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# Rhode Island Jewish HERALD

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## The Changing of Rhode Island's Jewish Funeral Industry

by Emily Torgan-Shalansky and Kimberly Orlandi

In an acquisition bound to further alter the changing Jewish funeral industry in Rhode Island, Service Corporation International of Houston, Texas, the world's largest funeral chain, has bought the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel.

On May 27, Max Sugarman Funeral Director Lewis Bosler confirmed that he had sold the chapel to SCI and will stay on to run the business.

SCI, which at the time of publication had not returned reporters' phone calls, is an international corporation listed on the New York Stock Exchange. It has about 35,000 employees and nearly 3,700 funeral service location cemeteries worldwide. In 1997, it grossed more than \$2.5 billion in total revenues.

Formerly a small, financially troubled and independently operated funeral parlor, Bosler said that little at Max Sugarman has changed except its dramatically different ownership.

"Things will stay the same,"

said Bosler, who has served as the funeral director for 29 years. "We will keep the same staff, the same facilities, the same prices and the same approach. The only thing that will change is that we will be able to upgrade our building and provide more services."



Louis J. Bosler

The acquisition marks another major change for the Jew-

ish funeral scene. In 1998, SCI purchased the nearby Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel.

For nearly 25 years, Mount Sinai and Max Sugarman were the only funeral chapels in Rhode Island to provide exclusively Jewish funeral services.

Formerly bitter rivals, they will now become parts of the same corporation.

According to Bosler, although the memorial chapels will maintain their separate buildings, he and Mount Sinai Funeral Director Jill Sugarman have no desire to continue the long-standing feud.

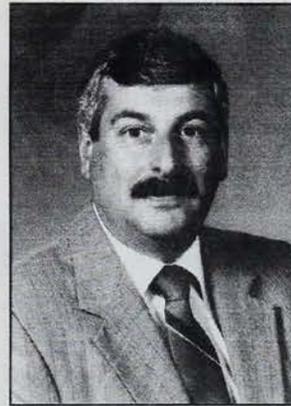
"Jill and I are just getting to know each other," he said. "We do not want to carry on the animosity that our fathers started. Our dealings with each other have been very positive and mutually helpful."

Initially, Bosler resisted SCI's attempts to purchase his business in U.S. District Court, where he raised anti-trust and anti-competition issues, while simultaneously plagued by a long-standing bankruptcy case that has been in federal bankruptcy court for about 16 years.

"We came to an agreement," said Bosler of his dealings with SCI, which will also resolve the

long-standing bankruptcy. "I'm very relieved that it's all behind me."

The acquisitions mean that



Michael D. Smith

the recently formed Shalom Memorial Chapel in Cranston will be Rhode Island's only independently owned and operated Jewish funeral home.

"I think it's taken the heart out of the funeral service," said Smith about the merger. "The business itself is very personal, and when you add a large corporation to the equation, it tends

to lose some of the personal touches and specialized services."

For Smith, the most important aspect of now being the only independently owned funeral home is his ability to see a family's funeral arrangements through, from beginning to end. According to Smith, that's an important factor for families and for Smith as well. A hands-on director, Smith believes in personalization and customer contact, something, according to Smith, which can often be lost in the corporate world. Corporations mean stock earnings, projections and losses and when something goes awry and throws those earnings off, there is a board of directors to answer to, which is not the case in an operation independently owned.

"It's not about the bottom line for me," said Smith. "It's about people. I think it puts less stress on families when they just have one person to handle all of their arrangements," said Smith. Although it is still too early to determine the impact the sale will have on him, he is very pleased with his business thus far.

"I've met my projections, and I'm thrilled with my location," said Smith.

### NEWS AT A GLANCE

- Following a recent working meeting between outgoing Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak, government sources said that there were three areas of progress on the Syria track *Ha'aretz* reported. They said that the Syrians understood that Israel would insist on moving back Syrian strike forces inside Syria beyond the demilitarized and limited forces zones in and around the Golan. The sources would not go so far as saying that Syria accepted the Israeli position regarding Syrian strike units, but insisted that they understood the position. Second, the Syrians agreed that Israelis could work at the Mt. Herman early warning station, so long as they were employed by the Americans or the French that would be in charge of the actual station. Third, the Syrians agreed that any peace treaty it signs with Israel would automatically be accompanied by a separate peace treaty between Israel and Lebanon. According to Netanyahu's diplomatic advisor, Uzi Arad, Israel did not discuss territorial withdrawal.
- A leading rabbi says Pope John Paul II is planning to visit Israel next March, *Ha'aretz* reported. Rabbi David Rosen, director of the Israel office of the Anti-Defamation League and president of the International Council of Christians and Jews, said that the visit is expected to encourage millions of Christians to participate in millennium celebrations in Israel. Rabbi Rosen expressed optimism that millions of Christian pilgrims will be encouraged to visit Israel next year after the pope's visit, despite skepticism in the tourist industry. Rosen also praised recent efforts by the Catholic Church to combat anti-Semitism. Rosen made his comments during a lecture on Catholic-Jewish relations at Tel Aviv University in which he also reviewed recent changes in the attitude of the pope and the Catholic Church toward the Jewish people.
- The Dutch parliament recently approved the report of its commission of inquiry into the 1992 crash of an El Al Boeing 747 cargo jet in Amsterdam, which cleared Israel's national airline, *The Jerusalem Post* reported. The commission was established after residents of the Amsterdam suburb of Bijlmer, where the cargo plane crashed, complained of a flurry of mysterious ailments, giving rise to theories regarding the plane's content.



### Etched in Marble

On June 6, 1944, American troops landed on the beaches of Normandy, France, to the gun power of the German occupation. The landing, D-Day, was one of the deadliest encounters of World War II. More than 300,000 fathers, sons, brothers and husbands gave their lives gallantly on the battle fields of Europe in an effort to preserve American freedom and democracy, both at home and abroad. This ceremonial and commemorative area at the Rhode Island Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Exeter, is a place of quiet reflection and solemn remembrance for the men who gave their lives so that future generations could live in freedom. The cemetery, built in 1974, recently celebrated its 25th anniversary on May 31, Memorial Day. The cemetery is the final resting place of 13,000 veterans, their spouses and dependent children.

Herald photo by Kimberly A. Orlandi

# HAPPENINGS

## Entertainment For Children

The Providence Children's Museum, 100 South St., Providence announces the following activities. Call 273-KIDS.

### June

- 10 **Play & Learn.** From 3 to 4:30 p.m., kids ages 2 to 4 play games that test their ever-expanding range of skills while exploring the fascinating nooks and crannies of Littlewoods.
- 11 **Free at Five on Fridays.** The museum is open from 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Admission is free for everyone from 5 to 8 p.m., courtesy of Metropolitan Life Foundation.



**Preschool Friday: Scienterrific.** From 9:40 a.m. to 1:50 p.m., effervescent kids ages 3 to 5 learn the basics about bubbles and create all shapes and sizes using homemade wands. Wee bubblemasters try to make a bubble inside a bubble, blow great big bubbles and teeny, tiny ones. Pre-registration for an eight-week series is recommended for this program. Call 273-KIDS, ext. 234 for enrollment information. Same-day registration at the admissions desk may be available, space pending. There is a \$1 fee above the price of admission for same-day registration.

- 13 **Sculpture Culture.** At 1 and 2 p.m., children ages 5 and up wrap their fingers around the inspiring artistic medium of clay as local artist Diana Jackson guides children through the creative process of sculpting animal art. Inspired by photos of Rhode Island wildlife, kids mold and shape softened plasticine into wildly imaginative beasts. Same-day registration for these two 45-minute sessions is available at the admissions desk. There is no additional charge for this program.

- 15 **Kaleidoscope Crazy.** From 3 to 4:30 p.m., children ages 5 and up view shapes in whole new ways using light-scattering mirrors and geometric tiles, creating patterns that boggle the brain.



- 16 **Water Art.** From 3 to 3:45 p.m., children ages 5 and up experiment with the mysterious science of chromatography. Kids learn how water separates colors into their primary partners while making beautiful flowers out of coffee filters, felt pens and water.

## Calendar: June 10th thru June 16th

- 10 **The Pawtucket Red Sox** take on Richmond June 10 through 13 at McCoy Stadium. Call 724-7300.  
It's a "Psycho Beach Party" at NewGate Theatre, 134 Mattewson St., Providence. The hilarious play is a simultaneous send-up of '60s beach movies and 40s psychological thrillers. June 10 through 26. Call 421-9680.  
**The Warwick Musical Theatre** presents Brooks & Dunn, with Deryl Dodd. 8 p.m. The box office is now open or call 821-7300.
- 11 **Temple Torat Yisrael**, Cranston, presents an evening with Dr. Alan Cooper, professor of Bible at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York. 7:30 p.m. and after Saturday morning services. Call 785-1800.  
**Tony Bennett** brings his sultry sound to Foxwoods Resort and Casino, Ledyard, Conn., June 11 and 12 at 9 p.m., and June 13 at 7 p.m. Tickets \$55 to \$82.50. Call (800) 200-2882.  
**R.I. Senior Olympic** kickoff at Laurelmead, 355 Blackstone Boulevard, Providence, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Food, fun and music.
- 12 **33rd annual Gaspee Day Parade**, Pawtuxet Village, Broad Street and Narragansett Parkway, Warwick. 10 a.m.  
**The third annual Country West Fest!** June 12 and 13. A festive country western celebration with country music, southwestern cuisine and a marketplace tent. Newport Yachting Center, 4 Commercial Wharf, Newport. Call 846-1600.  
**Rhode Island National Guard** open house and air show. Quonset State Airport, 7 Flightline Drive, N. Kingstown. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 886-4400.  
**K&S Ballroom Dance** at the Knights of Columbus, 1047 Park Ave., Cranston. Foxtrot from 7 to 8 p.m. with dancing until midnight. \$10 per person. Call 821-4108.  
**Paddle The Bay** to benefit Save The Bay. Paddlers of all abilities welcome! Call 295-4400.  
**The West Bay Chorale** presents their gala 20th anniversary concert at Toll Gate High School, Warwick. Featured selections from George and Ira Gershwin, as well as music by Daniel Pinkham and Randall Thompson. A reception and party will follow. Tickets \$8 advance; \$10 at the door. Tickets for the reception are \$10. Call 737-4275.
- 13 **The Jewish 49ers** are having a picnic on Boston Harbor's Georges Island. Bring a picnic lunch or buy one there. Meet at Long Wharf at 10:30 a.m. for the 11 a.m. ferry. \$7 round-trip. Call (508) 872-6533.  
**Temple Reyim**, 1860 Washington St., W. Newton, Mass., invites the community to a lecture by the Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston entitled "Online Genealogy Research — A Resource or an Invasion of Privacy?" 2 to 5 p.m., \$3 non-members. Call (617) 796-8522.  
**The AJP sponsors** a Moose Hill Hike at the Moose Hill Wildlife Sanctuary, Sharon, Mass. 11 a.m. The 2-hour hike will be followed by tea and cookies. \$6 members; \$8 non-members. Call (508) 650-1829.  
**The JWV State Department** is having their annual convention on June 13, at Temple Am David, 40 Gardiner St., Warwick, RI. A complimentary breakfast will be at 9 a.m. Former Governor Bruce Sundlum will be the guest speaker.
- 15 **"A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum,"** plays at the Theatre-by-the-Sea, 364 Cards Pond Rd., Matunuck, June 15 through 30. Call 782-8587.  
**The Cranston Public Library**, 140 Sockanosset Cross Rd., presents an exhibit of landscape photography by Zackarie James Bradshaw and Margery D. Bradshaw. June 15 through 30. An opening reception will be held June 21 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Call 943-9080.
- 16 **Bryant College** hosts "World Trade Day 1999: Exploring Global Commerce Year 2000 and Beyond." Interactive workshops, experts in international trade, and luncheon. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$100 ticket. Call 232-6407.  
**The "Gershwin Remembered Film Series"** continues at the Barrington Public Library, 281 County Rd., with the showing of "An American in Paris." 7:30 p.m. Call 247-1920.

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## Internet Training Sessions

The Cranston Public Library, 140 Sockanosset Cross Road, will be offering Internet training sessions from June 10 through Aug. 20. The sessions are for adults and will address such topics as computer basics, Internet searching, and obtaining an e-mail account.

Participants must have a valid library card and register for Internet use. More information may be obtained and appointments may be made in person or by calling 943-9080, ext. 4.

## Mark the Spots!

Roger Williams Park Zoo Hosts 'Spots Days'

Snow leopards, cheetahs, and giraffes will be the stars of Roger Williams Park Zoo's "Spots Days" on June 13 and 20.

Each day from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., the zoo will host storytelling and craft activities in the event tent. There will be riddle raffles that "spotlight" spotted inhabitants along with special animal presentations at the giraffe, snow leopard and cheetah exhibits. All child participants in Spots Days activities who also wear spots will receive a special spotted surprise.

Spots days activities are free with regular zoo admission. Roger Williams Park Zoo is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekends until 6 p.m. Admission is \$6 for adults, \$3.50 for children 3 to 12 and seniors. For more information, call 785-3510, ext. 320.



## Directory to this week's Herald

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT .....	12-13
CLASSIFIED .....	15
FEATURE .....	5-7
HAPPENINGS .....	2
HEALTHWISE .....	8-9
JEWISH COMMUNITY .....	3, 10-11
OBITUARIES .....	14
OPINION .....	4

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### In Cranston

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

### Providence and Vicinity

Barney's, East Avenue, Pawtucket  
Books on the Square, Wayland Square  
(on Angell)  
College Hill Book Store, Thayer St.  
EastSide Marketplace, Pitman St.  
East Side Prescription Center, Hope St.  
J. Elliott's, Hope St.  
Rhoda's Judaica, Hope St.

# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Congressman Kennedy and Consul General of Israel to New England Itzhak Levanon Rally to Save Kosovo

by Emily Torgan-Shalansky  
Jewish Community Reporter  
"Never again."

Coined as the horrors of the Holocaust emerged to stun the world, the phrase became little more than a cliché when the international community failed to respond to Rwanda, or Liberia or Sierra Leone.

But on June 1, as Congressman Patrick J. Kennedy told a crowd at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island why he wanted NATO to prepare for a possible invasion of Kosovo, "never again" was readily embraced by a mostly Jewish audience.

As principal speaker at a rally that took place only days before Yugoslav leader Slobodan Milosovic agreed to peace talks with NATO, Kennedy boldly drew parallels between Albanian Kosovars and the Jews of Nazi-occupied Europe. "Genocide

does not begin with a gunshot to the head or a shovel filling in a mass grave," he said. "Rather, it begins with rules prescribing where a certain people can live, what language they can speak and what school they can attend." Looking back several centuries, Kennedy explained the historical events at the root of the conflict.

In 1389, he explained, Serbian Prince Lazar suffered a humiliating defeat at the hands of the Ottoman Turk Empire on a Kosovar plain.

After the Ottoman Turks took over, he said, human nature and history then combined to heal Serbia's wounded national pride, for over the years the Serbians turned their defeat into the "victory" of their Christian army, which they came to believe prevented the spread of Islam into Europe.

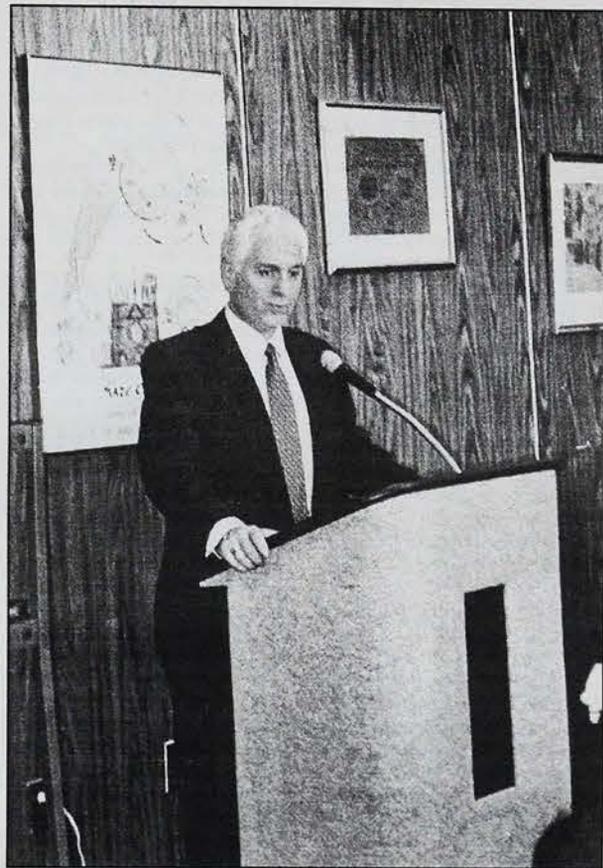
This myth, said Kennedy re-

mains a central part of the Serbian identity even though modern pre-war Kosovo had a 90 percent Muslim majority.

After the collapse of the Soviet Union and the eastern bloc, explained Kennedy, Milosovic harnessed these ethnic hatreds to propel his political career. Cyni-

"Genocide does not begin with a gunshot to the head or a shovel filling in a mass grave," he said. "Rather, it begins with rules prescribing where a certain people can live, what language they can speak and what school they can attend."

Congressman Patrick Kennedy



Consul General of Israel to New England Itzhak Levanon

## Community Rallies to Support Literacy

In May, Temple Emanu-El's Social Action Committee joined with the Rhode Island Jewish Coalition for Literacy to raise congregational awareness that volunteers are needed to work on reading skills with children in local schools.

Thanks to Marcy Cohen's arrangements, Sandra Rosenberg, chairperson of the Rhode Island Jewish Coalition for Literacy, and Ruth Goldstein, all spoke to the congregation during the services on May 22 (which was Shabbat, and the second day of Shavuot).

Rosenberg, who holds the degree of master of education, has extensive experience in effec-

tively teaching reading skills. Her talk presented the condition of literacy in Rhode Island schools (not too great), and the usefulness of volunteer reading helpers. Goldstein, who has worked as a volunteer in the program for a year, spoke of the wonderful rewards that the work with its person-to-person contact had brought her.

On May 23 the committee collected books appropriate for distribution in the Providence Public Schools. Almost 1,000 were given by members of Temple Emanu-El.

For further information about the program, call Sandra Rosenberg at 245-5952.

cally playing to a population frightened by the pending breakup of Yugoslavia and what it would mean for Kosovo, in 1989 Milosovic won his presidency on an anti-Muslim platform. Shortly thereafter, Milosovic began implementing his anti-Muslim policies, firing Kosovo Albanians from their jobs, evicting them from their homes, expelling them from schools and seizing their businesses.

"Does any of this sound familiar?" Kennedy asked the audience. "Of course it does. Change the names and dates and you have a picture-perfect snapshot of life in pre-war Nazi Germany."

Conjuring up images of devastated Albanian refugees and recalling the *St. Louis*, Kennedy blasted American isolationism.

"Milosovic is determined to cling to power, and to kill or expel every single Albanian in Kosovo," he said. "America cannot repeat the folly of the Second World War, where the decision was made not to bomb the rail lines that led to Auschwitz."

But not everyone sees the danger, said Kennedy.

"There are more than a few people in this country who are willing to turn a blind eye to this

genocide," he said. "James Baker, secretary of state for former President George Bush, declined to involve America in the early 1990s' slaughter in the Balkans by stating, 'We don't have a dog in that fight.'"

America, Kennedy said, should have intervened in genocides of Central Africa and must intervene now, not only to stop Milosovic but to stop other potential dictators from believing that their actions will be tolerated.

Next, Consul General of Israel to New England Itzhak Levanon swore to support Kosovo's Albanians for the same reasons.

"Who else but the Jewish people can understand this," he said, as he described the food, supplies and field hospital that tiny Israel had given to the refugees. "Fifty-two years ago we

were persecuted, and when we heard what was going on, we Jewish people were some of the first to get there."

Levanon also vowed to support Kennedy's position personally.

"I would like to answer his call not just with words, but with deeds," he said. "Wherever there are people suffering because of their race or religion, the Jewish people will be there."

Approximately one week later Kennedy Press Secretary Larry Berman said the congressman was skeptical about Milosovic's decision to discuss peace terms with NATO officials.

"Milosovic has broken his word before," said Berman. "[Kennedy] thinks the U.S. should provide no economic aid for rebuilding until Milosovic steps down."



BARBARA SIMON-OLSEN, of Temple Emanu-El Social Action Committee, helps collect books donated for the Providence Literacy Program. Photo courtesy of Temple Emanu-El



## Save the Bay's BayCamp



Exciting outdoor environmental education through hands-on, face-to-fin experiences with marine life and coastal habitats

BayCamp introduces your child to Narragansett Bay and the shoreline environment. Children will spend half of each day trawling for marine life and testing water quality aboard Project Oceanology's 65' research vessel. The other half of the day is spent exploring the bay's shoreline in canoes to learn about its coastal habitats.

When: July 26-30, Aug. 2-6 or Aug. 9-13

Cost: Save the Bay Members \$180

Non-Members \$210

Ages: 5th-9th grades

Where: Wickford Shipyard



Project Oceanology's EnviroLab

FOR INFORMATION, CALL **SAVE THE BAY** (401) 294-8250

# OPINION

## A Light of Nations

by Velvel 'Wally' Spiegler

It's a tough world out there. A steady stream of unhealthy messages — sex, violence, crime, drugs — continuously emanate from the media, movies, TV and advertising. Meanwhile, the American Jewish community looks on complacently and declares that this is the finest era for Jews in world history. Antisemitism is at an all time low, earned income is at an all-time high and we're nearly totally absorbed in secular American society. It's easy to arrive at such conclusions from the safety and comfort of elegant, suburban synagogues where the concern is focused on fund-raising and Israeli politics rather than the needs of the oppressed and the homeless. What, then, is our responsibility as Jews for the condition of the world?

I remember, some years ago, waiting in the lobby of a five-star Israeli hotel for a friend to pick me up. Nearby, a gathering of decidedly affluent, middle-aged, well-coiffed, American Jewish faces also wait for their tour bus to arrive. I eavesdrop a bit. In that 20 minutes or so I listened to chit chat about the best in vacations, clothes, cars, investment portfolios and restaurants in New York. I've heard these discussions many times before and in many places, so I had to seriously wonder how we're fulfilling our function as Jews. We were granted a special place here on earth in a commandment, a *mitzvah*, given to Moses just before his ascent to Sinai — "Indeed all the earth is Mine, but you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation." (Exodus 19:6)

There are times in my life when I enjoy a certain level of clarity. That's when I spend more time for myself, meditate more and exercise regularly. With that inner balance comes

an acute awareness of the imbalance of the world around me. I see the absurdity of newspaper gossip, of idle chatter on talk radio and mindless sitcoms on TV. It becomes clear how these sorts of stimulants program us to escape life. The message is clear. Feeling depressed? Go shopping. Eat something. Take a tranquilizer. Go see the new "Star Wars" movie. Do anything except sit still and feel the pain.

Just look at what's going on in America. What's at the root of all this craziness? I've seen studies lately that link unruly and disruptive teen behavior to issues of abandonment and neglect in children's formative years. Are we living with a generation of angry and hostile teenagers who were shipped off to day care centers rather than bonding with mom at home? Or are our youths so highly stimulated by this fast-paced electronic society that without sufficient and sustained excitement these kids wind up on Ritalin.

It's shameful to see how this world is decaying. Are we so bored that we crave talk show sensationalism like Jerry Springer and Jenny Jones, not to mention violent video games and vicious acid rock music? Or are we in so much pain that we need constant distraction? I'm no Laura Shlessinger or Jerry Falwell. I don't reach morality. I'm actually as liberal as one can get; but what happened to healthy values? Is nothing sacred any longer? Is everything a simple matter of personal choice? Are porn shops OK? What about bombing abortion clinics, racism and body tattooing?

How should Jews face these issues? How can we fulfill our role as a nation of priests? We are constantly bombarded with new challenges — tests of our

spiritual commitment — whether we want them or not. These are the everyday problems and heartaches each of us faces. Each experience is designed to stretch and strengthen us, to teach us how to transform and grow up. These tests are hard; some I think are impossible when they occur, but somehow we get through them. Fears are triggered, situations change, our integrity is threatened and the universe gives us a choice: either face the challenge or numb yourself, either you get on the spiritual path or run away.

Our model for spiritual living derives from our forefather, Abraham who faced, as the *Midrash* puts it, not one, but 10 agonizing ordeals. The classic story and the most trying was the command to sacrifice his son, his only son Isaac. It takes skill to deal with the tribulations of life with composure and equanimity. That, however, comes

(Continued on Page 15)

## A Real American Hero

by Martin J. O'Malley, Jr.  
Dear Fellow Americans:

Do you know the name of the man who was our number one World War II hero, and who also was a well-known Hollywood actor?

His name was Audie Murphy.

He won more awards — including the Medal of Honor — than any other combat soldier in World War II.

Just a farm boy from Texas, Murphy single-handedly killed more than 240 Nazis, and saved the lives of countless men in his division.

He is truly one of our great American heroes.

Yet the U.S. Postal Service has refused to honor his memory with a first class postage stamp.

The post office has put the cartoon character, Bugs Bunny, on a postage stamp.

But 54 years after the end of World War II there is still no postage stamp to honor our number one war hero of World

War II!

Murphy killed more than 240 enemy soldiers, was wounded three times, and won every single medal for valor that the Army could award a soldier.

But it was his bravery on Jan. 26, 1945, that earned him the Medal of Honor. That's the day Murphy stood on a burning tank, and single-handedly held off 6 German tanks and 250 Nazi infantrymen.

It didn't matter that the burning tank could have exploded at any minute. Or, that Nazi soldiers were shooting at him from three sides.

Murphy held his position for an hour until he finally ran out of ammunition.

By then he had killed 50 Nazis — by himself.

I ask all Americans to write our president and request an executive order for a first class stamp to be issued in his honor and, a life-size statue of him in the Rose Garden on the White House estate.

## The Answer Isn't Violence

Americans For a Safe Israel/AFSI is outraged by the Arab action whereby they declared "Days of Rage," beginning June 3, threatening violence in order to satisfy their demands. According to *Ha'aretz*, June 3, a Fatah statement distributed in Jerusalem read, "The protests will ignite the land under [the settlers'] feet until they leave our land forever." A Hamas statement called for "an escalation of protest acts against the occupiers and settlers." PA Parliament Speaker Ahmed Qureia demanded "an angry reaction from the Palestinian people," and PA Information Minister

Yasser Abed Rabbo said, "The situation is on the brink of an irreversible explosion."

Communities in Hebron, Bethlehem, Gaza, Judea, Samaria, and Jerusalem have already been assaulted. Fortunately, according to *IsraelLine* (June 4) Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak has said that, "If attacks resumed, there would be no peace process with the Palestinians." We hope that this is not mere rhetoric.

All this is happening against the backdrop of Syria's refusal to restrain the Hizbullah as the South Lebanon Army completed its withdrawal from the

Jezzine enclave in southern Lebanon. Even though the U.S. requested that Syria order a cessation of activity, Assad rejected the request. Once again violence and terror are proffered as "peace" offerings.

We are watching events in Israel with great trepidation. The 175,000 Jews living in Judea and Samaria must be helped to defend their homes, schools, farms and industries. The Golan must not be left to the mercy of the Syrian promises of peace. Yerushalayim — Jerusalem — must be kept undivided as the capital of Israel — and only

(Continued on Page 15)

## Believe in Yourself, and Trust in G-d

by Rabbi Michael Weinberg

This spring I spent the seventh day of Pesach at Kibbutz Yahel. As I drove through the Aravah, a dry valley that stretches from the Dead Sea down to Eilat, I was keenly aware that the scenery was very much the same as that viewed by the Israelites when Moses sent forth 12 scouts to explore the land of Canaan, as recorded in *Parashat Shelach-Lecha*. The wilderness is stunningly beautiful but barren. It is a seemingly endless expanse of sand and rock, punctuated by desert brush, mountains, and dry riverbeds that flood with the early spring runoff. The rugged terrain is both captivating and intimidating. Small wonder, then, that some of the Israelites feared they would perish there!

The report of the scouts needs to be read with that wilderness in mind. The initial report confirms that the land of Canaan is indeed a land flowing with milk and honey. The scouts deliberately portray the land's natural resources as offering great promise. They bring back a single cluster of grapes that is so large "it had to be borne on a carrying frame by two of them." (Numbers 13:23)

But more telling — and the ultimate downfall of 10 of the scouts — is the comment that appears at the end of their report. They say: "All the people that we saw in it are men of great size... We looked like grasshoppers to ourselves, and so we must have looked to them." (Numbers 13:32, 33)

In spite of the scouts' ability to see the natural potential of the land, they are unable to muster enough confidence in their own potential to take the land (with G-d's help). They acknowledge that their own lack of self-confidence ("We looked

spired them to bring back a positive, encouraging report. And not so our brothers and sisters who live on our own Reform Movement's Kibbutz Yahel. They could easily have been intimidated by the desolate terrain of the Aravah (which in no way flows with milk and honey). They could easily have felt dwarfed by the mountains and the daunting tasks before them. But they were not. They believed in themselves and in their cause. And with G-d's help, they are making the desert bloom! Their work is an inspiration to us all and deserves our attention and support.

For more information about Kibbutz Yahel, you can visit its website at <[www.ardom.co.il/desveg/yahel.htm](http://www.ardom.co.il/desveg/yahel.htm)>.

For further study, consider the following question: What specifically did the scouts mean when they described *Eretz Yisrael* as a "land flowing with milk and honey"? You may wish to begin with the comments of N. Hareuveni that are quoted in *The Torah Commentary* by Plaut on pages 1116-17.

Michael Weinberg is the rabbi of Temple Beth Israel in Skokie, Ill., and the vice chair of the Commission of Reform Jewish Education.

### RHODE ISLAND JEWISH HERALD

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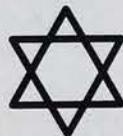
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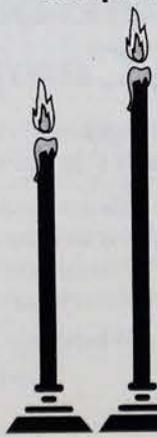
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### Candlelighting

June 11, 1999

8:02 p.m.



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

# FEATURE



## Pour for il Duce

by Mike Fink  
Herald Contributing Reporter

"Tea with Mussolini" stars Cher as a Jewish-American, former Ziegfeld girl, oft-married, fun-loving art collector trapped in fascist Florence. This reporter was surprised at the vitality of Franco Zeffirelli's personal memoir translated into a slight, but still impressive, motion picture.

Briefly, the storyteller, young Luca, is the illegitimate son of a fascist father who wants his secret heir raised as a "gentleman" by an elderly nanny. Joan Plowright plays this fairy godmother, who teaches Shakespeare, Michelangelo, and good manners to her charge, while the world is strutting, posturing, but also exploding and crumbling all around him.

What I liked about this elegantly lightweight offering is its celebration of beauty, visual, ver-

bal, and moral. You get to hear some great lines by the bard, you rest your eyes on some gorgeous statues and murals, and you feel the pressure of the prejudices of that time and place, responsibly rendered. The character played by Cher is a generous and genial lady, betrayed and robbed by her lover, rescued by partisans, while her co-religionist, an art teacher, is sent off by the gestapo to certain death in Auschwitz.

I can find a lot to talk about in "Tea." It had a rather subtle light about it, a sure swipe against the brutality and stupidity of fascism, not to mention Nazism, but it chose to focus on some eccentric details—the misguided rather than the vicious, and it shows the Jews as a noble people who love all things lovely and lovable. It came off better than this hick expected.

## Words That Grow

by Mike Fink

Herald Contributing Reporter

Sometimes, in passing, you get the tail of a tale, you hear a brief fragment of a sentence, you glimpse a poetic image, and you feel like keeping it back from the void of oblivion.

Charlie Fishbein, owner of Coffee Exchange, had just come home from a conference on coffee. He passed by my table and made a short report. "You may be robbing a bird's nest when you sip your cup," he said, "unless we can find a way to grow the beans without harming the environment the wildfowl

der are losing their habitat!

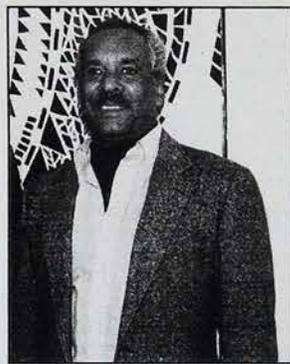
Over here at the pressroom, a fellow worker named John Garlick told me his late uncle had stood guard over the major Nazis on trial for war crimes in Nuremberg. He promises to bring in some copies of signed photographs his uncle had kept over the years—a group of pictures he would show at veterans' reunions as historical evidence of the value of their soldierly service. Imagine standing that close to absolute evil, like a scene beyond any inferno.

I went to school with a Cape Verdean kid named Bobbie Silva—not Robert. He attended R.I.S.D. and moved to California, where he represents survivor artists, "and I came home to Providence to discover that, in fact, I too am Jewish. We trace our roots to the Inquisition."

Today, the tenth of June, I hear the voice of FDR announcing Italy's declaration of war against her neighbor France, in those rather high-toned and high-pitched radio syllables with dramatic dignified pauses that tell a silent story, featuring the image of "the hand that held the dagger."

I snapped a picture of Bernie Bell: everything he wears says something, from the buttonhole flower at the lapel to the medals at the jacket handkerchief pocket, from the military-style beret to the striped ascot, and

even the sunglasses against glare with another pair showing through, folded in the white



Bob Silva  
Herald photos by Mike Fink



Bernie Bell

need." Meanwhile, the bold and lively chirping sparrows and the calm and cooing rock dove pigeons on his cafe deck go about their intown business. Their bird cousins south of our state bor-

shirt. These details bespeak a person who dresses to suit the occasion, an oldtime courtesy and discipline mixing ethics and esthetics. Bernie will join a *minyan*, visit the sick and the elderly, and store mementos all with the dignity they deserve. "Next year I hope the Jewish War Veterans will join the former Soviet vets in their marches and parades," he says with fraternal goodwill.

I'm going through the bits and pieces of the week among these long and glorious late spring hours and finding words bright as the blossoms.

## Carol Comes Calling

by Mike Fink

Herald Contributing Reporter

They shared quarters as undergrads at Boston University. These off-campus roommates struck me as models for drawings by da Vinci or Michelangelo. I married one. The other came by for a weekend reunion visit. Carol lives in D.C. and sometimes travels and takes notes on congressional world tours. I used to think she could fly just with her own angel's wings. Her blond, blue-eyed, cherubic presence has changed only a little since bright college years. "It cheered me up each morning, just to see her, like my canary," my wife once told me.

Carol Glassman usually visits our deck for a picnic in sun and shade on the occasion of the Rhode Island School of Design commencement. She and her husband Gibby stop by en route to the Cape. We always go over

But mostly, it is Carol's charm and manner that endear her to us. She listens to our family chronicles and miraculously retains all the minute details. The perfect house guest, she makes you glad to see her arrive and sorry to see her off at the airport. "I wish you could stay like a character in a Jane Austen novel, for a season and more," we say to Carol as we move among the cafes and highspots of Providence and of Wakefield. The azalea garden in Peace Dale had faded by the time we meandered among its paths. It didn't much matter. We took in the new Altman flick at the Hoyt cinema complex: we three sat quite alone in the small chamber. Carol's comments brought it to life for me. I would have missed its value without her easygoing appreciation.

I feel as though I know our household fairy godmother in a close-up way. I remember her parents, her dates and their fates, her intelligence mixed with a light-hearted shrug.

Give Carol some sweets—to the sweet—and you have a happy camper. But life in the nation's capital is not a bowl of cherries.

You have to plan your space and your time. Carol is as practical in fact as she is poetical in my fancy.

She launches the hot spells of summer for us with the cool and casual pleasures of her company. Gib was fixing their house this time. Next time in Jerusalem, we hope he comes too!



Among azaleas: Ms. Michael (left) and Carol

the story of how they met. I drove my student to the Bay State, and he briefly met Carol. Years later, in Narragansett, I gave him her Washington address, and the match clicked. This is another bond that ties us all together.

## Newborn Gives Nachis

A *bris* like none other. Baby Harry William isn't exactly Jewish yet. But he will be. His dad looked quite smart in a spring linen jacket, white shirt, bright necktie, with a *kippa* over his ponytail. His mother, who is Japanese, looked both serene and anxious, breastfeeding her newborn son while she wept quietly. People took me for an uncle, but I said, "I'm from the larger family, the community, the people, the circle of cafe friends."

In the small, almost secret, reception room at Temple Emanuel, people of every ethnic background you can think of, from the four corners, and from every neighborhood and coffeehouse in town, gathered in a mood of great goodwill and, of course, some degree of concern. After all, a medical procedure, however sure and certain, is always cause for a level of alarm. At least, for me, squirming a bit until it was all over and the infantile protest quieted down.

I made my way to the dad (that I supposedly resembled) and asked him how he felt.

"If my son converts later on, this will make it much easier for him. On the other hand, there are Jews who are doing the ceremony only as a symbol, without the operation, the unnecessary surgery. I had to make up my mind. His mom said it was up to me alone to choose. This was my first son, though not my first child. He is part of our history now. Let me introduce you to my sisters..."

Later on, after bagels and cake and tea, I told him what I thought. "You have made a heroic choice, an existential com-

mitment." I said with still another handshake of support.

I have a feeling the small and intimate crowd were deeply impressed by the understated majesty of the circumcision celebration. You could almost sense the presence of the prophet Elijah, in some marvelous time-warp, like a survivor. I'm sparing the names, except for a middle one: the rabbi called it "Velvel," but

changed it to the more Ashkenazic "Wolf" and I tried to see the new soul as a sort of pup bonding to a pack. There

was a blonde girl with dreadlocks, a swamp Yankee who had spent time in India and dressed as a fakir, and an Asian brood of half-siblings, forming a loving unit and drawing a magic circle of protective love.

The rabbis wished a life of love, learning and good deeds upon the infant. I add these few words of *barucha* to wish him the freedom to find his own path to Judaism and to wish his parents every source of happiness and harmony, *nachis*, from this day forward.



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## FEATURE

### Barak's Advisor Says Relations Between American and Israeli Jews Top Agenda

Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak's pick for strategic and foreign affairs advisor said the new government's greatest challenges will be "to bring about peace and to try to formulate a common agenda for all the people of Israel and the Jews abroad." Brig. Gen. (Res.) Zvi Shtauber believes he will be able to be a part of a new chapter in the history of the Middle East.

Shtauber retired from the Israel Defense Forces after 25 years of service. His assignments included assistant to the director of production of IDF's intelligence directorate and assistant attaché to Israel's Embassy in Washington, D.C., during the Gulf War. His last assignment was head of the strategic planning division of the planning directorate where he was responsible for the formulation of the IDF's foreign relations as well as coordinating security positions with regard to the peace talks. In this capacity, Shtauber represented the IDF in talks with the Palestinians, Jordanians and Syrians, as well as in matters of regional security.

After retiring from the IDF, Shtauber served as strategic advisor to then Foreign Minis-

ter Ehud Barak and before assuming his present position as vice president of external affairs at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. He says working for the university acquainted him with aspects of life in Israel of which he had not been sufficiently aware, such as the difficulties of the absorption of immigrants from the former Soviet Union and Ethiopia, the problems of the country's Bedouin Arabs and the issues Israel has in common with its neighbors. He said, "Ben-Gurion University is doing many things to facilitate a better understanding between Israelis and Arabs. It has many programs with our neighbors in public health and desertification, and learning about this gave me a more human perspective in addition to the old problems of security."

Shtauber is convinced that there is no alternative but to move ahead along the road to a secure peace, and no better peace maker than a military man like Barak. "Soldiers know more than anyone else about the costs and sacrifice of war," he said. "In Israel, you need to have courage in both war and peace."

### Lifespan Receives Donation From Touro Fraternal

Lifespan recently received a substantial donation from Touro Fraternal Association to protect the health and safety of residents in three area communities. Through the Lifespan Cardiac Care Initiative, Touro is underwriting the cost of eight automatic external defibrillators. These new highly acclaimed compact portable units are used to shock the heart back into normal rhythm during a sudden cardiac arrest.

The eight units will be given to fire and police vehicles in Cranston, Warwick and Providence, the communities in the state where most of the Touro Fraternal Association's 600 members live.

Sudden cardiac arrest is the leading cause of death in the United States, striking more than 350,000 people each year. The likelihood of survival is significantly greater when a first responder, such as a police officer, firefighter or rescue attendant, is equipped and trained to administer treatment using an AED.

"Touro has supported many community programs through the years," according to Arthur Poulten, chairman of the association's board of directors.

"When we were made aware of this one, we felt there would be no better way to help safeguard the health of the community, and perhaps many of our own members, than to fund the distribution of these life-saving AEDs."

Through the Lifespan Cardiac Care Initiative and other gener-

ous donations, 125 AEDs will be distributed throughout Rhode Island. In addition to providing the AEDs and training first responders in their use, the \$8.5 million Lifespan Cardiac Care initiative funds research, community outreach and clinical programs that will one day help end the ravages of heart disease.



Touro Fraternal Association members attend the recent kick-off of the AED distribution at the East Greenwich Fire Department: (Left to right) Friendship Lodge President Andrew Gilstein, Harmony Lodge President Alan Lury, Elizabeth Lamonde from Lifespan Community Health Services, Touro Board Chairman Arthur Poulten and Touro Community Involvement Chairman Andrew Lamchick.

Photo courtesy of Lifespan

### Health Department Advisory on Hot Weather

The Rhode Island Department of Health urges Rhode Islanders to watch out for heat exhaustion and heat stroke during prolonged hot weather. The elderly, chronically ill and very young need special attention.

According to Dr. Patricia A. Nolan, director of health, taking a few simple precautions avoids health problems associated with heat.

- 1) **Change your routine.**
  - Avoid strenuous activity during the day. Schedule strenuous activity during the early morning when it is coolest.
  - Don't use the oven. Eat cool foods such as salads.
- 2) **Stay cool and hydrated.**
  - Avoid prolonged exposure to the sun. If you need to work outside, take more breaks and use the shade to cool off when not working.

- Take cool baths and showers or sponge off with cool water. If you don't have air conditioning, go to someplace that does, like a library, senior center, movie theater or mall.

- Drink plenty of cool, NON-ALCOHOLIC beverages. Alcohol makes dehydration worse!

- 3) **Monitor yourself, family and neighbors.**

- When you start to feel dizzy, weak or nauseous, take it easy. Relax and cool off. Encourage those around you to do the same.

- Some medicines make you more sensitive to heat stress. Check with your doctor or pharmacist.

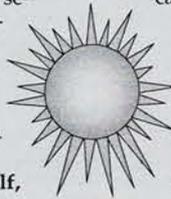
- Know the signs of more serious heat illness. Heat exhaustion starts with weakness,

nausea, dizziness and profuse sweating. Heat stroke is characterized by a high body temperature, lack of sweating and physical collapse.

- Check in on older friends and relatives living alone. The most common victims of heat stroke are elderly people living alone. Invite them to visit an air-conditioned library or movie with you.

Nolan stated, "Heat related illnesses are easily prevented. Enjoy a change in routine, let the weather dictate how hard you work and exercise, and watch out for family, friends and neighbors."

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For more information, contact the Family Health Information Line at (800) 942-7434.



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### The Miriam Hospital Hosts Annual Donor Recognition Event

The Miriam Hospital recently thanked its donors for their invaluable support of the hospital at the Miriam People Dinner co-chaired by Dr. Robert and Susan Bahr. The event included a special recognition of Alan M. Gilstein for his many contributions as a trustee for more than 20 years. The evening also included a tribute to Steven D. Baron who recently resigned his position as president of Lifespan Rhode Island. Following the dinner, Rena R. Wing, Ph.D., professor of psychiatry and human behavior, director, weight control and diabetes research center, Brown University of Medicine, The Miriam Hospital, presented a lecture on maintaining weight loss.



Pictured from left to right are: Alan and Suzanne Gilstein, Drs. Ed and Rena Wing, Dr. Robert and Susan Bahr and Jane Nelson, president of The Miriam Hospital Foundation.

# FEATURE

## Entering the Golden Years on a Healthy Note

by Kimberly Ann Orlandi  
Herald Editor

*Age does not depend upon years, but upon temperament and health. Some men are born old, and some never grow so.*

—Tryon Edwards

No one can escape growing older—it's a fact of life. But what can be done to make the transition into the senior years easier is to take care of one's self before it's too late to do anything about it. Although, according to Dr. Thomas Wachtel, director of Rhode Island Hospital's geriatrics department, it's never too late to change your physical condition, eating, and social habits.

"You don't want to wait until you experience the symptoms of a disease before you seek assistance," advises Wachtel. "Some diseases are, to a larger extent, preventable or delayable to such an extent that they may never affect a person in their lifetime."

Prevention, according to the doctor, is the key to living a long and healthy life while enjoying the later years of life. By staying out of the sun, using proper sunscreen while in the sun, curtailing drinking habits, quitting smoking and getting the proper nutrition a person can almost guarantee a healthy life—but since genetics plays just as much of a role in a person's physical make up as his environmental surroundings, there is no 100 percent guarantee of escaping an illness or ailment, but a healthy lifestyle certainly improves a person's chances.

As people age, according to Wachtel, some diseases and illnesses become more prevalent including cervical cancer, cancer in general, degenerative diseases, cardiovascular disease including strokes and heart attacks, and osteoporosis. There will also be changes in body functions, which are a normal aspect of aging, a change in heart rate during physical activity and a change in kidney functions. Although these changes may not glamorize aging, they are a fact and should not be feared but understood.

"It's never too early to visit a doctor," suggests Wachtel. "A person between the ages of 21 and 40 should visit every 3 years,

40 to 50 every 2 years and over the age of 50 should visit annually. By doing this, patients insure catching a potential problem at the outset and have a better chance of curing that problem."

Many of the diseases which are frequently found in seniors do not produce any visible symptoms until it's too late. The first sign of osteoporosis, for example, is a bone break, then, according to Wachtel, a patient will have numerous symptoms. Hypertension is another example of a disease with no visible symptoms. That's why visiting a doctor on a regular basis and knowing the family history can prevent a possible long-term illness or condition.

There are, according to Wachtel, significant gender differences when it comes to aging. The older you get the more likely you are to be a woman—whose life expectancy is 79 years, for men it's 73 years. Today, more than 68 million Americans are aged 50 or older and a majority can look forward to leading healthy, active lives into their 70s, 80s, and beyond. The gap between men and women, however, may be narrowing due in part to the fact that more women have joined the work force and, as a result, may have picked up many of men's bad habits, including smoking. According to the American Lung Association, lung cancer takes the lives of more women than any other disease.

While medical technology and advances, and proper nutrition have all played a part in extending the lives of seniors, most find that a common-sense management of their health is the best way to guarantee healthy aging. For a smart approach to health maintenance, Pfizer Inc. and The National Council of the Aging offer a few simple guidelines:

**Stay Connected.** Don't drop out of life, be an active participant. One of the real problems with people as they get older is that they begin to experience signs of depression. The process of aging is mental as well as physical, and many find that as their friends and family pass on, it becomes more difficult to go on. Depression, according to

Wachtel, either with or without anxiety "is more common with age but it is not, by any means, a normal part of aging." Seniors should stay involved with family and friends, and if not already, become an active participant within the community.

**Manage medications.** Many seniors take multiple medications and must be careful not to mix certain medications. Talk to



the pharmacist or your doctor to learn the medications you can take and read all directions and warnings carefully. Those labels are put on the bottles for a reason.

**Activity and nutrition.** Eating right and maintaining an exercise program are two of the best ways to insure a healthy mind and body. To avoid the problem of osteoporosis, Wachtel recommends drinking four 8 oz. glasses of

milk, preferably skim to avoid the extra fat, a day. "For many that may not be feasible," said Wachtel. "They may not like skim milk or may not be able to tolerate milk. Eating leafy vegetables or taking calcium supplements are other good sources of calcium."

**Regular physician checkups.** "The best prevention is visiting a doctor on a regular basis," said Wachtel. "Seniors should get annual immunizations for flu or pneumonia." Seniors shouldn't be afraid to ask their doctors questions about their health. Write the questions down before your visit to insure that nothing is forgotten.

**Take advantage of the resources available.** The local AARP, health agencies, Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island, Jewish Family Services and the Department of Elderly Affairs are wonderful resources for information and direction.

The senior citizen population is the fastest growing population in the United States—with the generation of World War II reaching their later years and those of the Baby Boom generation reaching the age of retirement. Currently, the elderly are the only group in the United States with universal health coverage (Social Security and Medicare), but for a popu-

lation who are considered the best covered, many find that Medicare simply doesn't cover everything. One of the biggest gaps in the system is prescriptions. Many seniors find themselves taking two to three different pills a day at an average of \$5 to \$10 per pill, and for many that prices them right out of the market.

"There is nothing worse for a physician than to sit across from a patient for whom the drug you hold in your hand is their only hope of relief only to find that they simply can not afford the medication," said Wachtel.

Society in general has responded to the isolation needs of the elderly by establishing more assisted and independent living centers, including two in Providence currently under construction, Richmond Place and Riverview Place, as well as affordable housing. But the problem of health care still remains, and as the population of seniors increases in years to come, the problem is going to become very real very soon. Currently, there are several pieces of health care legislation, on both the state and local levels, being debated. Call your congressmen and legislators to make your voice heard. The Capitol switchboard number is (202) 224-3121. In Rhode Island, contact the Senate office at 222-6896.

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# HEALTHWISE

## Are Seniors Pawns in Medical Game?

by George Bonin

Every time the elderly go to their pharmacies, they gasp at the pharmacist bills — a situation which is preventing the elderly from fully using the medication necessary for their well-being. Doctors sometimes prescribe these medicines only on the fantastic claims that drug companies and their medical representatives present to the doctor. I feel reasonably sure that no doctor could read all the technical knowledge in these leaflets, and sometimes does not know of the contra-indications of the medicines quickly appearing today on the market with no long-range testing.

Are the drug companies losing money when they have to impose the price of \$1 to \$3 on a pill or capsule? A daily look at *The Wall Street Journal* shows that medical stocks are one of the best investments you could make. Well-heeled lobbies operating within Congress, "help" draft legislation keeping natural medicines, vitamins, and safe additives under control without citing studies that show many are less harmful than the medicines produced with exotic chemicals.

How can the Newt Gingriches of Congress look into the mirror without shame, knowing that they can get the best of medicine, hospital care at government expense, and then enact legislation which will

take more health programs from a segment of society, the elderly and the poor, and destroy the dream of a disease-free America? Why should they worry how the poor people have to do without, in order to buy the medicine to keep them healthy? And the ironic fact is that the poor people who pay their taxes also let these government bureaucrats get free medical treatment at their expense.

I am quite sure that at the present time, you are being bombarded with literature in the mail with fantastic claims from HMOs, and drug companies touting new medicines (but not telling you the cost), and last — the one I believe should be investigated by an unbiased commission — the literature trying to inform you of "drug-free" treatment of society's ills.

If they are true — they should be brought to the attention of the people through the doctors. If they are not true, the AMA should defend the doctors, make these authors substantiate their claims and not put bars in the way of natural healing. Every ill in this country cannot be solved with pills alone. In fact, the drug problem in this country is exacerbated through many of the drugs which the doctors prescribe (often needlessly).

Listen to some of the arguments in favor of natural ingredients, vitamins and changes in lifestyle:

"Ten percent cholesterol cure: 95 percent effective for fighting dangerous fatty deposits in coronary arteries" (true or false, doctor?) "Arthritis agony vanishes" as this 30-second treatment "short-circuits your pain" (yet, doctor, you prescribe expensive pills), "asthma symptoms were completely eliminated for eight out of 10 people — when they took this simple, drug-free step, Astounding!" (Doctor, is this true?)

"Hidden dangers of Prozac! What drug companies don't want you to know" "Why doctors often prescribe dosages that are toxic to seniors!" "What you must know about proper dosages." The next one is a scary one, in my eyes, for I underwent open-heart surgery seven

years ago. "Substitute surgeon scandal! You pay for a famous top-notch surgeon. Then, when you're under anesthesia, he calmly walks away and lets a student cut you open. It happens all the time! Don't let it happen to you." (Doctor, in all honesty, have you ever seen this in your medical career?)

"Anti-Alzheimer's vitamins. Medical research identifies two common vitamins that may Alzheimer-proof your body."

At this point, my own doctors, and doctor friends may be grinding their teeth, and considering me anti-social, or anti-surgery. Nothing could be further from the truth. I keep my medical appointments, take the medicine prescribed — even those with astronomical prices,

but I would like the light of both the public and medical establishment focused on the claims which are being hyped to the elderly public who are reaching out for any straw to keep themselves healthy.

If their claims are legitimate — that there are natural cures out there which can prove effective, I believe the doctors should come down from their ivory towers and let us know without drowning us in the medical procedures and medications of today.

I believe in the right of free speech, whether from natural medicine practitioners, or the AMA, but some of the claims should be investigated to set the record straight, and to prevent the aging segment of society from being bilked from either side!

## Lyme Disease: Are You At Risk?

Do you live in, work in or plan to travel to tick-infested areas, or enjoy outdoor activities such as fishing, golfing, gardening or camping in these areas? If you answered yes, you are at risk of developing Lyme disease. Lyme disease is an emerging infectious disease with cases reported in 48 U.S. states. More than 99,000 cases have been reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention from 1982 through 1996 — a number that may be underreported by as much as 12 times (Maryland). In Connecticut, data indicates that, at best, only 16 percent of Lyme disease cases were reported over one year.

You don't need to stay indoors to reduce the risk of developing Lyme disease. By arming yourself with information about Lyme disease and how to prevent it, you can help protect yourself and your family from contracting this potentially dangerous bacterial infection.

Lyme disease is caused by a bacterium carried by infected deer ticks and Western black-legged ticks. These ticks transmit the bacteria to humans while feeding on human blood. Individuals most at risk are those working in or planning to travel

to Lyme-endemic areas in the United States such as the Northeast, upper Midwest and Pacific coastal areas.

Usually, the first sign of Lyme disease is a rash called *erythema migrans* (EM) typically with the appearance of a "bull's-eye" at the site of the tick bite. Often, this rash is accompanied by flu-like symptoms including headache, fever, fatigue, joint aches, muscle aches and a stiff neck. However, only 60 to 80 percent of people get the rash.

Research shows that approximately 20 percent of people infected with the *Borrelia burgdorferi* organism do not exhibit any symptoms (asymptomatic infection). Such infection, if undiagnosed and left untreated, can progress to late-stage, debilitating arthritic or neurologic conditions requiring extensive treatment.

"Lyme disease needs to be taken seriously. People should educate themselves about the risks and symptoms of Lyme disease, and take preventive measures when heading outdoors," said Vijay Sikand, M.D., adjunct assistant professor of medicine at Tufts University School of Medicine.

Although Lyme disease can result in potentially serious

manifestations, there are measures you can take to reduce the risk of becoming infected. The latest advance LYMERIX™ [Lyme Disease Vaccine (Recombinant OspA)], the world's first Lyme disease vaccine was recently approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. It has been proposed that it works via a novel mechanism; that is, by destroying the Lyme disease bacterium inside the tick before it is transmitted to a human host.

Doctors advise that people should continue to take other preventive measures because ticks that transmit Lyme disease can transmit other tick-borne illnesses as well. Preventive measures include avoiding tick-infested areas, wearing protective clothing outdoors, tucking in pants and shirts, and checking for ticks after coming in from the outdoors. It is also important to use insect repellents containing DEET on exposed areas for additional protection.



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# HEALTHWISE

## Longer Life Expectancies and Assisted Living

by Mark S. Mandell, Esq.  
It's a fact of life — and a welcome one — that Americans are living longer and longer.

The average life expectancy for all Americans born in 1997 was 76.5 years, according to the National Center for Health Statistics. Compare that to the life expectancy of those born in 1900 (47.3 years) or 1950 (68.2 years).

Consider, too, that in 1998 about 62,000 Americans were 100 years of age or older. This represents a 68 percent increase from 1990, when about 37,000 Americans were centenarians.

Without doubt, increased life expectancies will boost the demand for assisted living facilities, which provide the elderly with meals and help with dressing, bathing and medication management. And with the post-World War II baby-boom generation rapidly approaching retirement age, this need for assisted living could grow more acute.

Several organizations dedicated to improving the quality

of life of the elderly offer some of the following tips for parents and children who are considering assisted living facilities:

- Don't wait for a health crisis to begin your search for an assisted living facility.

- Your parents should be partners in this search process, and their needs, interests and

desires must be taken into consideration.

- Consider hiring a geriatric care manager, a professional experienced in assessing and coordinating services for older adults and their families. More information regarding these professionals and their services may be obtained from the National Association of Professional Geriatric Care Managers, (520) 881-8008, <<http://www.caremanager.org>>.

- Last but certainly not least is how much you or your parent can afford to pay for assisted living.

Elder-care groups also point to four factors that contribute greatly to the quality care: determining the elderly person's needs, whether the facility can meet those needs, finding out who's in charge of the facility, and monitoring the quality of care after the resident moves in.

Sorting through these issues ahead of time can prove greatly beneficial, and alleviate a lot of stress. For example, it's better to

know ahead of time whether the care facility or someone else, such as children, are responsible for taking a resident to a medical appointment. Residents and their children also must know in advance who will be responsible for paying for extra care, or who will be notified if the doctor changes a prescription.

Elder-care groups suggest, and we strongly recommend, that parents and children get all promises in a written contract. The contract to provide assisted living care is a legal document that obligates the parties to pay potentially large amounts of money for care. For example, just a few of the provisions that the contract should spell out include: what services are provided for each fee; whether there are any additional charges or initial payments; if any of the fees are refundable; and responsibilities of the resident and the facility.

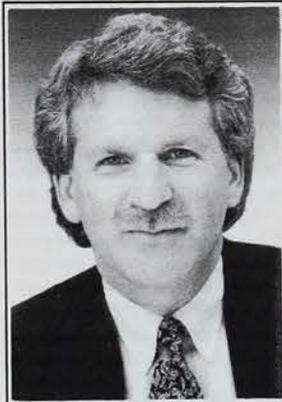
More information on legal

and other issues may be obtained from the Consumer Consortium on Assisted Living (703) 841-2333; <<http://www.ccal.org>>; Eldercare Locator (800) 677-1116; the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) (800) 424-3410; <[www.aarp.org](http://www.aarp.org)>; and the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (520) 881-4005; <[www.naela.org](http://www.naela.org)>.

With proper preparation, there's simply no reason that the elderly who move into assisted living facilities should not be as happy and productive as ever.

For more health and safety information and tips, visit ATLA's "Keep Our Families Safe" website at <<http://familysafety.atla.org>>.

\*\*\*  
Mark S. Mandell, president of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America, is a partner in the Providence, R.I., law firm of Mandell, Schwartz & Boisclair.



Mark S. Mandell, Esq.

### Lifespan and Cox Enterprises oso.com Launch the Health Channel

I wonder if that new procedure I read about is available locally? How do I find a good doctor? Is there a local support group or workshop that could help me? The answers to those questions and more will be a keystroke away with Lifespan's new the Health Channel on the Rhode Island-focused Website—oso.com. The channel, which debuted June 7, is an exclusive sub-site dedicated to health care.

Each day, more people turn to the Internet for everything from job-related data to where to go for the best seafood. The number one topic that consumers search for is health; 85 percent of people who surf the net say they are looking for more information on health care issues.

The Health Channel will provide consumers with timely local health stories. Users can also find a physician, research medical conditions and learn about treatments. Readers can register online for Lifespan's community events on a searchable calendar. As the channel evolves, users will be able to view live procedures, engage in real-time chats on important issues and join discussion groups.

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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Harry Elkin Midrasha Community High School Has Graduation

The Harry Elkin Midrasha Community High School of the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island held its graduation exercises on May 16 at Temple Am David in Warwick. The school conferred degrees to 20 young men and women from Rhode Island and southern Massachusetts. The graduates led the congregation in a special morning service for Rosh Hodesh before the official ceremony. Nathaniel Norman of Providence was introduced as the Nathan Resnick Scholar by Rabbi Wayne Franklin. The Nathan Resnick scholar is awarded to an outstanding graduate from each of the state's Jewish high schools. Norman, the valedictorian at Providence Classical High School, addressed his fellow graduates and challenged them to continue to seek opportunities to expand their horizons and their minds. The graduates were then addressed by Professor William Tilchin of Boston University and an instructor at the Harry Elkin Midrasha Community High School. Tilchin urged the graduates to remain active in Jewish affairs and to become participants in American Jewish and Israeli causes. In addition to the Nathan Resnick scholar, several other graduates received awards recognizing their ac-



complishments. Joshua Rubin of Providence received the Eliezar Ben Yehuda Award for excellence in the study of the Hebrew language. Benjamin Rottenberg of Providence and Jacqueline Green of Warwick were the recipients of the Al and Tina Simons award for excellence in rabbinics. Jeffrey Rakitt of Providence received the Harry Elkin Memorial Award for commitment and love for the State of Israel. Isaac Dansicker of Warwick was awarded the Rabbi and Mrs. Israel Rubinstein Award for Excellence in Contemporary Judaic Studies. The other graduates of the school were: Rachel Bloch of Bellingham, Mass.; Samantha

Braverman of Providence; Benjamin Chaika of Barrington; Daniel Cohen of Warwick; Matthew Dorfman of Providence; Jesse Freedman of Pawtucket; Sarah Goldberg of Cranston; Ilan Goodman of Providence; Shayna Kulik of Cranston; Amy Peiser of Providence; Ramesh Radparvar of Providence; Joel Smith of Warwick; Daniel Stieglitz of Providence; and Rachel Swift of Providence.

For more information about the Harry Elkin Midrasha Community High School and other teen programs, contact Richard Walter, secondary education coordinator at the BJE/RI at 331-0956, ext. 178.

## ASDS Head Accepted at Harvard University

Head of School Dr. Penney Stein has been accepted to the 1999 Summer Institute for Leadership Development, the Principals' Center, Harvard Graduate School of Education. Stein will have the opportunity to interact with a diverse group of approximately 115 school leaders from across the country as they explore The Art and Craft of the Principalship. This particular course of study is for those with less than five years experience as principal, or those aspiring to the principalship. The Avi Chai Foundation is sponsoring Stein's participation, as well as other Jewish Day School educators for the 11-day course of study and discussion.

"Rigorous study, combined with writing, reflection and peer interaction will enable the participants to identify the priorities, values and commitments that will sustain their all-important craft." Curriculum topics such as "Adult Development," led by Roland S. Barth, founding director of the Harvard Principals' Center, "The Future/Tech-

nology & Schools," led by Alfie Kohn, and "Vision," led by Holly Weeks, are just a sampling of the many topics to be presented.

Through large group presentations Harvard faculty and educational leaders will engage in challenging and provocative dialogue. Follow-up activities will provide for ideas to be translated into practice; discussion groups will be led by institute staff; writing assignments, and prior independent reading, as well as informal discussions with peers in the "off-time" will combine to afford each participant the maximum benefit.

The Alperin Schechter Day School community is proud to have Stein attend this prestigious program and bring to Providence the best of the ideas/practices set forth by leaders in the field of education.

Please join us at Alperin Schechter Day School as we welcome our new Head of School Dr. Penney Stein for a dessert reception on June 17 at 6:30 pm-8:30 pm in The Bohnen Vestry, Temple Emanuel, Providence, Rhode Island.

## NEAT Students Inducted Into National Honor Society

Seven students from the New England Academy of Torah were inducted into membership of the National Honor Society in a ceremony held at the Providence Hebrew Day School/New England Academy of Torah on May 18.

Members were selected by a faculty committee for meeting high standards of scholarship, service, and character.

Students inducted were: Rivka Gibber, Rochel Jakubowicz, Bashi Lipson, Natanya Raskin, Leah Scharf, Adina Shafner, and Tamara Shore.

Rabbi Mordechai Nissel, dean, gave a D'var Torah to begin the ceremony and he welcomed the parents, students and invited guests. Marsha Gibber, principal of Judaic studies, spoke of the many accomplishments of the girls both in the academic and service components of the N.H.S.



THE BEST OF THE BEST: (Left to right) Natanya Raskin, Tamara Shore, Bashi Lipson, Rochel Jakubowicz, Rivka Gibber, Leah Scharf, and Adina Shafner. Photo courtesy of NEAT

## Brandeis University Will Host Three-Day Seminar

The Hebrew & Oriental Language Program at Brandeis University is hosting a three-day seminar titled "Hebrew Language Proficiency Standards for Jewish Day School Students," June 15 through 17. Schools from around the country will be attending.

The seminar, which is the first of its kind at Brandeis, is designed to help day schools better develop standards for teaching the Hebrew language. Director of the Brandeis Hebrew and Oriental language program Vardit Ringvald said the seminar will focus on the "proficiency" approach, which aims to improve students' ability to function in speaking, listening, reading and writing the Hebrew language. Ringvald explains that Brandeis adopted the proficiency approach 10 years ago because of the widely recognized need for improved standards and competency in Hebrew instruction.

Additional topics to be discussed at the seminar include new materials that are appropriate for developing proficiency; Ivrit B'Ivrit instruction and its effective implementation; and proficiency guidelines vs. achievement standards.

For more information, call (781) 736-2979.

## Brown University Jazz Band Pays Tribute to Duke Ellington

Celebrate the 100th birthday of Duke Ellington at the annual Graubart-Irving Concert at Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence, on June 13 at 2 p.m. Members of the Brown University Jazz Band under the direction of Matt McGarell will perform works from the long list of Ellington favorites.

The concert is funded by the Graubart-Irving Fund and is free and open to the public. For more information, call 331-6070.

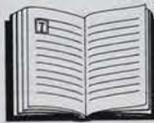
## Book Drive Nets 26,022 Books

Alan Shawn Feinstein's public appeal to R.I. high school and middle school students to collect books for elementary school students raised more than 26,000 books in May. They have been distributed to elementary schools and hospitals throughout the state.

Collecting the largest number of books were Goff Junior

High, Jamestown School, Gilbert Stuart Middle School, Gallager Middle School and North Kingstown Heavenly Helpers. Each will receive a \$500 check from the Feinstein Foundation.

Feinstein credits Michael McGuinn of Smithfield for bringing the idea to his attention. He and his sister, Meghan, collected 671 books.



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## JWV Will Hold Convention

Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A., Department of Rhode Island and Ladies Auxiliary, will hold its state convention on June 13 from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. Guest speaker will be Bruce Sundlun, former governor of Rhode Island and member of JWV. There will be a complementary breakfast. Call before you attend so that we will be prepared with the food.

We face many difficult decisions next year and need your help, guidance and support. The following is on the agenda: Election of officers, report on Memorial Wall of Honor, important news regarding the VA Hospital, Providence, discuss descendants program, and free one-year membership to Viet Nam Vets.

The convention will be held at Temple Am David, 40 Gardner St., Warwick, R.I. 02888. Please wear caps.

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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Resnick Joins Suls Westgate & Parente LLP

Michael S. Resnick, CPA, has joined Suls Westgate & Parente LLP as partner and director of taxation.

Resnick formally was with KPMG Peat Marwick, Providence, as a senior tax manager. His 16 years public accounting experience includes employment with Ernst and Young. He also spent four years as an agent with the United States Internal Revenue Service in Indiana and Connecticut.

An instructor in the evening division of the Bryant College Graduate Tax Program, he is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Rhode Island CPA Society. He holds a B.S. in accounting from the University of Rhode Island and a M.S. in taxation from Bryant College.

Resnick replaces Samuel K. Suls, CPA, former partner and director of taxation, who left to become chief financial officer at McLaughlin & Moran, the Budweiser Beer distributor and a Suls Westgate & Parente client.

A resident of Cranston, Resnick is married and has two children.

The Providence-based Suls Westgate & Parente LLP was established in 1926 and is one of

the largest independent public accounting firms in Rhode Island. The firm provides a com-



Michael Resnick, CPA

plete range of services ranging from the traditional accounting, auditing and tax services to management advisory and computer consulting, litigation support and business valuations. Suls Westgate & Parente is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and CPA Associates International.

## URI College of Nursing Garden Campaign Blossoming

The University of Rhode Island College of Nursing has raised \$70,000 of its \$100,000 goal to renovate and expand the Hart Garden at the southeast corner of White Hall.

The college kicked off the public phase of the campaign May 18 during ceremonies at White Hall, the college's home. Construction is scheduled to begin next fall.

Dayle Joseph of East Greenwich, interim dean of the college, unveiled plans for the garden before numerous supporters. The garden will include a bronze sculpture of Florence Nightingale, who is credited with establishing the first nursing school.

"We want this to be a place of beauty," Joseph said. "Our program is demanding and time-consuming. This garden will give our students a place to ponder the important work for which they are preparing. We see this garden as a place for reflection."

The Hart Garden, named in honor of Wakefield's Elizabeth Hart, assistant dean emerita of the College of Nursing, is located in a quiet alcove facing the Chafee parking lot.

The garden serves as a private area for celebrating important events within the college, including student receptions.

Over the past year, nursing college officials have worked with associate Professor of Plant Science Will Green, from the

campus Landscape Architecture Program, to develop plans for the grounds outside White Hall.

Anyone interested in donating to the campaign should contact Dan Barry, assistant director of development, at 874-5365.



LONGTIME SUPPORT — Ruth Grossman, right, of Providence and West Kingston, is honored by Dayle Joseph, interim dean of URI's College of Nursing, for the support of the Hart Garden project outside White Hall, the home of URI's College of Nursing. Ruth and her husband, Mort, have been major supporters of the college.

Photo courtesy of URI

## The Leadership For The Millennium



Cranston Senior Guild board member Hy Jacobson (pictured left) presents First Vice President Dorothy Rosen with a certificate of honor for her many years of service and devotion to the guild. The Hon. Mayor John O'Leary of Cranston, was proud to be the installing officer for the June 2 ceremony at the Venus de Milo, Swansea, Mass.

The new leadership of the Cranston Senior Guild: (left to right) Treasurer Claire Ernstof, Membership Directors Sam and Selma Price, Secretary Lillian Mushnick, Chaplain Mel Levin, First Vice President Dorothy Rosen and her husband, President Judah Rosen were installed as the Senior Guild's 1999-2000 officers during the June 2 luncheon at the Venus de Milo, Swansea, Mass.



## June 29 Cooking Lesson at JFS Kosher Mealsite Features Kugel

Kugel is comfort food. Warm, golden, cheesy, melting in the mouth and satisfying. Who can take a bite without feeling loved? So much work goes into making it.

But a kugel recipe without pre-cooking the noodles? Seniors will learn how during a cooking class taught by JFS Kosher Mealsite Coordinator Rhonda French at 11 a.m. on June 29 at the mealsite. Participants will have a chance to sample the kugel and will take home the recipe. French said, "This kugel is delicious and easy."

There will be a dairy menu for lunch that day, featuring vegetable soup, tuna and egg salad, potato salad, tomato, lettuce and cucumbers, rolls and tapioca pudding for dessert.

Along with a hot kosher meal

every weekday, the mealsite offers seniors a variety of activities, information and entertainment throughout the month. Programs usually begin at 11 a.m. and a nutritious kosher lunch is served at noon. Every Friday, there is a special Shabbat meal, complete with candles, challah and kiddush.

The JFS Kosher Mealsite in Cranston is located at Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave. Transportation is available every day for residents of Cranston and areas of Warwick. For reservations and information, call Mealsite Coordinator Rhonda French at 781-1771.

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 Saturday, June 12, 9:30 a.m. "How They Read the Bible: Traditional Understandings"  
 Sunday, June 13, 9:00 a.m. "Which Bible Stories Are True and How Do We Know?"

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Summer at The "Y"

YMCA Offers a 'Dino-Myte' Camp

This summer, the Pawtucket Family YMCA will once again offer Camp Dino-mytes, a day camp for the active 4- to 8-year-old.

Campers will learn to swim, create artwork, sing songs and participate in movement activities.

Once a week, campers will go on exciting field trips throughout Southeastern New England, such as the Enchanted Forest, the Boston Children's Museum, Southwick Animal Farm and Wright's Dairy Farm.

Camp Dino-mytes is offered for 10 weekly sessions, from June 21 to Aug. 27.

The camp day lasts from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Pre-camp is available starting at 6:30 a.m. and post-camp is available until 5:45 p.m.

Campers are provided a nutritious breakfast, lunch and snack.

The cost is \$92 per week and there is a one-time registration fee of \$15 (except for YMCA youth or family members).

For more information, contact Camp Director May Varr at the Pawtucket Family YMCA, 20 Summer St., Pawtucket, R.I. 727-7900.

YMCA Hosts Teen Basketball League

The Pawtucket Family YMCA will host a three-on-three basketball league for teen-agers starting June 16.

The league will be divided into two age groups: ages 13 to 15 and ages 16 to 18. Teens who are age 15 may play in either age group.

Games will be played on Wednesdays and Fridays, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. The league will run for six weeks, plus playoffs.

Teams must have a minimum of four players and a maximum of six players. The registration fee is \$50 per team.

T-shirts will be provided and awards will be given to the top two teams.

Sign-ups will take place until June 11.

Proof of age must be presented (birth certificate or high school identification). A captains' meeting will be held on June 11 from 6 to 7 p.m.

For more information, contact Jeffrey Robison at the Pawtucket Family YMCA, 20 Summer St., Pawtucket, R.I., 727-7900.



## Ballet Company Seeks 'Magicians'

Rhode Island's ballet theater, a classical ballet performing dance company, is seeking experienced magicians with "stage presence" to perform in its upcoming production of "Merlin," an original ballet based on medieval myth and magic.

"We want to bring real 'magic' to the performance," said Nancy McAuliffe, Ribt's artistic director and choreographer, "so we're looking for magicians who love to perform and have a flair for the dramatic."

McAuliffe further noted that the Society for Creative Anachronism will also participate in the performance to provide authentic swordsmanship and stage fighting befitting a ballet about knights, wizards and magic. "I think it will be really exciting for the magicians to share the stage with swordsmen and ballet dancers," she said.

"Merlin" will be performed Oct. 10 at Roberts Hall on the Rhode Island College campus, Providence. Magicians interested in participating should call 847-5301 for details.

## 'Funny Face' Helps Celebrate Gershwin

The "George Gershwin Remembered Film Series" continues at the Barrington Public Library, 281 County St., with a showing of "Funny Face" on June 23 at 7:30 p.m. In this stylish romp of a film, first released in 1956, a fashion editor and photographer choose a shy bookstore attendant as their "quality woman." It stars Fred Astaire and Audrey Hepburn, and features music by George and Ira Gershwin.

Pre-film commentary will be provided by Doug Swiszc, along with some live Gershwin music by Kathi Boyd and Lauri Burke. This program is free and open to all.



## 'The Best of the Best of Gilbert and Sullivan'

The production of "The Best of the Best of Gilbert and Sullivan" will be performed at Mill River Dinner Theater, 499 High St., Central Falls, R.I., from June 12 through 27. For reservations call 721-0909. Area residents and cast members include, from left, Ken McPhearson, Tom Epstein and David Price. Not picture are Amy Thompson, Marilyn Legg and Juliana Kaspari.

Photo courtesy of Mill River Dinner Theater

## Perishable Theatre Offers Summer Classes

In response to the vast influx of new major motion pictures being filmed in Rhode Island, Perishable Theatre has added new courses to their Summer Theatre Art School with the film business in mind. The classes will be held July through September at the Perishable Theatre, 95 Empire St., Downcity Providence. New classes have been created to train local actors in the Art of Auditioning, Acting for the Camera (now for both adults and teens), and the Craft of Screenwriting. Also new this semester is a class called Accent Reduction, expressly for the local actor who is fighting the curse of the "Vo Dyland" local accent. In addition, Perishable has added a number of new workshops and courses designed especially for teens:

A new Scenic Design Workshop for Teens will cover basics of theatrical set design. This one-week course will be held Mon. to Fri. 9 a.m. to noon the week of Aug. 16 with local designer Monica Shinn.

The new Lighting Design Workshop for Teens will introduce the student to technical

aspects of lighting. This one-week course meets Mon. to Fri. 9 a.m. to noon the week of July 26 with Tim Whelan of Trinity Rep.

The new On-Camera Workshop for Teens will introduce actors ages 13 to 18 to the skills needed for TV and film. Two one-day classes will be held July 21 from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. and Aug. 18 from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Instructor Carolyn Pickman, president of Boston's Collinge/Pickman Casting, was the casting director of "A Civil Action," "Good Will Hunting" and "Amistad" directed by Steven Spielberg.

Accent Reduction and Dialect Choices is the class to help find a remedy for local accent problems. Held Wednesdays 7 to 9 p.m. from July 7 to 28 with dialect coach Laura Hitt.

The Craft of Screenwriting is for the future movie screenwriter — whatever the ability level, this fundamental approach will improve your chances for success. Held Mondays 8 to 10 p.m. from July 12 to Aug. 23 with screenwriter and film studies instructor Tom Dooley.

Auditioning: The Complete Package will prepare both adult and teen actors to enter into an audition with confidence. Held Tuesdays 7 to 9 p.m., from July 6 to Aug. 17 with actress/director Marilyn Dubois.

Back again this semester are the following popular courses: Introduction to Acting, Mon. 7 to 10 p.m., from July 12 to Aug. 30 with Trinity Rep's own Fred Sullivan.

Scene Study, Wed. 7 to 10 p.m., from July 14 to Sept. 1 also with Fred Sullivan.

Teen Acting Intensive: Improv & 10-Minutes Play Study, Mon. 6 to 8 p.m. from July 12 to Aug. 30 with Mary Lee Vitale of All Children's Theatre.

Acting for the Camera Levels 1 & 2, Tues. 4:30 to 7 p.m. from July 20 to Aug. 24 and 7:15 to 9:45 p.m. with Carolyn Pickman, C.S.A.

## PPAC Announces 'Jekyll & Hyde'

The hit musical that recently celebrated its first anniversary on Broadway, will make its Providence premiere at the Providence Performing Arts Center, June 22 through 27. Tickets are on sale now; call the box office at 421-ARTS. Tickets range from \$36 to \$50; for groups of 20 or more, call 421-2997, ext. 3121. Tickets are also available through Ticketmaster, 331-2211.

An evocative tale of romance and the epic battle between good and evil, "Jekyll & Hyde" brings new life to Robert Louis Stevenson's classic story. A whirlwind odyssey pitting man against himself is set into motion when the brilliant Dr. Jekyll's medical experiment backfires, giving life to Edward Hyde, his evil alter ego.

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



## Saint John Jewish Historical Museum Opens For 14th Season

The Saint John Jewish Historical Museum opened for its 14th summer season on May 25 and will remain open for visitors until Oct. 29. Hours of operation are from Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and also on Sunday during July and August from 1 to 4 p.m. Group tours are also welcome by appointment throughout the year. The museum will be closed on all Saturdays in observance of the Jewish Sabbath and on Sept. 20 for Yom Kippur. The museum will also be closed on Labor Day and Thanksgiving.

The museum is internationally renowned for its permanent and seasonal exhibits and for its library and archives, for which both have received major awards. The mandate of the museum is to educate in order to help eliminate discrimination.

The permanent exhibits include a collection of religious

artifacts, chapel, ritual bath and Hebrew School classroom. An archives and library, which attract historians and genealogists from around the world, is open to researchers by appointment throughout the year. A small gift shop operates in the lobby of the museum.

This year the museum will also feature new exhibits for 1999. The main display areas in the Cohen and Czerwinski galleries will give visitors the opportunity to revisit the glory days of Jewish businesses in Saint John from 1858 through the 1960s and to today, through photograph and artifact. We also have a tribute to the late spiritual reader, Louis I. Michelson.

*Saint John Jewish Historical Museum is located at 29 Wellington Row, Saint John, New Brunswick E2L 3H4. Telephone: (506) 633-1883, fax (506) 642-9926, e-mail <sjhnm@nbnet.nb.ca>.*

## 'Divorce Me, Darling' at City Nights Dinner Theatre

City Nights Dinner Theatre announces production of Alex Gottlieb's delightful comedy "Divorce Me, Darling."

The performances are Friday and Saturday evenings through June 27, Sunday matinees June 13 and 27 and Thursday evening, June 24.

Amelia Conway is a highly successful divorce attorney married for 15 years to a highly successful construction engineer. He never forgets anniversaries, birthdays or holidays but his roving eye keeps his side of the bed more unoccupied than occupied. Although Amelia has been aware of his casual affairs, she never dreamed her marriage might become endangered — until his new over-sexed secretary asks her to arrange an annulment so she can marry a married man. He is, of course, the motel-happy engineer!

City Nights is located at the center of downtown Pawtucket at 27 Exchange St., next to the Pawtucket Times Building.

Tickets for the dinner and show total \$24 a person.

Arrival time for evening performances is from 6 to 7 p.m.

with dinner/buffet served at 7 p.m. Sunday matinee arrival time is from noon until 1 p.m. with dinner served at 1 p.m. Curtain is approximately an hour after serving time.

Call the box office at 723-6060 for more information.



CITY NIGHTS DINNER THEATRE "Divorce Me, Darling" stars Pat Toppa and Mark Anderson.

Photo courtesy of City Night Dinner Theatre

## Paddle The Bay, a Kayak Event to Help Save The Bay

Looking for something fun in the sun? Then look no further. Save the Bay and the Kayak Centre announce Paddle the Bay, a kayak race series along Wickford Harbor, Jamestown, and Newport. The first race of the series, taking place on Wickford Harbor, is open to all recreational classes. All proceeds from this race benefit Save The Bay. Whether a novice or advanced paddler, all abilities are welcome to join the event. Here is your chance to spend a day on the bay while helping Save The Bay!

The date is June 12, the time is 8:30 a.m. for registration, 9 a.m. to start. The place is North Kingstown Town Beach.

This is the perfect way to enjoy a Saturday in June. Sponsored by the Kayak Centre, Paddle the Bay includes great prizes for all classes. The second and third races in the series benefit other local charities. Call the Kayak Centre at 295-4400 for further details and registration information.

**Ticket Cost:** Save The Bay members, \$20 and non-members, \$30. Register for all three charity races and the cost totals \$75. For more information or to register, call the Kayak Centre at 295-4400.

## 'It's O.K. to Talk With Your Mouth Full!'

Perishable Theatre announces a series of innovative post-performance discussions after the Sunday matinees of their annual Women's Playwriting Festival. The festival, under the direction of Vanessa Gilbert, is now entering its seventh year of producing world premiere one-act scripts by women from around the world. Sponsored by the Rhode Island Committee for the Humanities, "Talk With Your Mouth Full" is a casually formatted discussion of the three award-winning plays. Moderated by Judith Swift, professor of theater at the University of

Rhode Island, this humanities series will take place over a full course dinner at a local Downcity eatery.

Perishable Theatre invites you to join them at the festival's Sunday matinee performances at 2 p.m. on June 13 and 20. From there, travel to Blake's Tavern at 122 Washington St. for a lively discussion of these new plays over dinner. Tickets are only \$20 and include ticket to the show, dinner and an anthology of this year's winning plays.

Call Perishable Theatre at 331-2695 for more details or to make a reservation.

## Providence Art Festival on Thayer St.

The semi-annual Providence Art Festival will take place June 19 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. along colorful Thayer Street on the East Side.

As part of a tradition began just last year by Mayor Vincent A. Cianci, the celebration on Thayer Street will be the season's official art festival of the City of Providence, and it will operate in connection with the renowned Providence Convergence Festival, which is set to take place that same weekend.

The festival will include a showing and judging of work presented by professional, amateur, and student artists from throughout New England in all media including painting, sculpture, jewelry, glass, drawing, fabrics, crafts, and photography. All exhibitors will be eligible for \$500 in prizes awarded by a panel of judges.

The festival will also feature live music from the bands Moxie and the Gamma Rays and strolling street performances by Providence's own beloved Big Nazo creature workshop. Families will be able to visit WhOO!eeWorld, a cluster of fantastic free children's activities coordinated by OOP! Contemporary Gift Gallery.

The Providence Art Festival will occur rain or shine.

## Concert at New Bedford Art Museum

The New Bedford Art Museum will present the Fall River-based a cappella choir "Sine Nomine" in concert June 18 in the museum's skylight gallery. Directed by Glenn Giutarri, "Sine Nomine" is an auditioned chamber choir of 25 singers and is concluding its fifth season of adventurous programming and polished performances.

The evening's program includes: motets "Os Justi" and "Locus Iste" by Bruckner, selections from "Missa Secunda" by Hassler, Psalm 51 by Brahms, and three settings of "Salve Regina."

The concert date is June 18 at 8 p.m. Admission is general \$10, museum members, seniors and students, \$5. Reservations are recommended.

The museum hours are Monday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday until 7 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.; closed Memorial Day. Admission is \$2 for adults, \$1 for seniors and students, children under 17 free when accompanied by an adult. Members are free. The New Bedford Art Museum is handicapped accessible.

## Get Fit This Summer

Groundwerx Movement Center (formerly the Ground-floor), on the third floor at 95 Empire St. in downtown Providence, will host an open house on June 12 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Featured at the event will be demonstrations, sample classes and information on hip-hop/African dance, ballet for contemporary dancers, body fitness and well-being, contemporary dance, Middle Eastern dance, move and groove (bring a drum), Aikido, Laban Movement Analysis Certification, children's classes and performance workshops.

The affair is free and open to the public and will occur in conjunction with Convergence International Arts Festival Behind the Scenes walking tours. For more information, call Groundwerx at 454-4564 or send e-mail to <groundwerx@as220.org>.

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# OBITUARIES

## JACK DININ

PROVIDENCE—Jack Dinin, 93, of 44 Sargent Ave., a salesman at J.B. Lippincott Medical Book Publishers, retiring 20 years ago, died May 30 at Kent County Memorial Hospital. He was the husband of the late Bertha (Schneiderman) Dinin.

Born in Russia, he lived in Providence for 43 years.

He was a graduate of Columbia University College of Pharmacy, and an honorary life member and past president of Congregation Beth Shalom. He was a member of Kiever Brotherhood and the Providence Hebrew Loan Association.

He is survived by a daughter, Vita Smith of Providence; a son, Harold Dinin of Cambridge, Mass.; and a granddaughter. He was the brother of the late Alex Dinin.

The funeral service was held June 2 in Congregation Beth Shalom, Camp Street. Burial was in Mt. Judah Cemetery, Queens, N.Y. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## MARY ANN LAURANS

PROVIDENCE — Mary Ann Laurans, 77, of Blackstone Boulevard, died June 3 at Miriam Hospital. She was the wife of the late Raymond Theodore Laurans and the late Irving Jay Bob.

Born in Muscatine, Iowa, she was a daughter of the late Samuel Lee and Mabel (Hyink) Block.

She attended the University of Missouri.

She leaves a son, Jeffrey David Bob of Attleboro; a daughter, Lisa Bob Boulton of St. Paul, Minn.; two stepdaughters, Patricia Webster Laurans of Newtown, Conn., and Lynne Laurans Levinson of Aspen, Colo.; and eight grandchildren.

The funeral service was held June 7 in Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence.

## LUCILLE MALISE

SOUTH KINGSTOWN — Lucille Malise, 80, of 1959 Kignstown Rd., died May 31 at South County Hospital. She was the wife of Harvey Malise of Sunrise, Fla.

Born in New York, N.Y., a daughter of the late Benjamin and Jenny (Curtis) Shapiro, she had lived in New York and Florida before moving to South Kingstown four years ago.

She had been a past president of the Sisterhood of Town and Village Synagogue in New York, and of B'nai B'rith Women.

Besides her husband, she leaves a son, Ned Malise of Newport; a daughter, Joanne Malise

of Charlestown; a brother, Martin Shapiro of Stamford, Conn., and three grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Edythe Blynn and Roslyn Wertheimer.

The funeral was held June 1 in New York. Arrangements were coordinated by the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## ZACHARY K. MILLER

PROVIDENCE — Zachary K. Miller died May 30. He was the son of Dian K. Reynolds and Daniel B. Miller. He was the stepson of Edwin R. Reynolds.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by three brothers, Samuel A. Miller, Joshua B. Miller and Adam J. Miller; nephews, Alexander Miller, Owen Miller and Nicholas Miller.

A private family service will be held on June 26 at Wellfleet, Mass. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## JENNIFER ANN ROTONDI

CRANSTON — Jennifer Ann Rotondi, 29, of 54 Bennington Rd., a certified nurse's aide and an EMT at Rhode Island Hospital trauma center until 1998, died June 1 at the Philip Hulitar Hospice Center.

Born in Providence, a daughter of Susan (Block) Epstein of Cranston and Judge John Rotondi Jr. of North Providence, she lived in Providence before

moving to Cranston 15 years ago. She was a 1994 graduate of Katharine Gibbs School in the medical assistant program. She received four high honors.

Besides her parents, she leaves a paternal grandmother, Stella Block of Boca Raton, Fla.; two brothers, Jay Epstein of New York City and Richard Epstein of North Kingstown; two sisters, Deborah Epstein Capotosto of Cranston and Gina Rotondi of North Providence; and a companion, Machiste Rankin of Providence. She was the granddaughter of the late Millard Block, Jack and Rose Rotondi.

The funeral service was held June 3 at Temple Beth-El, Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## SZYMON SEGAL

PROVIDENCE — Szymon Segal, 85, of Taft Avenue, a butcher in the Bronx, New York City, N.Y., before he retired in 1981, died June 5 at home. He was the husband of the late Sara (Bucher) Segal.

Born in Poland, a son of the late Yitzchak and Chaya (Hauptman) Segal, he had lived in New York before he moved to Providence in 1981.

He was a member of Hebrew Day School and Congregation Mishkon Tfiloh.

He is survived by a daughter,

Varda Stieglitz of Providence, and four grandchildren. He was the father of the late Dr. Isidore Segal.

A graveside service was held June 6 in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## BELLA SONION

YORK, Pa. — Bella Sonion, 90, of 2830 Carol Rd., York, Pa., died June 1. She was the wife of the late Sidney Sonion. She was born in Fall River, a daughter of the late Samuel and Sarah (Leviton) Cohen and had lived in Fall River most of her life before moving to York, Pa., five years ago.

She and her late husband owned and operated Sid's Pioneer Store, a neighborhood grocery store in Fall River, for 45 years, before retiring in 1981.

She was a member of Adas Israel Synagogue in Fall River and its Friendship Club, and the Tuesday Club at the York Jewish Community Club in York, Pa.

She is survived by a daughter, Sonya Bloom of York, Pa., and two grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Alfred Cohen, Henrietta Kopit, and the late Ida Pollock.

Graveside services were held June 3, at Hebrew Cemetery, Fall River. Arrangements were by the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## In Memory

In Memoriam Verses for Father's Day will be accepted free of charge until June 15 at noon. The verses will be printed in our Father's Day issue on June 17.

Please send your verses by June 15 to the Rhode Island Jewish Herald, P.O. Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 02940. Attention: Kim Orlandi

## Unveiling

An unveiling will be held Sunday, June 13, at 11:00 A.M. at Lincoln Park Cemetery for Sidney (Sonny) Jaffa. Relatives and Friends are cordially invited to attend.

(Continued on Page 15)

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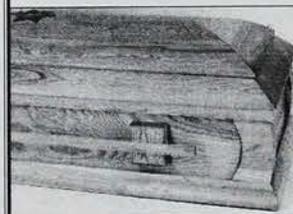
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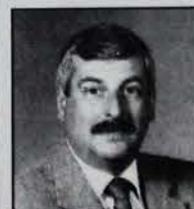
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## Students Create Own Tallit at ASDS

During a formal *Tallit* ceremony held on May 17, sixth-grade students of the Alperin Schechter Day School wore their homemade *tallit*, or prayer shawls. Leading up to the ceremony students had selected various types of fabric from exotic to plain, plaid to patterned, traditional to modern, and labored many hours to fringe the fabric properly. With the assistance of parents, students finished the garments by tying the requisite *tzitzit*, the ceremonially knotted fringes worn at the four corners.

Designing and decorating personal *tallit* bags was the project of Judaic studies teacher Miri Zeman. Aided by parent Pat Matusow who constructed the zippered cloth bags, the project resulted in beautiful pieces of functional artwork. Students researched designs and patterns appropriate to the cloth bags used to hold their handmade *tallit*. Using various resources each student then transferred symbols of Judaism to the *tallit* bag inscribed their Hebrew names and painted the finished product with beautiful colors. As students are encouraged to wear the handmade *tallit* to all school functions requiring *tallit*, there will be many occasions to enjoy their craftsmanship.



ASDS Judaic Studies Miri teacher Zeman shows her sixth-grade students, Anna Siradze and Chloe Licht, a steady hand in painting tallit bags. (far right)

Aaron Abrams shows off his hand-decorated tallit bag that he designed as part of the Judaic Studies curriculum at the Alperin Schechter Day School.

Photos by Liz Goldberg

## Nominations Sought For Goodrich Public Service Awards

The Robert M. Goodrich Distinguished Public Service Awards recognize career public employees who make a sustained superior contribution in the service of the Rhode Island taxpayer. One outstanding local and one outstanding state employee are selected annually for this honor.

The awards are named in honor of the late Robert M. Goodrich, RIPEC's first executive director and a staunch advocate for improving state and local public service throughout his career.

Nominees for the awards must have a total of at least five years of non-elective, full-time public service in Rhode Island state and/or local government. It is not required that the nominee's position be part of a civil service or merit system, and non-supervisory as well as supervisory personnel are eligible.

Selection will be based on sustained superior performance or accomplishment, personal initiative, resourcefulness, diligence, ability to lead by example or persuasion, and productivity. A record of integrity and devotion to public service is also essential. The qualifications of nominees will be reviewed by a selection committee which will determine the final recipients.

Nominations for the awards should be sent to: Donna Cupelo, c/o Rhode Island Public Expenditure Council, 300 Richmond St., Suite 200, Providence, RI 02903, by **Aug. 2**. Include your nominee's name, current position, history of public service and a list of significant accomplishments for the selection committee's review. Since the committee may require further information on your nominee, include your name, address, and telephone number with your information.

## Is There an Arthur Miller Among You?

The All Children's Theatre's Annual Rhode Island Youth Playwriting Competition challenges young writers to write for the stage. It offers support and encouragement from theater professionals, as well as a chance for the winning playwrights to work with a professional director and an ensemble of teen-age actors, while their plays are developed for public performances.

### The Rewrite Workshop

Eligible students, interested in submitting a play, are encouraged to attend this workshop. Student playwrights are urged to attend this workshop to review their in-progress work. Teen ACT Ensemble members will read scenes from plays in progress, and discussion and feedback from participating student playwrights, actors and co-directors will follow. The Rewrite Workshop will be held Nov. 20 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Vartan Gregorian School Theatre, 455 Wickenden St. (Fox Point), in Providence.

### Rules of the Competition

#### Eligibility

Students enrolled (as of September) in grades nine through 12 in a Rhode Island public or private school are eligible as are home-schooled students in those grades.

#### Guidelines

- The competition is for one-act plays with a maximum running time of 30 minutes.
- Plays must be unpublished and completely original. No adaptations.
- There are no limits on subject and style, except for musicals and screenplays, which are not eligible.
- Collaborations are permitted.
- Scripts submitted to the competition may also be submitted to other competition and award programs.

#### Submissions

- Submit three copies.
  - Scripts must be typed and securely bound with pages numbered.
  - Scripts must include a cover sheet with the following information: title, author(s) name(s), home address, phone number, date of birth, grade, English teacher's name, school name and address.
  - Do not submit the original. Scripts will not be returned.
  - Send to: ACT RI Youth Playwriting Competition, 1 Allens Ave., Providence, RI 02903
  - Deadline: Entries must be postmarked no later than **Dec. 20**.
- For additional information, call 331-7174 or e-mail <ACTinRI@aol.com>.

The Rhode Island Jewish Herald  
**Father's Day Issue**  
 June 17, 1999

**Deadlines**  
 Editorial Copy — June 11th  
 Advertisements — June 15th @ noon

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