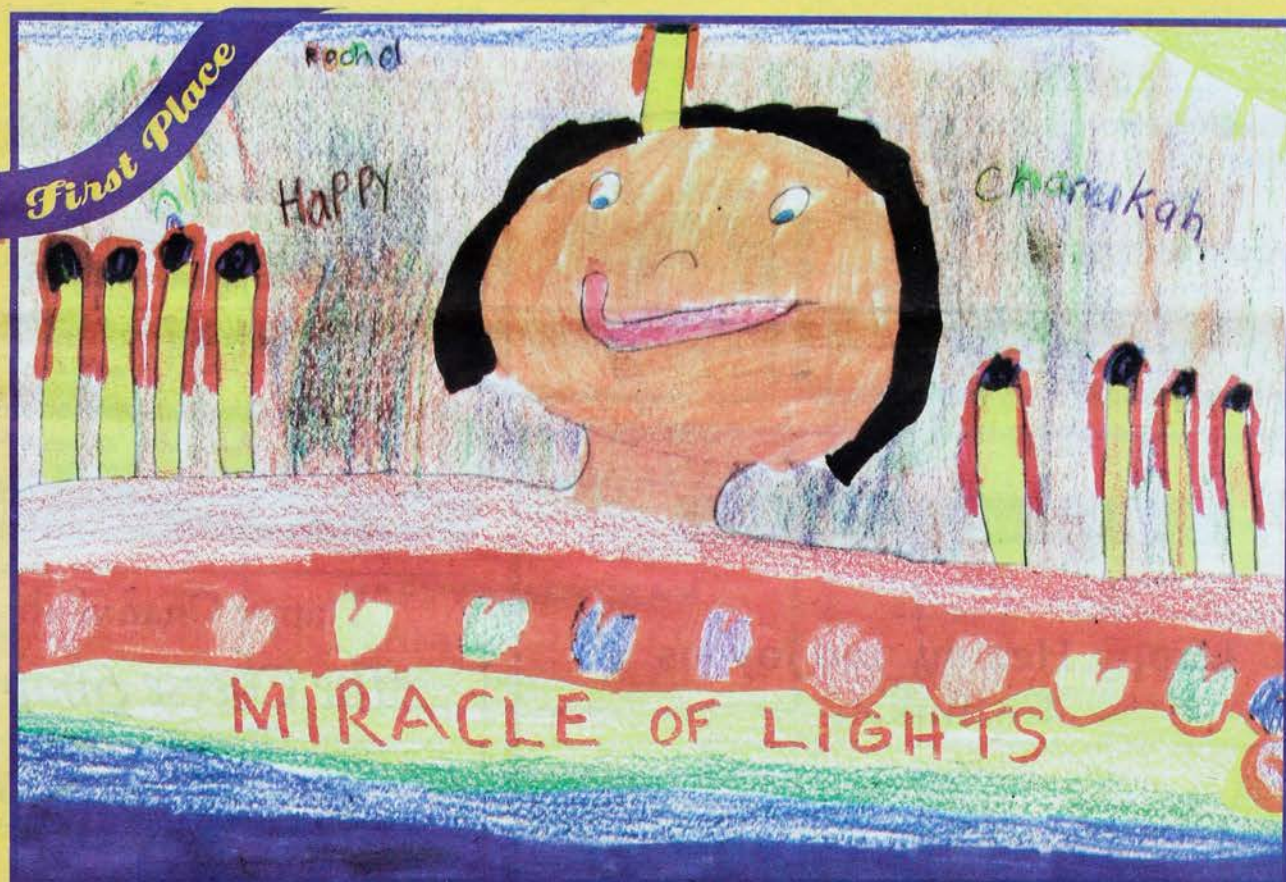


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5759

# Chanukah



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**The Rhode Island Jewish Herald**

**December 10, 1998**



# A Chanukah Message

**From the Lubavitcher  
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**Dear Friend:**

The Chanukah lights which are kindled in the darkness of night, recall to our minds memories of the past: the war that the Hasmoneans waged against huge Syrian armies, their victory, the dedication of the Temple, the rekindling of the menorah, the small quantity of oil that lasted for many days, and so on.

Let's picture ourselves members of the little band of Hasmoneans in those days. We are under the domination of a powerful Syrian king; many of our brethren have left us and accepted the idolatry and way of life of the enemy. But our leaders, the Hasmoneans, do not commence action by comparing numbers and weapons, and weighing our chances of victory. The Holy Temple has

been invaded by a cruel enemy. The Torah and our faith are in grave danger. The enemy has trampled upon everything holy to us and is trying to force us to accept his way of life which is that of idol worship, injustice, and similar traits altogether foreign to us. There is but one thing for us to do — to adhere all the closer to our religion and precepts, and to fight against the enemy even if we have to die in this fight.

And wonder of wonders! The huge Syrian armies are beaten, the vast Syrian Empire is defeated, our victory is complete.

This chapter of our history has repeated itself frequently. We, as Jews, have always been outnumbered, many tyrants attempted to destroy us because of our faith. Sometimes they aimed their poisoned arrows at our bodies, sometimes at our souls, and sad to say, many of

our brethren have for one reason or another turned away from G-d and His Torah and tried to make life easier by accepting the rule of the conqueror.

In such times of distress we must always be like that faithful band of Hasmoneans, and remember that there is always a drop of "pure olive oil" hidden deep in the heart of every Jew, which, if kindled, bursts into a big flame. This drop of "pure olive oil" is the "Perpetual Light" that must and will pierce the darkness of our present night, until everyone of us will behold the fulfillment of the prophet's promise for our ultimate redemption and triumph. And as in the days of Hasmoneans "the wicked will once again be conquered by the righteous, and the arrogant by those who follow G-d's laws, and our people Israel will have a great salvation."

With Chanukah Greetings,  
Rabbi Menachem M.  
Schneerson

\*\*\*

Submitted by Rabbi Y. Laufer  
of Chabad House, Providence.

# Laws of Chanukah

**December 14-21, 1998**

During the period of the second Jewish Commonwealth, when the Jewish State lacked total independence, Antiochus forbade the Jews from studying Torah and observing any of the Jewish laws under a penalty of death. Individuals resisted and sons of Mattathias, a member of the priestly family, began the military campaign to drive the Syrian/Greek army out of Israel.

In 167 B.C.E. the Jewish army proclaimed victory and reestablished the independent state until 70 C.E. The victory occurred on the 25th day of Kislev and the word Chanukah is a combination of two words — to rest on the 25th day.

Subsequent to reopening the Temple, Mattathias and his sons found only one jar of kosher olive oil which would be sufficient to enable the menorah to burn for one day. However, a miracle occurred and the oil burned for eight days until new kosher olive oil was processed and delivered to the Temple.

The Sanhedrin — Supreme Court of Israel — promulgated the eight-day holiday of Chanukah to commemorate this miraculous event. Chanukah 5759/1998 begins the evening of Dec. 13 and ends Dec. 21.

Each night we light the candles 45 minutes after sunset and the candles must burn for 30 minutes. We start with one candle on day one, two candles on day two, three candles on day three, etc., until we reach eight candles on day eight. The menorah should be placed near the window to publicize the miracle.

On Friday night, Dec. 18, we light the Chanukah candles prior to lighting the Shabbat candles. Since it is daylight when we light the Chanukah candles, we use longer candles rather than the standard Chanukah candles so that the candles can burn the required 30 minutes at nightfall.

Submitted by Ahavath Achim Synagogue.

## Chanukah Party at Touro Fraternal

Touro Fraternal Association will hold its annual Chanukah party on Dec. 13 at 1 p.m.

It is open to all members, their children and grandchildren. Join us for hot dogs, latkes, pizza, dessert and soft drinks. There will be great entertainment and gifts for the children under 12 years of age.

Touro Hall is located at 45 Rolfe Square, Cranston, R.I.

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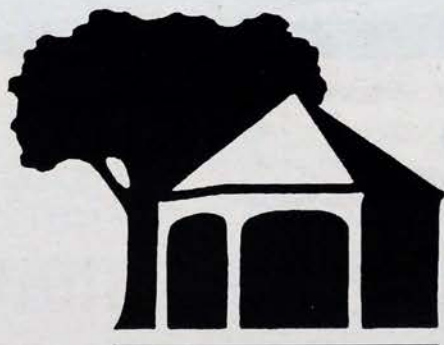
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## What Our Neighbors Learned About Judaism

by Rabbi Bob Alper

"Great news! I got Owensboro!"

I was calling my wife at work, just after taking my turn in the lottery that was held each spring to determine which rabbinical students at our Cincinnati seminary would serve which small congregations around the country. Owensboro was my first choice, and since I was about to enter my final year at the school, I had enough seniority to land this plum.

I really wanted Owensboro. Not just because my previous assignment, Williamson, W.Va., entailed perilous mountain drives through appropriately named towns like Crum and Saltpeter. Not solely because Owensboro was the home of the world's largest sassafras tree. And certainly not because that small Kentucky city was the scene of the last public execution in America, when 20,000 public-spirited citizens turned out for a public hanging in 1936. Nope, there were more important reasons. Such as the really neat, round motel, and its pretty decent restaurant.

Plus, of course, a mostly lovely, dedicated little Jewish community that met in a charming, century-old wooden synagogue. Services, counseling, and teaching: I did it all. But it was my frequent Friday afternoon tangle with the building's heating system that stood out as my year's major challenge.

Quite frankly, with a senior thesis in progress and a first baby on the way, I was pleased that my twice-monthly visits didn't require too much preparation. I conducted Friday evening services, of course. And I taught the entire religious school on Saturday mornings. Then, again, the entire religious school consisted of Dougie. We held class at the desk in his bedroom, and once in a while, if they hadn't annoyed us too much during our lesson, Dougie's 5-year-old twin brothers would be invited in for an assembly. Something must have worked. Last I heard,

Dougie was president of a synagogue near Dallas.

For Chalkah, I pulled out all the stops, creating a little show starring my favorite hand puppet from Sesame Street, the Cookie Monster. I could do a fairly accurate vocal imitation of him and on that Shabbat evening, I cleverly renamed him "The Candle Monster." It was a sweet little event. Dougie, his brothers, and three or four other pre-schoolers had a marvelous time watching as I stooped behind my lectern and put on a 10-minute playlet with voices and music, a menorah and a dreidle, and, naturally, the lesson of Chanukah interwoven.

Problem was, that night was the first and only time a visiting church group came to services, a bit late and unannounced. Uh oh.

I'll never forget the Chanukah reception that followed. He was probably 15, a tall, lanky kid wearing a white shirt with a collar too large and a tie that hung off to the side. His hair was slicked down. Somewhat shy, but definitely earnest, he approached me, a half-eaten latke on his paper plate.

"So Rabbi," he began, "Can I ask you a question?" "Of course." "OK," he said, "So, ummm, d'ya'll worship the puppets every week?"

It was a stellar moment in interfaith understanding.

Rabbi Bob Alper is a stand-up comic and author of *Life Doesn't Get Any Better Than This*. Visit him at [www.bobalper.com](http://www.bobalper.com).

## World's Largest Chanukah Site to Link Menorah Lightings

**Ushering in the Holiday.** On the first Chanukah eve, Dec. 13, at 3:15 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, live simultaneous menorah lightings going on in Jerusalem, Moscow, New York, and Paris will be streamed to millions of computers, "officially" kicking off the Chanukah holiday.

Extensive video and audio clips, as well as still pictures, of menorah lightings and Chanukah events around the globe are also available on the supersite. With only a click of a button, users can observe Jews lighting menorahs in places as varied as Moscow, Melbourne, Madrid and Milwaukee, watch a menorah on a gondola in Venice, as well as one lit near the original Modi'in village from which the Maccabees launched their successful revolt.

A full menu of video clips — including one of the Lubavitcher Rebbe of righteous memory speaking to the live satellite hookup of Chanukah Live (in 1991) about the advent of technology and how it relates to Chanukah — is available on the site.

**Something for Everyone.** Also available from the visually exciting site is historical and religious information about the holiday. The supersite is designed for all ages and educational levels, from young children to scholars, and offers a day-by-day guide to celebrating the eight-day holiday. In addition, one can order a free Chanukah kit to learn the Cha-

nukah ritual for at-home, real-life use.

"Virtual Chanukah 98" is a project of the American Friends of Lubavitch and designed with the entire family in mind. The site's features run the gamut from games for small children to in-depth study, from how-to guides to daily meditations.

In addition to the live video and picture images of Chanukah menorah lights around the world, the site's features include:

• **Torah Lights** — A series of essays that consider the implications of Chanukah in Jewish thought and religious law.

• **Random Chanukah "Trivia"** — Little known Chanukah facts — like the truism that Chanukah can never begin on Monday night or that the Temple Menorah had straight, not round, branches — are interspersed throughout the site.

• **The Chanukah Guide** — A day-by-day guide to celebrating the holiday and to lighting the menorah.

• **The Chanukah Games** — Not just for children, this section offers five games with themes of the holiday, including a "CyberDreidel" that keeps score, word games and picture puzzles, all created with

the latest in Java programming technology.

• **The Chanukah Story** — An historical survey of the Chanukah holiday.

• **Olive Drops** — Using light and oil (with which the menorah was traditionally kindled) metaphorically, this section considers the mystical dimension of Chanukah in Kabbalah and Chasidism and supplies "food for thought" for each of the eight days.

• **Modern Maccabees** — This section allows children and adults to reflect on good deeds and share their experiences with others in the Internet community.

• **Tales of Light** — For children and adults, this section approaches the observance of Chanukah through recounting classical Jewish stories.

Virtual Chanukah 98™ is a project of American Friends of Lubavitch in conjunction with Jewish Educational Media, with conceptual design and editorial work by Lubavitch News Service, and hosted by Dimension 11 and Chabad-Lubavitch in Cyberspace.

Virtual Chanukah 98 is dedicated to the memory of Rabbi Yosef Yitzchak Kazen, father of the Jewish internet, who passed away recently.

## Wishing all a Joyous Chanukah!

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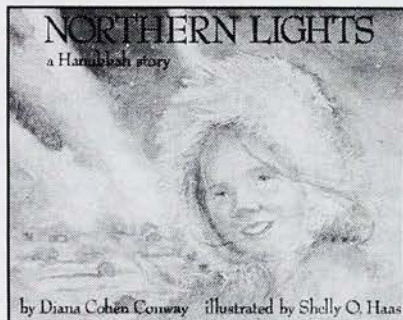


# The True Meaning of Chanukah

## As told through some beautiful books

The story of Chanukah is cleverly retold in several books for all ages.

*Northern Lights, A Hanukkah Story*, by Diana Cohen Conway, Kar-Ben Copies, Inc., 1994, is a touching story of young Sara Israel who travels to the remote



Yupik village on the frozen Bering Sea with her father, Dr. Israel, who is making his medical rounds. A winter storm

mother and sister. When the lights go out due to the storm, the pilot's mother says it's story time, and with the help of a flashlight, Sara draws shadow pictures and regales the family with the Chanukah story. Then the old woman finds a stone lamp, twists a wick from a cotton towel, and fills the lamp with oil. The improvised menorah, backlit by the glow of the Northern Lights, makes a wonderful celebration for all. Although Sara is without the traditions of her Chanukah, she learns that with a little imagination, she can still celebrate the holiday.

*Northern Lights, A Hanukkah Story*

weaves together Jewish and Eskimo traditions which teach Sara and her new Eskimo friend, Norma, that it's not the material traditions of the holiday, but the traditions each holds in their hearts.

*Maccabee Jamboree, A Hanukkah Countdown*, by Cheri Holland, Kar-Ben Copies, Inc., 1998, is a whimsical story counting down the eight days to Chanukah. One-by-one, eight Maccabees disappear as they polish the menorah, wrap gifts, and cook latkes to prepare for their Chanukah party. Slowly, their numbers dwindle, until all are

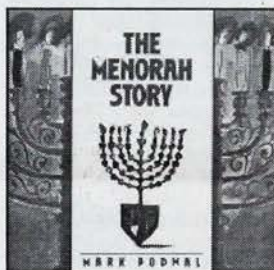
grounds the father and daughter during Chanukah and Sara spends her first Chanukah with the pilot's family—without her

ish the menorah, wrap gifts, and cook latkes to prepare for their Chanukah party. Slowly, their numbers dwindle, until all are

together again for their holiday party. It is not only a delightful way to teach youngsters the traditions of Chanukah, but also a fun way to learn counting.

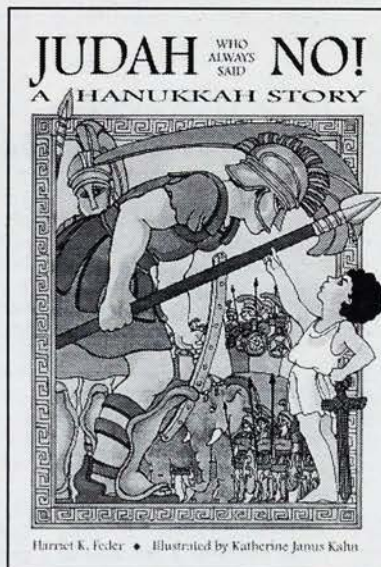
*Judah Who Always Said, "No!"*, by Harriet K. Feder, Kar-Ben Copies, Inc., 1990 is the story of a stubborn Judah, whose defiance escalates in the Maccabee's victory over King Antiochus' army. Only when the victorious Jews suggest a celebration, does Judah finally say, "Yes!" Every child who has ever been a "terrible 2" will delight in young Judah's refusal to take a nap; older Judah's refusal to bow down to Greek idols; and adult Judah's refusal to accept the Greek ways. The illustrations are bold and colorful, and often tell the story of Judah without having to read the text. Their vibrance and depth speak louder than any words can. This is a wonderful story to read aloud to children, as they are sure to chime in with "No."

*The Menorah Story*, by Mark Podwal, Greenwillow Books,



1998, is the story of the creation and evolution of the menorah. G-d approaches Moses to make a menorah, and although G-d guides him and even draws a

picture of a menorah on Moses' palm, he is still unable to create one. That is until G-d instructs Moses to throw a piece of gold into the fire, and the first menorah formed itself. For hundreds of years the lights of the menorah burned bright in the Holy Temple of Jerusalem, until darkness fell on the city when King Antiochus rode into the city and destroyed many of the Jewish treasures, although the menorah was hidden from the Greek soldiers. As the Jews uprising over King Antiochus' rule came to a climax, the Jews emerged victorious and reclaimed their land. Although only a small amount of oil remained from the destruction, the menorah burned brightly for eight days—thus resulting in Judah Maccabee's proclamation of an eight-day holiday called Hanukkah.



## Temple Beth-El Will Hold Outdoor Chanukah Candlelighting

Below is the schedule for the outdoor candlelighting ceremonies for Chanukah at Temple Beth-El, located at 70 Orchard Ave. in Providence. Temple Beth-El is the only temple in Rhode Island that uses an outdoor Chanukah menorah nightly. The candlelighting is at 6 p.m. and is open to all.

Dec. 13 — First Candle      Dec. 14 — Second Candle  
Dec. 15 — Third Candle      Dec. 16 — Fourth Candle  
Dec. 17 — Fifth Candle  
Dec. 18 — Sixth Candle (There will not be outdoor candlelighting this night. The menorah will be lit in the sanctuary at Sabbath Services.)  
Dec. 19 — Seventh Candle      Dec. 20 — Eighth Candle

## Happy Chanukah

and best wishes for a joyous Festival of Lights



**Vincent A. Cianci, Jr.**  
*Mayor of Providence*

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# Toy Stores Important Stop on Path to Lighting Candles

by Jane Ulman  
ENCINO, Calif. (JTA) — Around 165 BCE, a group of Jewish warriors, led by Judah Maccabee, defeated the Greek and Syrian armies. The Jews reclaimed the desecrated Temple in Jerusalem, setting the stage for the celebration of Chanukah.

Since that time, more than 2,000 years ago, Jews around the world have endlessly and unsuccessfully debated whether the holiday is spelled Chanukah, Hannukah or Hanukkah.

But whatever the spelling, the word clearly means dedication, referring to the reconsecration of the Temple.

Dedication also refers to the perseverance and patience we parents need to stand in line at Toys R Us for this year's hottest plaything, the Furby. This is an interactive electronic pet that can do everything my four sons can do — speak in gibberish, wiggle its ears and burp on command.

Of course, real dedication — and more in keeping with Chanukah's true message of freedom from retailers and other oppressors — entails waiting a year. At that point, the flash-in-the-latte-pan Furby will be stacked mile-high on the remainder shelf, along with oodles of Sing and Snore Ernies, Tickle Me Elmos and never-to-be-adopted Cabbage Patch Dolls.

With all the hoopla, it's hard to believe that Chanukah is a minor festival. In fact, it's the only Jewish holiday without any historical basis in the Bible and with only a few mentions in the Talmud.

For instance, the Talmud said, "It is incumbent to place the Chanukah lamp by the door of one's house on the outside."

It also says that if a camel loaded down with straw passes through a street and knocks over your Chanukah lamp and starts a fire, the camel driver is liable. It's undoubtedly because of laws like these that we have so many Jewish lawyers.

The supposed history of Chanukah began in the fourth century BCE, when Alexander the Great conquered the Middle East. After his death, the empire was divided, and in the second century BCE, Jerusalem came under the autocratic rule of Antiochus, whose mission in life was to tyrannize and Hellenize the Jews. Jews were forbidden to eat kosher foods and celebrate the Jewish holidays.

Many Jews willingly abandoned Judaism. Assimilation has always been a Jewish problem.

On the other hand, many Jews didn't want to become Greeks. What was the point, they thought, of learning to throw a discus, of running a 26-mile marathon in the Jerusalem hills and of worshipping a whole panoply of gods who philandered and goddesses who gossiped.

One Jew who preferred to fight than switch was Mattathias, an aged priest who lived outside Jerusalem. He had five sons. Probably Mattathias figures that if he didn't focus these five sons on a common enemy, they would kill each other. So Mattathias formed a guerrilla army to fight Antiochus, and other Jews quickly joined the cause.

Before he died, Mattathias passed on the leadership to his son Judah, who became known as Judah Maccabee, or "Hammer." At that time, the title "Hammer" was frequently given to a national hero who defeated a seemingly invincible enemy. Today, that title is reserved for the few Jewish husbands who can successfully make a home repair.

Anyway, these Maccabees were determined to fight the Syrians, even though the Syrians laughed at them. Why? Because they had few weapons, no uniforms and no elephants. Yes, elephants were an important military asset. But maybe all the available elephants were in Gaul waiting to cross the Alps with Hannibal. Or perhaps they had already migrated to Florida and were busy preparing for Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus' new summer season.

In any event, without elephants but with superior strategy and bravery, the Maccabees defeated Antiochus' troops, liberated Jerusalem and reclaimed the defiled Temple. When it came time to light the menorah, the Jews found only a small cruse of oil, which they thought would last for one day. The miracle was that the light lasted for eight days.

To commemorate this miracle, we light candles for the eight nights of Chanukah. The candles which are always too big or too small for the holes, are placed in the chanukiyah, or menorah, from right to left. But they lit from left to right. For parents, this exercise is like patting your head and rubbing

your stomach at the same time. And just try doing this while your kids are screaming, "Can we open the presents?" and "I never get a turn to light the candles."

The good news, however, mandated by the Talmud, is that the Chanukah candles must burn for at least 30 minutes, during which time no work can be done. That means we have to sit and observe the ripped wrapping paper and shredded ribbons strewn about our living room and listen to our children fume about not getting the Furby that night.

Besides the chanukiyah, here are two other important symbols of Chanukah. One is the latkes. A the time of the Maccabees, pancakes were a staple food; wives used to bake them and carry them out to their husbands on the battlefield. So on Chanukah, when we eat latkes, we're eating the equivalent of Cratons, a kind of Spam. It's also important to note that this was perhaps the last time Jewish women actually cooked dinner for their husbands.

Recently, the Israelis, known for their daring rescue operations into dangerous enemy territory, have also rescued us from the tyranny of these soggy and greasy clumps of potatoes. Indeed, they have added an important food to the Chanukah repertoire: sufganiyot. These

are jelly-filled doughnuts that are deep fried and rolled in sugar.

The other important symbol of Chanukah is the dreidel — the four-sided top that the Greeks used for gambling games. It is said that when Antiochus forbade the Jews to study Torah, the rabbis and their students went into the forests, taking their books and dreidels with them. When they spied Syrian soldiers approaching, the students hid their books and began playing with their tops.

Modern technology has made many improvements on the dreidel. In addition to wood, there are plastic, Lucite and today, even the Curious George menorah. But the most innovative and useful, I've discovered, are chocolate dreidels, a sweet-tasting, caloric jolt of caffeine and cholesterol.

The holiday of Chanukah is indeed a holiday of miracles — the miracle of a small band of warriors defeating a stronger, more powerful army; the miracle of a tiny cruse of oil lasting for eight whole days, and the miracle that, year after year, we dedicated parents continue to stand in lengthy and stress-laden lines at Toys R Us.

\*\*\*  
Jane Ulman lives in Encino, Calif., with her husband and four sons.

*Happy  
Chanukah*



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Jewish Herald

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*We, the Goldstein Family, wish you and yours safe and healthy holidays.*



# He Lights Up My Day

by Mike Fink  
Herald Contributing Reporter

The Portuguese parade marched down Wickenden Street with trumpets and banners and red and gold gowns and ribbons. In an alley stood a ghostly figure taking it all in. I asked if I could take his picture. He nodded yes. The snapshot came out perfectly—well-lit and composed. I kept the group of candids only for a while.

But my phantom returned. Angelo popped up about town, and even came by my house to clean my gutters and thresholds. My son said, "He looks like a hippie." His long mane of grey hair and the slim build and worn grey clothing do bring back a startling blast from the past.

I meet Angelo among the cafes. He says spiritual things over our cups. "I believe in life beyond," he says, and I answer, "Your name suits you. You bring me messages of hope." Most of us buy our happiness and pay for our pleasures. Angelo gathers his goods and works for his joys. "My grandfather had a small farm, but it's gone now. There is nothing but ugliness where there was life. I keep some of his tools as symbols and reminders." Angelo has quiet faith, skill, poise. He asked me over to his place round the corner from the coffeehouses.

The portal was broken. He had made a small garden by transplanting hydrangeas into a spot without asphalt at the front stairs. Gold and scarlet, the leaves and petals glowed in the sunbeam. Indoors, a stove both cooks and heats the kitchen-parlor. A fine poster of a vase of flowers, by Manet, is pinned to the door. A skinny mirror multiplies light and space. Shelves hold rusty tools or papers. A small round wire-spool holds a glass top that fits, and a bowl of dried gourds.

All is neatly in place and rather comfortable looking.

"Whatever you see, I found it in the trash. Students move out and leave treasures behind. Even the clothing I wear comes from garbage day. The rent, which is small, comes from the yard sales, the sidewalk stands, where new students come and pay a little through me for the

stuff beached by graduates and alums."

I'm trying to see this angel as a sort of symbolic candle that lights the rest of the wicks



Angelo  
Artist Ben Weiss

for Chanukah. The shamas that stands apart but serves the rest, as the days go forth into winter, burning ever brighter and more fully as we sing and bless and praise the source of light.

In the shadows, but coming forth to help and inspire, the outsiders come into the seasons and schedules of our lives.

I picked up a small pencil sketch of my host and admired the paper as I put it down and opened the door to leave. "Ben Weiss did that drawing. I don't like to sit for photographs or paintings. I don't like to model. I need my privacy, my inner life. You're the only one I ever said yes to willingly, when you snapped that shot last year."

I didn't tell Angelo that I took it too much for granted. Only now on the brink of Chanukah does the memory come back to haunt me. Yes, my street ally has a quality of coming from another world. But it is a kind of Chassidic world of meaning and morals. "I used to live in the hallways of Woods Gerry Mansion, when it was abandoned like me, years ago, during my homeless days," Angelo told me as we emerged from the riverside alley. That former governor's estate, later a Rhode Island School of Design gallery and presidential office, hosted a cocktail party for trustees and faculty. I brought my afternoon with its soulful resident with me to the reception, in my imagination I mean, and recall him for you in the Maccabees spirit of cleaning, restoring, and believing in the miracle of dedication.

## PHDS Plans a Very Special Chanukah

This year the Providence Hebrew Day School is planning a full evening of Chanukah song and theater at its annual celebration. The first performance will feature the PHDS choir composed of students from grades one through three. Lead by choirmaster Fishel Bressler, the children will sing a variety of holiday songs in English and Hebrew. The fourth grade will be performing a play about "Channah and Her Seven Sons" totally in Hebrew. The schools' Recorder Ensemble will be playing a number of Chanukah songs under the direction of Sheila Kaplan. The fourth performance will feature the introduction of a new musical experience at the school—the PHDS Barbershop Quartet and Co. This group is composed of students, parents and friends of the school.

The Chanukah celebration will take place on Dec. 16 at PHDS located at 450 Elm Grove Ave. This event is free and open to the entire community.



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## 'Things Remembered'

by Cindy Halpern

Emerald Square Mall sparkled with holiday spirit as members of the Junior Provty of Temple Beth-El went in search of gifts to exchange with one another. As a mom learning-to-let-go, I accompanied Gaye and Joel Gluck, the capable and caring couple who are the advisers of Junior Provty, on a walking tour of the beautifully decorated stores.

While Joel was looking at technical toys, Gaye and I browsed through the shelves and display cases of a craft shop that was scented with the smells of home. I spotted miniature replicas on an English village. It reminded me of Henley-On-Thames, my husband's hometown in England.

As we left the shop, I eyed the sign of a store named Things Remembered. Suddenly the hands of time returned me to Henley. Robin is again 6 and my mother-in-law Rose is alive and well.

But all is not well. My husband is unable to make the trip with us and I am worried that Robin will become confused. The American half of the family celebrates Hanukkah and the English half of the family cel-

brates Christmas. But a compromise on the day and manner in which the American and English Halperns observe the holiday season is made.

Grandma Rose is not one to believe in elaborate and expensive gifts. In England, the middle class don't dine out but once a week. They save their shillings for rainy days, which are abundant in Britain. Instead, Grandma Rose sets Robin to work in making home decorations and simple gifts. The television remains off as Robin is learning that being creative is fun.

Meanwhile, Rose sends me on errands through the village, which is quite walkable. People greet me and I greet them back. When I return, Robin is in the kitchen with her grandma. They work together side by side as generations happily discover the joy of being together.

Grandma Rose smiles at me, "I apologize if I've sent you outside in the chilly air." I reassure her, "There was no snow at all and it gets much colder than this in New England."

She puts on a kettle, "Still, I don't want you catching cold. Sit down while I pour you tea. Robin, please hand me the tin of biscuits. It will be a while yet

before our holiday dinner is cooked."

Robin, Grandma Rose, and I sit at the kitchen table while we sip tea and nibble on chocolate digestive biscuits. Grandma gently reminds Robin of her manners when she takes one too many cookies, "Now love, I understand the temptation on your part to take more biscuits, but you and I have worked so hard on preparing a lovely meal. You wouldn't wish to spoil your appetite."

Robin smiles proudly, "Mommy, Grandma Rose let me help make the gravy and dessert too."

Robin and Rose clear the tea things away then this time we are off in the small red Renault to a store beyond Henley limits. There is a long line. "I'll go in the queue while you and Robin have a look about the town. There are some lovely shops to see, but you mustn't buy anything. It's all terribly expensive, especially with your dollar dropping."

Robin and I observe the brick buildings have old-fashioned display windows in which one can browse without entering the shops at all. Robin spots a dignified older looking gentle-

man walking along side us and explains, "I'm from America visiting Grandma Rose."

"What a wonderful thing to spend Christmas with your grandmother! Happy Christmas!"

"I'm Jewish. We have Hanukkah."

"How do you celebrate Hanukkah?"

"We light the menorah with candles."

"Tis a lovely custom too."

We walk on until we are back at the car and Grandma Rose is just coming out of the shop, "Well now, did you have a good walk?"

Robin repeats her conversation she had with the elderly man as we ride towards Henley. Once back at 23 St. Marks Road, everyone is busy. Robin wraps the homemade gifts with the help of Aunt Stephanie. Rose puts the final touches on dinner, and Grandpa Elliott and I set the table. Uncle Darius arrives in time to offer his help in the kitchen. Other relatives come downstairs after resting. They have their hands full with their young child, Nicholas, who is 2.

Then finally, Robin is invited to say a dinner blessing of our faith, but she hesitates as she

looks around the table, "But where is the menorah?"

Grandpa Elliott offers an old menorah from his room, "It was my mother's, but you may have it to keep."

Robin is in awe, "But if it was your mommy's, you should keep it."

Grandpa shook his head no, "It will only gather dust in my room. But my mother would be pleased to know that I had a Jewish grandchild after all who would take proper care of it."

Robin accepted the precious gift of generations as Grandma Rose gently guided Robin's hand to bring life to the menorah. Grandpa Elliott spoke the Hebrew prayers of his childhood along with Robin as the flames replaced diminished memories with a promising future.

Now back at the Emerald Square Mall, Joel, Gaye and I are reunited with Robin, Eve, Rachel, Emily, Lauren, Amanda, Brendan, and Cameron. Everyone is loaded down with bags while I am filled with memories of seven holiday seasons ago. I truly hope every one of them will be blessed with Happy Hanukkah and holiday memories to cherish for a lifetime.

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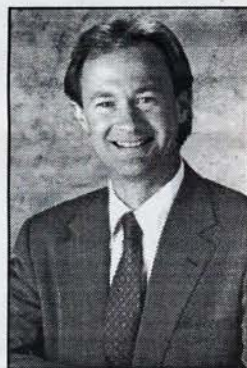
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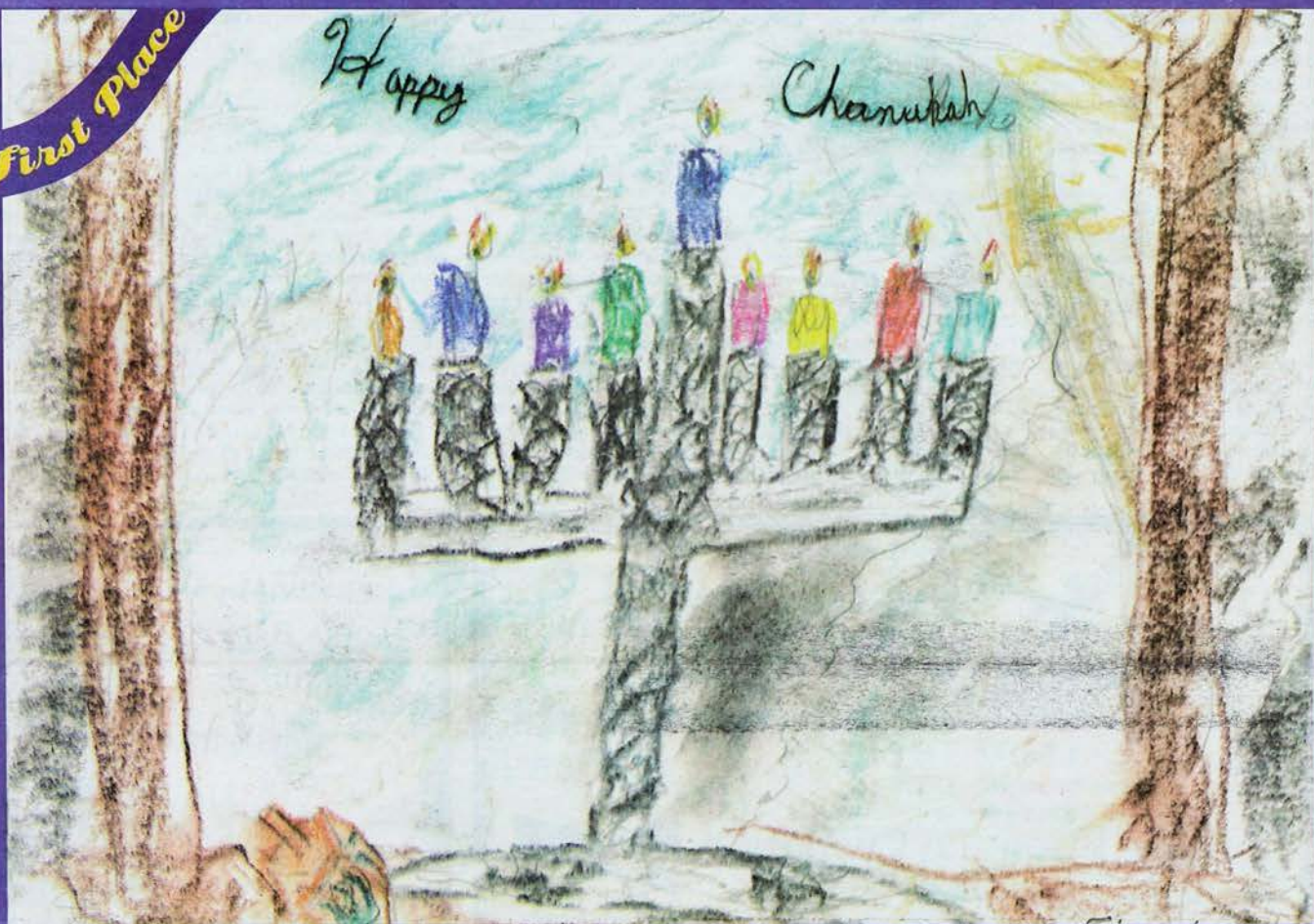
# Chanukah Art



*The Rhode Island Jewish Herald*

would like to acknowledge all of the talented kids who

*First Place*



10- to 13- Years Old: Shaina Lamchick

Turn to the back page of this section for

*Second Place*



10- to 13- Years Old: Nava Winkler

*Second Place*



7- to 9- Years Old: S



# Contest Winners

and Jewish Herald

ok part in this year's contest... best of luck next year!



First Place

Miracle of Light



7- to 9- Years Old: Cara Kaplan

Third Place Chanukah Art Contest Winners



Chifra Albert Andelman



4- to 6- Years Old: Sonia Felder



## Temple Torat Yisrael Holds Concert

Temple Torat Yisrael in Cranston announced that this year's Ira S. and Anna Galkin Chanukah program will feature two different musical acts: Family entertainer Kenny Green and Sephardic music specialist, George Mordecai. The double concert will be held on the Saturday night during Chanukah, Dec. 19, at 7 p.m.

Family and children's entertainer Kenny Green will open the program. Using his guitar, as well as puppets, costumes and the children themselves as props, Green's high-energy performance gets both children and adults singing and dancing. Using a mix of original songs, traditional Chanukah melodies, folk tunes and stories, Green brings energy and rock and roll to groups of all ages. He has recorded two CDs albums and is working on a third. As Marc Weiner, host of

Nickelodeon's "Weinerville" show put it: "Kenny Green is so funny he makes me break out in hives."

After an intermission, with refreshments provided, George Mordecai, one of the most diverse Jewish entertainers in the world, will take the stage. His Jewish background includes Australian, Indian and Asian roots, and his music weaves all of these sounds together. He performs accompanied by a mandolin player and a percussionist, and he teaches about the history of Sephardic Jewish music as he performs.

The Ira S. and Anna Galkin Chanukah program is held annually at Temple Torat Yisrael in Cranston and is made possible through the auspices of the Ira S. and Anna Galkin Trust Foundation. The concert is open to the public and is free of charge.

When video recorders first came out, taking one along on vacation almost meant bringing a luggage carrier just to *shlepp* the equipment with you. Today, you can fit a camcorder or viewcam in any decent-sized briefcase or even a purse. Now it's easier than ever to capture for posterity those memories in progress, once-in-a-lifetime experiences that will be saved in your mind, your heart and your audio/video storage cabinet. Months or years later, you can watch the "home videos" and remember the good times.

Nowadays we have ways to keep memories alive. But can we actually relive an experience?

Haven't we all wished, at one time or another, that we could capture a moment and actually relive it at a future date?

"Those days are remembered and experienced." A basic Jewish teaching is that not only is a holiday or holy day a

commemoration of an event that took place many years ago, but the actual event is re-experienced yearly on the anniversary of its happening.

The upcoming festival of Chanukah is no exception. The same "spiritual energy" that was present at that time is in the world once again. This means that we can tap into those forces and make them "work" for us in our lives today. We can actually relive the miracles and lessons of Chanukah.

What Chanukah energy are we able to remember and experience?

One of the Chanukah miracles was that a small band of Jews who were devoted heart, body and soul to G-d and to the Torah were able to vanquish the strongest army of the day. On Chanukah we experience this same devotion and enthusiasm about Jewish life and living. We can devote ourselves heart, body and soul to a special *mitzva* we have long wanted to do, and we will successfully integrate that *mitzva* into our lives.

The second miracle of Chanukah was when a small amount of oil kept the rededicated Temple *menorah* lit for a wondrous eight days until more oil could be produced. There

was, in fact, other oil readily available. However, it had been tampered with by the Greeks and though permissible to use, the Jewish victors would not accept compromises for the rededication of the Temple. They wanted no traces of corruption or decay.

We relive the Chanukah miracle when we refuse to compromise our Judaism, even under extenuating circumstances. The Maccabees' resolve to use only pure oil gives us the strength to enhance our Jewish living by being uncompromising in our performance of *mitzvot*, whether it's putting a few coins in a charity box daily, befriending a lonely person, affixing *mezuzot* to our doorposts, speaking only kindly of others, or setting aside time for Jewish learning.

As one of the Chavurah blessings states, G-d performed miracles for us "in those days at this time." On Chanukah we can expect that G-d will perform miracles for us in our days at this time, culminating in the ultimate miracle — the peace, plenitude, health and Divine wisdom for the entire world that will be experienced in the Messianic Era.

Submitted by Rabbi Y. Laufer of Chabad House, Providence.

*Wishing all a Happy Holiday and Happy Chanukah*

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## Wine Spectator Magazine Gives Baron Herzog Wines Outstanding Reviews

Baron Herzog Winery has always been regarded as a producer of some of the finest kosher wines. Now with the introduction of its ultra premium reserve wines, the winery has become, according to top industry critics, a purveyor of outstanding wines with a well-deserved reputation for excellence beyond its kosher niche. In fact, recent reviews have catapulted Baron Herzog into the ranks of the best wineries in the country.

A recent article in *Wine Spectator*, the industry's top trade publication, described the Herzog Special Edition 1995 Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon as "impressive," and a "richly textured and classically proportioned wine." This was followed in the most recent edition of *Wine Spectator* with an "outstanding" 93 rating and ecstatic descriptions such as "rich, ripe and creamy in texture," and "the core of the fruit is dazzling." The review concludes with further praise, "Finishes with a long, clean aftertaste of smoky oak and Cabernet flavors."

The 1996 Russian River Valley Reserve Chardonnay was also recently given an excellent 88 score in *Wine Spectator*. This wine was glowingly described as "smooth, ripe and creamy," and "elegant and refined." The review ended with the enthusiastic pronouncement "An impressive new wine from Herzog."

According to Nathan Herzog, vice president of the Baron Herzog brand, "Several years ago, we embarked on our 'Reserve' program with the charge to our wine maker, Peter Stern, to make the best wines possible. We are pleased that our efforts have borne fruit. The high quality of the wines has served to increase the already fine international reputation of the entire Herzog line as well as that of Mr. Stern." We look forward to more impressive wines from Herzog as it continues to set the standard for quality in kosher winemaking and maintain its reputation as a producer of excellent wines for kosher as well as non-kosher wine buyers.

Swan Liquor, 806 Hope St., Providence, offers customers a variety of kosher wines from the Baron Herzog Winery.

## Temple Beth-El Holds Annual Chanukah Party Dec. 13

Fishel Bresler and his Hot Shots will entertain everyone once again at this year's Finkel Family First Night of Chanukah Celebration at Temple Beth-El. Bresler has studied klezmer music with contemporary master, Andy Statman, for more than a decade. Last year he replaced Statman on the first half of a national Jewish music tour with noted mandolinist David Grisman. Bresler has also played bluegrass, classical and country-rock and is well-known as a vaudevillian and storyteller. He is currently on the faculty at the Providence Hebrew Day School and The Music School.

Klezmer music is the laughing, crying, wailing, heartfelt instrumental music of Eastern European Jewish life. Having developed over many centuries, it incorporates the musical influences from the Rumanian, Hungarian, Slavic and Middle Eastern cultures. At the heart of all of this is the spiritual yearning of the Jewish soul in all of its many moods. It will be

a treat for your ears and your hearts that you won't want to miss.

An outdoor candlelighting, beginning at 6 p.m. will precede the festivities and will be led by members of the Temple's youth groups. Refreshments, including latkes and punch,

will be served at 6:15 p.m. by the Sisterhood at a reception in the Silverstein Meeting Hall immediately following the candlelighting.

The evening's events are free and open to all. Mark your calendar — Dec. 13, at 6 p.m. See you there!



Fishel Bresler and his Hot Shots

### Family Chanukah Festival at Chabad House

A Great Chanukah Festival for the entire family will be held at the Chabad House, 360 Hope Street, on Dec. 20 at 1 p.m. with the Chanukah Circus Show!

There will be balloon creations, dreidel tournament, door prizes and refreshments.

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## Jewish Artists Make a Strong Showing at First Night

Rhode Island's dynamic Jewish heritage is cause for celebration, and nowhere is that more evident than at First Night '99, where several local talents are being showcased in downtown Providence on New Year's Eve.

Bresler's Klezmer Hotshots transform the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Rhode Island building at 444 Westminster St. into a rollicking cafe, where coffee and cocoa can be enjoyed amid the happy din of clarinets, accordions, and mandolins. The Hotshots are masters of the baleful, exuberant songs of the Eastern European Jews, and they never miss an opportunity to arouse an audience's passions with their catchy, irresistible tunes. They play three sets at 7:30, 8:30 and 9:30 p.m.

Wendy Klein directs the Rhode Island Youth Ensemble's Swing Dance Band at a swing dance party at the Rhode Is-

land Convention Center, Exhibition Hall D, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. This is a pull-out-all-the-stops performance of horns and hoofing that brings the ensemble together with area high school jazz bands.

The hot, new Jewish Theatre Ensemble, a program of Providence's Jewish Community Center, makes a guest appearance at the Writer's Circle at 9 p.m. at the Mathewson Street Church Sanctuary. The ensemble performs "40 years of Bad Road," a comic and musical parody of the biblical tale of the Jews' trek from Egypt to Canaan. The song and dance parodies, written and directed by Jules Gelade, are set to modern rock, show tunes and standards.

The Jewish community's artistic contributions to First Night help to make this family-oriented, alcohol-free event the most international in the 14-year history of the festival.

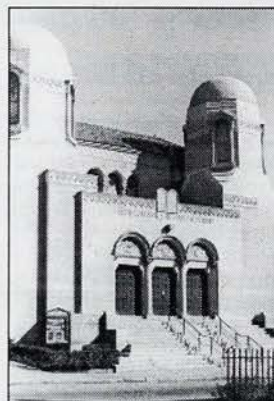
## Happy Chanukah From Temple Beth El

Dec. 11 at 7 p.m. (Chapel) — Temple Beth El will hold a pre-Chanukah Family Service. Rabbi William Kaufman will explain the history, meaning and customs of Chanukah. Refreshments are available following the service.

Dec. 12 at 10 a.m. (Chapel) — Weekly portion: Vayeshev. Torah lesson by Rabbi Kaufman. Kiddush — refreshments prepared by Rose Juda.

Dec. 18 at 5:30 p.m. (Chapel) — Rabbi Kaufman will deliver a Chanukah message.

Dec. 19 at 10 a.m. (Chapel) — The Shabbat of Chanukah;



Rosh Hodesh Tevet (the beginning of the new Hebrew month of Tevet). Weekly portion: Miketz. Chanukah Torah Lesson by Rabbi Kaufman. Kiddush — refreshments prepared by Rose Juda.

Dec. 25 at 5:30 p.m. (Chapel). Sermon

Dec. 26 at 10 a.m. (Chapel). Weekly portion: Vayigsh. Torah lesson by Rabbi Kaufman. Kiddush — refreshments, prepared by Rose Juda.

\*\*\*

Temple Beth El is located at 385 High St., Fall River, Mass.

## Tifereth Israel Congregation Presents 'A Chanukah Chappening'

The Sisterhood of Tifereth Israel and the Ziskind School of Judaism present "A Chanukah Chappening" on Dec. 13 at 4:30 p.m.

There will be a Chanukah Art Workshop with Judith Klein, lighting of the first Chanukah candle, dinner, and story telling by Daniel Kertzner. The cost is \$8 for adults, seniors \$7, children \$5, and families \$25.

The menu includes rosemary chicken leg or veggie burger, homemade latkes, applesauce, green salad, cookies and fruit, coffee, tea and punch. Call (508) 997-3171 to make reservations.

Tifereth Israel Congregation is located at 145 Brownell Ave., New Bedford, Mass.

## Stars of David Will Host Chanukah Party A Jewish Adoption Support Network

The Stars of David, an organization that provides educational and social programs to Jewish and partly Jewish adoptive families, is having a Chanukah Party on Dec. 20 at 5 p.m. The celebration takes place at Temple Emanu-El in Providence. Dinner and entertainment are provided along with the company of families that can relate to each other.

Call Roberta K. Schneider at 431-0728 for reservations and to learn more about the other programs held during the year.

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# International Flavors Spice First Night Performance

Never before has there been so abundant a feast of world talent in downtown Providence on New Year's Eve than is on the menu for First Night Providence '99. Renowned artists from Spain, India, Italy and the Native American West add spice to the festival's customarily savory stew of ethnic attractions. Flavor with a new series of mini-festivals, and Rhode Island's premier arts event becomes a virtual banquet of exotic delights.

Now in its 14th year, First Night Providence's festival of the arts is a streamlined, easy-to-navigate, weatherproof masquerade for the whole family. Beginning Dec. 31 at 2 p.m. with dozens of kid-sized entertainments, First Night features some 1,000 artists in hundreds of acts all over downtown. The evening concludes 10 hours later as the Cardi's Furniture Fireworks Display explodes into a blazing performance in the sky.

Dazzling new acts from near and far join a beloved local cavalcade of music, dance, theater, puppetry, illusion and derring-do to make this festival the most memorable in First Night history. Revelers can expect ev-

everything from howling saxophones to peppery flamenco to cockamamie opera to rip-roaring reggae.

Among the afternoon delights is Kevin Locke, a Lakota Indian whose astonishing dance with 28 hoops is both a beautiful visual spectacle and a feat of exceptional dexterity. He performs at the Rhode Island Convention Center, where most afternoon activities are held, and offers an evening encore at the University of Rhode Island/Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Continuing Education.

Other daytime attractions are the Cycling Murrays, a family of daredevil musical unicyclists included in the interactive Imagination Market, and, at the Providence Performing Arts Center, the Fred Garbo Inflatable Theater Company. With a huff and a puff, Garbo's wearable props grow into enormous visual wonders that prance, roll and bounce in a mesmerizing show of pneumatic wizardry.

At 5 p.m., children can participate in the Grand Procession playing one of Bob Bloom's hundreds of drums, parading alongside the Big Nazo Puppets, marching beneath Flock Theatre's Cloaks of Time or cavorting with the wildly costumed members of Squonk Opera.

Following a splash of early pyrotechnics at 5:30 p.m., the nighttime fun begins.

Among the international headliners is Noche Flamenca, a fiery Spanish troupe of dancers, singers and guitarists who've earned rave reviews in the *New York Times* for the explosive authenticity of their gypsy-inspired flamenco. Noche Flamenca performs three sets at the Providence Performing Arts Center.

A quite different note is struck by Sandip Burman, one of India's most famous tabla drum players, in concert at Beneficent Congregational Church. And hailing from Verona, Italy, is Good Will, a madcap troupe of players performing a comical, stunt-studded revue of some of Shakespeare's most famous and notorious characters, at the Convention Center.

Other programs with an international focus are the Rhode Island Philharmonic's Symphonic Safari of world dance tunes at Veteran's Memorial Auditorium, and Lenahan, one of the foremost bands in the new Celtic rock movement, at the Convention Center. Nourhan Sharif brings the exotic gyrations of Middle East-

ern temple dancing to the RISD Museum gallery containing the "Gifts of the Nile" exhibit. Two lively bands, Wildest Dreams and Los Pleneros del Coco, join forces for a World Music Dance Party at the Convention Center.

A first in programming this year is the presentation of mini-festivals, and there are three from which to choose:

1) Gospel lovers will rejoice at the extended performance at Grace Church of the Gospel Jubilee followed by back-to-back performances of Clarence Thompson Sr. and The New Spirits.

2) The Celtic Mini-Festival features the 4th Street String Band at Beneficent Church and Bonner and Friends at the Fleet Center Galleria, in addition to the aforementioned Lenahan at the Convention Center.

3) The Spoken Word Mini-Festival presents a live, 41/2-hour showcase of scribes reading from their work at Mathewson Street Sanctuary, and separate poetry slams by kids and adults in the Convention Center rotunda.

Other don't-miss attractions are the scorching, energetic sounds of jazz saxophonist Cercie Miller, and the laid-back lyricism of acoustic songster Greg Greenway. Tape Art makes its First Night debut with the creation of a gigantic mural, and the new Fleet Skating Center in Kennedy Plaza opens for its first New Year's Eve.

There are hundreds more events. To help revelers plan, First Night offers a free Official Guide to Events, available in most public spaces and wherever buttons are sold. The buttons are \$7 before Dec. 25 and \$9 after at hundreds of locations. For even greater savings, "Value 4-Packs" are available for \$24 until Dec. 25 only at AAA locations, BankBoston branches, the Rhode Island Mall Customer Service Booth, Books on the Square, and through the First Night office.

Free RIPTA use for button-wearers, Park 'N' Ride service, a discount parking coupon for the Rhode Island Convention Center garage, and complimentary shuttle buses make transportation to and within the festival easy for everyone. Information on all these services and the coupon can be found in the First Night program.

## Celebration at Warwick Mall

The largest Chanukah celebration in Rhode Island will be held at the Warwick Mall on Dec. 13 at 4 p.m., featuring the Maccabean Fire-Throwers and Jugglers, a musical program, hot latkes, dreidels, Chanukah gelt, and a children's program. Dignitaries will address the gathering.

For information call CHAI Center at 273-7238.

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## Chanukah Cookies Available For Dogs With Discerning Palate

by Noma Faingold  
Jewish Bulletin of  
Northern California

SAN FRANCISCO (JTA) — Dreidel-shaped cookies for dog's don't sound that absurd once you've entered Pat Tebeau's world, which is going to the dogs — literally.

After 20 years as a marketing manager mainly in the fashion industry, the San Franciscan wanted to take her career in a more whimsical direction.

Three years ago, her offbeat entrepreneurial spirit led her to start her own company, Smiling Dog, which caters to canine comfort in the manner that the Williams-Sonoma company nurtures yuppie gourmets. Tebeau's even bolder vision is to be the Martha Stewart for dogs.

"We really wanted to have fun and celebrate our pets the way people celebrate their children," she said. "It's no different. People pamper their pets. They'll cut back on themselves before their pet."

Smiling Dog is marketing dreidel cookies and other all-

natural, low-fat, sugar-free, salt-free treats, such as brownies, truffles and bone-shaped biscuits. They come in carob, cheese and peanut butter flavors. The doggy delicacies are currently available at pet and specialty gift shops as well as



by phone and on the company's Web site.

"We've sold a lot of dreidels all across the country. More people want dreidels than Christmas cookies," she said.

The Chanukah treat idea came about when a few of Tebeau's Jewish friends complained about not being able to find pet novelty gifts for Chanukah. Once the dreidel became

part of the seasonal baker line last year, she sent samples to her friends. "They laughed," she said. "But they really wanted them."

The Spike's Dog Bakery label, named after the couple's 7-year-old dog, is being test marketed in 21 Target stores across the United States. A geographically themed souvenir line is being tested in a number of major airport shops.

Occasionally, unsuspecting guests mistake her confections for people food. "But they like them and there's nothing in them people can't eat," she said.

Smiling Dog appears to be on the verge of beaming. Next Year, Tebeau is planning to launch a home line — beds, car seat covers, bowls and placemats — along with clothing and accessories.

What's next? His-and-her outdoorsy fragrances, signature beach towels and a kosher line of canned meat?

"I want to build an empire," Tebeau said, "on the taste level of Ralph Lauren or Calvin Klein."

## Old-Fashioned Lebkuchen Dallas Style

A famous Lebkuchen baker was Minnie Marcus, whose husband founded the department store Neiman-Marcus. Her recipe appeared in *5000 Years in the Kitchen*, a cookbook first published in 1965 by the Sisterhood of Temple Emanuel in Dallas.

It is a perfect pareve dessert and one that tastes better the longer it sits. Citron was used in southern Germany and very old recipes used honey instead of sugar. Chocolate and pecans were added in the United States. Emme Sue Frank, one of the finest Lebkuchen bakers in Dallas, Tx., makes "lepkuchen," as she pronounces it, at her home and sends the cookies as gifts each year to Marcus' son, Stanley, around the Chanukah-Christmas holidays.

### Lebkuchen

Yield: 30 squares

- 4 squares unsweetened chocolate
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 1 cup molasses
- 4 large eggs plus 2 large egg yolks
- 1 tsp. allspice
- 1/2 tsp. ground cloves
- 2 tsp. cinnamon
- 2 1/2 cups flour
- dash of salt
- 2 tsp. baking powder
- 2 cups chopped pecans

### Icing

- 1 cup sugar
- 1/3 cup water
- Pinch of salt
- 2 large egg whites

1. To make the cookies, melt the chocolate in a double boiler. Cool.

2. Mix together the sugar and the molasses and add to it the whole eggs, the yolks, and the spices. Beat well.

3. Mix the four and the dash of salt and the baking powder and stir into the sugar mixture. Fold in the pecans.

4. Cover two jelly-roll pans with sloping sides with aluminum foil and then grease. Divide the dough in two and spread on the sheets. Bake in a preheated 375-degree oven. After 5 minutes shake the pans. Shake again after 5 more minutes. Bake for 17 minutes in all.

5. Remove from the oven and cool slightly. Then flip the entire cake onto a cookie sheet and flip again onto a cooling board.

6. To make the icing, mix the sugar with the water in a saucepan. Stirring constantly, bring to a boil and continue cooking over medium heat to the soft ball stage, when a small quantity of syrup dropped into ice water forms a ball that does not disintegrate. Cool slightly.

7. Add the salt to the egg whites and beat until stiff. Fold the whites into the sugar mixture and stir over the heat until very white and thick. Cook and spread over the two Lebkuchen sheets when cool. Cut into 2-inch squares.

Tip: These keep very well in plastic containers. Whenever I make Lebkuchen for my family, the cookies vanish instantly.

From the pages of Joan Nathan's latest cookbook, *Jewish Cooking in America*, Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 1994, 1998.



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# The Signature Dish of Chanukah Hits The Big Time

by Linda Morel

NEW YORK (JTA) — Potato latkes are Chanukah's signature dish, not because of the potato — but because of the oil. Potatoes did not exist in the Holy Land when the ancient Israelites triumphed over the Syrians.

During what may have been the region's first oil crisis, a 24-hour supply of oil lasted eight days. For that reason, oil is the heart of Chanukah, and any food fried in oil, no matter how sweet, is a fitting tribute to the celebration.

The Viennese, the dessert mavens of the world, were not content to leave latkes in skil-

lets. Elevating them to creamy crepes layered with applesauce, they concocted a torte as elegant as Vienna, a perfect finale to dairy meals.

Like carrot cakes, carrot latkes have hit the dessert circuit, too. Infused with vanilla and almonds, they are dusted with confectioners' sugar. Don't worry if they cool; they're irresistible at room temperature too.

Inspired by seasonal fruit, cranberry latkes are an American contribution to Chanukah cuisine. With orange juice and raisins playing counterpoint to tart berries, they burst with piquant flavor.

## Viennese Layer Latkes

2 16-ounce jars applesauce  
1/2 tsp. cinnamon  
1/4 tsp. nutmeg  
1/4 tsp. ground cloves  
1/4 cup brown sugar  
6 eggs  
2 cups small-curd cottage cheese  
1/4 cup sweet butter, melted; plus 4 pats  
6 Tbsp. flour  
1/4 tsp. salt  
1 tsp. sugar  
1/2 tsp. vanilla  
Stick-free cooking spray  
1 cup walnuts, finely ground  
Confectioners' sugar

1. Combine applesauce, spices and brown sugar in saucepan. Boil over medium heat for about 5 minutes, stirring often. Let cool.

2. In large bowl, place eggs, beating until foamy.

3. Add cheese, 1/4 cup butter, flour, salt, sugar and vanilla, beating well.

4. Divide batter into eight bowls.

5. Coat an 8-inch, non-stick frying pan and an 8-inch springform pan with cooking spray.

6. Place frying pan on medium flame, melting half pat of butter.

7. Pour batter from first bowl into frying pan, spreading evenly.

8. Brown lightly. Turn crepe, browning on other side.

9. Move crepe to springform pan. Coat with applesauce.

Sprinkle with walnuts.

10. Repeat steps 6 to 9, layering eight crepes.

11. Bake 10 minutes at 350 degrees, until heated through. Take from oven, place on plate, and remove sides. Sprinkle with confectioners sugar. Cut into 10 wedges.

## Carrot Latkes

4 large carrots, grated  
1/2 cup blanched almonds, finely grated

2 eggs

1/2 cup flour

1/2 tsp. vanilla

3 Tbsp. sugar

Corn oil

Confectioners' sugar

1. In large bowl, mix carrots, almonds, eggs, flour, vanilla and sugar.

2. On medium flame, heat oil in 2 large skillets, adding as needed.

3. By scant tablespoons, drop batter in skillet, flattening with spoon.

4. Turn when golden, repeating until both sides brown, about 12 minutes. Don't undercook.

5. Drain on paper towels.

6. Dust with confectioners sugar. Yield 24.

## Cranberry Latkes

12-ounce bag cranberries

1/2 15 oz. box golden raisins

1/2 cup orange juice

2 cups sugar

1 cup flour

2 eggs

Corn oil

Whipped cream or non-dairy whipped topping

1. In large pot, simmer cranberries in 3/4 cup water, until they pop.

2. Add raisins, juice and sugar, mixing well. Boil until mixture thickens, about 15 minutes. Let cool.

3. Add flour and eggs, mixing with large spoon.

4. In two skillets, heat oil on low flame.

5. Drop batter by tablespoons into skillets, flattening with spoon.

6. Turn when golden. As latkes can burn, turn often until both sides are light brown yet soft (about 20 minutes).

7. Drain on paper towels.

8. Serve with whipped topping. Yield 36.



Children in Israel celebrating Chanukah.

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# Chanukah Art Contest

## Third Place Winners



10- to 13- Years Old:  
Jenny Kessler



7- to 9- Years Old:  
Brahna Kessler



4- to 6- Years Old:  
Tova Gerber

### CONTEST ENTRANTS, AGES 10 TO 13

Becket Tobak, 10  
Virginia Leary, 10  
Shaina Lamchick, 10  
Rachel Yidanc, 10  
Jenny Kessler, 11  
Nava Winkler, 10

### CONTEST ENTRANTS, AGES 7 TO 9

Jennifer Rose Dinerman, 7  
Rachell Isser, 9  
Rachel Wolfe, 8  
Matthew Parker, 8  
Brittany Lynn Katz, 8

Brooke Hanna, 8  
Geoffrey Pedrick, 8  
Shifra Albert Andelman, 8  
Elisheva Krakowski, 8  
Toby Haldersen, 8  
Atara Kaufman, 8  
Daniella Shriki, 8  
Miriam Diamond, 8  
Yosef Nissel, 8  
Shaully Lipson, 9 1/2  
Brahna Kessler, 9  
Moshe Aron Raskin, 8  
Yehuda Weiner, 8  
Yisroel Meir Jakubowicz, 9  
Charles Winkelman, 9 1/2  
Kara Kaplan, 7

### CONTEST ENTRANTS, AGES 4 TO 6

Micah Isser, 6  
Rochel Haldorsen, 6  
Chani Diamond, 6  
Shira Nissel, 6  
Hannah Kessler, 6  
Sonia Felder, 6  
Nechama Cusano, 6  
Tova Gerber, 6  
Azriel Jakubowicz, 6  
Max Bessler, 6

The Award Party will be held on December 17, 3:00 to 4 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center

All contest entrants are invited

If you have any questions, call Kim at 724-0200

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