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Rhode Island Jewish HERALD

**BBYO Takes
To The
Streets**
PAGE 6

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News at a Glance

New Orthodox Union President

At the Orthodox Union's Biennial National Convention in Rye, N.Y., Harvey Blitz was unanimously elected to serve as the 17th president of the 102-year-old organization. Blitz succeeds Mandell I. Ganchrow, M.D., OU president since 1994, who will continue his service to the OU as its chairman of the board.

Blitz is the senior vice president of AXA Financial, Inc. and its subsidiary, The Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States. He graduated from Wayne State University with high distinction and received his law degree from the University of Chicago, serving as editor of the *Law Review*.

Blitz has served with distinction and dedication as an officer of the Orthodox Union for more than 20 years. He was chairman of the OU Youth Commission for 10 years, treasurer of the OU for six years, and OU senior vice president from 1994 until his election as president.

Blitz said, "I begin this presidency dedicated to restructuring the governance and operations of the Orthodox Union, consistent with the NCSY Special Commission's recommendations, in order to make the Union a first-rate, well-run organization. That is a necessary goal during these difficult times. However, it is not sufficient. The Union's mandate, for more than 100 years, has been to infuse the community with an enhanced commitment to Torah and mitzvot. That is the ultimate objective toward which we strive. We are optimistic that the changes we will implement, coupled with active input from the community, will help us to achieve that goal."

Ganchrow commented, "Years from now, people will reflect on this period of the Union's history as critical not only to righting wrongs, but to strengthening our infrastructure. I believe our new president, Harvey Blitz, whose success has been rooted in the corporate world, is uniquely qualified to effect the changes needed."

Blitz is a member of the boards of Shevach High School, Legal Services for New York and Camp Mogen Avrohom / Camp Sternberg. He is a long-time member and former president of his synagogue, Ahavas Yisroel in Kew Gardens Hills. He lives in Queens, N.Y.

Large Crowd Gathers For Chanukah Celebration

Political Dignitaries and Religious Leaders Convene at Mall

by Luke O'Neill
Herald Editor

Amidst hustling shoppers armed with rustling shopping bags, a silvery gray menorah stood high on a stage at the center of Warwick Mall last week. A large sign beneath the branches of the menorah read, "Chabad Wishes You A Happy Chanukah."

And amidst stores and twinkling lights, the CHAI Center Chabad of West Bay took center stage with its annual Chanukah celebration in a pronounced display of religious freedom. On the seventh night of Chanukah, a large gathering enjoyed a children's craft project of Chanukah sand art, gifts, Judaica sale, hot latkes, dreidels, Chanukah gelt and live music by a local band—The Stan Freedman Trio.

Rabbi Yossi Laufer, director of the Chabad CHAI Center, kicked off the celebration by having the numerous children in attendance shout "Happy Chanukah!" Political dignitaries and religious leaders were on hand to celebrate Chanukah in this demonstration of Jewish pride and unity, transcending a

message of universal celebration to people of all backgrounds and faiths. As the ceremony got underway, the crowd became larger with interested passersby.

A prayer for Israel was offered—a sentiment underscored by U.S. Sen. Jack Reed in his comments. Warwick Mayor Scott Avedisian also addressed the crowd, mentioning that Warwick's City Hall has had a menorah on its steps throughout Chanukah. State Senator-elect Aram Garabedian also attended, stating his longstanding relationship with Rhode Island's Jewish community and a trip he took to Israel a couple years ago with the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island. He also mentioned that two founders of the Warwick Mall are Jewish.

Special guest Rabbi Ari Laine, chief Ashkenazi rabbi of Panama, supplied a brief history of Chanukah and told the story behind the holiday. All the special guests were honored in lighting the shamash with which Rabbi Laine then lit the seven candles. The giant

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RABBI YOSSE LAUFER, left, director of the Chabad CHAI Center, confers with Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi of Panama Rabbi Ari Laine before a Chanukah celebration at the center of Warwick Mall Dec. 27.
Herald photo by Luke O'Neill

Congressman-elect James Langevin Speaks at State House Menorah Lighting

by Jon Rubin
Assistant Editor

Walking into the Rhode Island State House during Hanukkah, one will always find a huge menorah shining brightly in the spirit of the Jewish community. On the seventh night of Hanukkah, members of Chabad-Lubavitch of Rhode Island and others gathered at the State House to light an additional menorah in a special ceremony. Present as guests and speakers for the candle lighting were former secretary of state and now U.S. Congressman James Langevin and Ari Feinstein from the Feinstein Foundation, who was present representing his father, Alan Shawn Feinstein, the renowned Rhode Island philanthropist.

Rabbi Yehoshua Laufer, director of Chabad-Lubavitch of Rhode Island, presided over the ceremony. "The reason we gather here," Rabbi Laufer said, "is to thank the United States of America and the State of Rhode Island for affording us the freedom of religious liberty, to practice our religion without any fear." He then credited the existence of this cherished institution to Roger Williams, who set

the precedent for religious tolerance in the United States more than 300 years ago. "We are very proud to have this heritage here in our state."

He congratulated Langevin on his recent appointment in

Washington, and expressed his belief that Langevin would bring his message of religious tolerance and peace to our nation's capital. Speaking of Langevin, Rabbi Laufer said, "[Of] all the good things he has initiated, one

of those is that he insisted on having a menorah to be presented here in the state Capitol."

Rabbi Laufer then turned his praise to Feinstein. He remarked that the good will of the
(Continued on Page 5)



U.S. CONGRESSMAN-ELECT James Langevin (center), Ari Feinstein (immediate right) and Rabbi Yehoshua Laufer (left) at a Chanukah candlelighting at the State House
Herald photo by Jon Rubin

HAPPENINGS

Entertainment for Children

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

January

- 5 **Art Smart.** 9:40 a.m. to 1:50 p.m. The museum's Pre-school Friday series continues as children, age 3 to 5, welcome the New Year with a bang! Move to music and create some shakers to join in the beat. Each session is 20 minutes long. Pre-registration is recommended for this popular series. Call 273-KIDS, ext. 234 for enrollment information. There may be space available for same-day registration at the museum's admissions desk. There is a \$1 fee above the price of admission for same-day registration.
- 6 **Marvelous Marimbas.** 1, 1:45, and 2:30 p.m. Kids 5 and up learn musical melodies on big and little xylophones and marimbas with visiting music teacher Sue Wood. Create great sounds by banging sticks on big, wide keys!
- 7 **Free First Sunday.** 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Families are invited to splash, play and crawl through the museum's exhibits — all for free!
- 8 **Museum Closed.**
- 9 **Play & Learn.** 1 to 2:30 p.m. Preschoolers, ages 2 to 4, play games and explore the nooks and crannies of Littlewoods.
- 10 **Discovery!** 3 and 3:45 p.m. Is seeing believing? Explore the science behind movies and the special effects that dazzle the eye. Kids 5 and up learn to make pictures that trick the eye!
- 11 **Time Tunnel Pen Pals.** 3 to 4:30 p.m. Try writing with a colonial feather pen. Children age 7 and up seal a secret letter with a stamp and sealing wax. Make your own stamp to take home.

Readings in the Reading Room

Scheduled on four consecutive Wednesday evenings, guests will have the opportunity to enjoy The RISD Library Reading Room, relaxing and listening to RISD faculty members and staff read from their own work, or from writings by authors and poets who have been significant to them. 7:30 p.m. Free. The RISD Library, 236 Benefit St., Providence. Jan. 10, 17, 24 and 31.

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Calendar: January 4 Through January 11

- 4 **Gallery 401 Reception,** 5 to 8 p.m. for Margaret Evans's photography show, "The Cultural Tradition: Poland's Textile Industry and the Jewish Community" at 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence. Show runs through Jan. 31.
- 5 **Nineteen Flu Clinics** are scheduled to be open throughout Rhode Island on Jan. 5 to 7. R.I. Department of Health has urged all "high risk" individuals to get shots. For more information, call the hotline at (800) 555-7858 Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Rhode Island Woodworking Show at the R.I. Convention Center, exhibit hall A and meeting room 555, from Jan. 5 to 7. For times, call (800) 826-8257 or visit <thewoodshows.com>.
Richard Galli book signing at Books on the Square, 471 Angell St., Providence. Galli will be reading from and discussing his new book, *Rescuing Jeffrey*. 1 p.m.
Reiki Introduction at Women and Infants. Join us for a two-day, intensive First Degree workshop to be held Jan. 6 and 7. Participants will learn how to give Reiki treatments to themselves and their loved ones by using your hands in gentle, therapeutic healing patterns. Register by calling 866-4222.
- 6 **Jazz History Workshop** — "A Glimpse of Some Important Jazz Styles" — led by Lloyd Kaplan, co-author of *Who's Who in Rhode Island Jazz*. 1 p.m. at Borders, Garden City, Cranston. Call 944-9160.
K&S Ballroom Dance at the MacKenzie Center, 1337 Centre St., Newton, Mass. Complimentary V. waltz dance lesson from 7 to 8 p.m. Dancing 8 to midnight with complimentary food and beverage. Smoke free. \$10 per person. Couples/ singles welcome. Call 821-4108.
- 7 **Turn Your Holiday Photos into Memories,** 3 p.m. at Borders in Garden City, Cranston. A free scrapbooking workshop, supplies are provided — just bring in your holiday photos. Space is limited, register by calling 944-9160.
Southern New England Bridal Expo at the R.I. Convention Center, more than 1,000 people estimated. Call Bob Mignarri at Quality Event Management at 885-8788.
The Fall River Yiddish Club is holding their first meeting at 1 p.m. at Adas Israel in Fall River, Mass. Everyone is welcome! Those who do not speak Yiddish can learn by listening. Call (508) 678-4273 for more information.
Aristocats, local jazz trio, play at Border's Cafe at 1 p.m. 190 Hillside Road, Cranston.
Emanuel Music Schubert Series presents the music of Franz Schubert at the C. Walsh Theatre at Suffolk University, 41 Temple St., Beacon Hill, Boston. \$18 general admission, \$13 for seniors/ students. Call (617) 536-3356.
- 8 **Harborhill Place,** a retirement community at 159 Division St., East Greenwich, hosts a free exercise program every Monday from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. Call 884-2704, ext. 102 for more information.
Share Your Hair! Pilgrim High School is holding a day to get your hair cut FREE for a good cause (a medical hair loss foundation for children). If you can't donate hair, money is always appreciated. At Pilgrim High School, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Refreshments are supplied. 111 Pilgrim Parkway, Warwick.
Israel Trips Forum at the JCC. The BJE of RI forum presents last year's Israel student travelers speaking about their Israel experience programs. Information on grants and scholarships as well. 7 p.m., 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence.
- 9 **JCCRI Early Childhood open house** — 7 to 9 p.m. at the JCC, 401 Elmgrove Ave, Providence. It's time to start thinking about educational options for 2001-2002. JCCRI's open house is ready to answer all of your questions. Evening sweet treats will be served. Call 861-8800.
Volunteer Services for Animals holds a Pet Loss Support Group for those who have lost an important friend. VSA headquarters are located at 27 Dryden Lane in Providence. Support group meets at 7 p.m. R.S.V.P. at 273-0358.
The Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum discussion group meets to discuss *The Sunflower: On The Possibilities & Limits of Forgiveness* by Simon Wiesenthal at Borders Books in Garden City. For more information, call the museum at 453-7860. Discussion group meets at 7 p.m.
A Caregivers Support Group sponsored by Memorial Hospital of Rhode Island at its New Horizons Adult Daycare Center on Main Street will meet from 1 to 2 p.m. Sessions are free. Call 727-0950. The group meets twice a month to offer support and information to others who care for a sick or aging loved one.
Bert Gallery, 540 South Water St., Providence, hosts special exhibit examining the self-portrait, beginning Jan. 9. See the *Herald's* Arts and Entertainment pages for more information.
- 10 **6th Annual Middle School Leadership Conference.** This year the theme is "Actions speak louder — Discover strength through unity!" More than a dozen schools will be attending. At CCRI, Liston Campus, 1 Hilton St., Providence. Call 351-5120.
"Economic Outlook" presentation, 7:30 to 9 a.m. at the Providence Marriott. Come hear Wayne Avers, chief analyst for FleetBoston Financial, give you his forecast for 2001. Register at <www.sbane.org> or call 245-0740. \$20 for members, non-members \$25.
- 11 **"Lost in Yonkers"** presentation by the Jewish Theater Ensemble at the JCC, 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence, on Jan. 11, 13, 14, 18, 20 and 21. Tony Award-winning production, curtain at 7:30 p.m. on Jan. 11. \$12 for adults and \$10 for senior citizens and children 12 and under. Call 861-8800, ext. 108 for tickets.
Borders Family Fun Night, 6 p.m. at Borders Books, Garden City. Coffee Bean Bingo, customers can win fun, family prizes. At 7 p.m. watch "Disney's Fantasia 2000." Call 944-9160.

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OPINION

The Art of The Mensch

A Level Praying Field

by Velvel 'Wally' Spiegler

A mensch literally means "a person" in Yiddish, but figuratively it means something much deeper. A mensch is a person with whom you would be happy to befriend and associate with, because you feel genuine in a mensch's presence. A mensch is a highly evolved human being. Menschlichkeit (the art of the mensch) has nothing to do with looks, with wealth, with success or with intellect. A mensch exudes a certain magnetism that attracts us, whether or not words or glances are exchanged. A person is a mensch because he simply makes others feel good.

I've never really known a full-fledged mensch, although I've come across a few saintly types from time to time. Each one of them contained certain qualities that interested me because, you see, I aspire to become a mensch. Right now, I can't boast that I possess those qualities, but I'm working on it.

I've known a lot of people who think they're menschs. They'll expound their righteousness: "I'm a good person, I don't harm anyone," they'll tell you. My first reaction is not whether they cause harm; I prefer to ask, "How much good do you do?" Although I usually hold my tongue out of respect. Menschlichkeit deals in doing good.

I went about exploring the ingredients menschs utilize to induce people into contentment, starting with the proposition that we're all naturally decent individuals, or at least that's what I think G-d intended. But then we come across certain roadblocks on our journey through life that brings us unfortunate circumstances coupled with the emotions of fear, anger or sorrow. We all encounter that in some form, at

some time. But on rare occasions, we're fortunate enough to meet up with a mensch, and in his presence the uneasiness melts away.

A well-known aphorism from the Talmud's Pirke Avot, the revered collection of wise rabbinical sayings, sparked my search for becoming a mensch. The line that caught my attention was attributed to Rabbi Hillel who said, "What you do not want others to do to you, do not do to them." I don't know which came first, but it appears to be the inverse of "do unto others as you would have others do unto you." There's another one that completes a trilogy of wise old maxims and that's the biblical dictum, "to love your neighbor as yourself." These messages illuminate the potential of superb inter-personal relationships, but how do you implement them? Willing it doesn't work. You have to ask yourself what it is you want others "to do unto you." When I'm hurting emotionally, I want a mensch to listen precisely to what's on my mind without telling me what he thinks or what I should do. If I'm hurting, I just want to be heard. Listening is an art we seem to have lost. But by listening, a mensch would make you feel worthy and cared for. A mensch would listen to what you need and what you feel.

So in my journey towards mensch-hood, I diligently practice listening. In conversations, I listen intently; and in the painstaking process of listening I try to concentrate on the meanings of the words and their nuances. Often, body language helps me understand. I won't, however, sit there close-mouthed; I'll utter an occasional "hmm" or "tell me more" or "I'm sorry that happened to you." And the more I simply comment reflectively, the more

people open up to unburden themselves.

As I browsed further through Pirke Avot, another mensch-maker caught my eye: "Do not judge your fellow until you have reached his place." Another Hillelism suggesting that it's hard enough to understand ourselves, let alone another person. By permitting others to unfold and unwind according to their timetable requires that we trust their intrinsic righteousness and dignity. That means to accept others just the way they are, with all of their hang-ups, faults and unruly behavior; we don't have to condone anything. You don't have to conform, agree, approve or praise; you just have to accept unconditionally. It takes unremitting effort, but that's how understanding someone else comes to light.

How much more G-d-like can we become than to accept another's imperfections? The Torah states, "And they shall

(Continued on Page 15)

by Yaakov Rosenblatt

Prayer is an utterly intriguing endeavor. It plays an integral role in many people's lives, a significant role in the lives of countless others — and is instinctive to all people in the face of trying circumstances.

I remember the first time I really prayed, as a young child. I had a significant speech impediment that I became more conscious of as I grew and would often ask G-d to help me speak more fluently. "Please let me have an easier time," I would ask, "participating in class and conversing with friends."

The Torah relates that three of our four Matriarchs were unable to bear children. The sages of the Talmud explain that G-d purposely created them so, since "G-d desires the prayers of the righteous." It was because G-d wanted the Matriarchs to ask Him to fulfill their desire for children, in other words, that He created them with this profound lack. Indeed, the sages continue, special people re-

ten handed special challenges as a means of fostering their relationship with G-d.

Admittedly, a difficult concept to understand.

Indeed, it goes to the very essence of Jewish belief that G-d is one and that He is infinite, unlimited and omnipotent, empowered in every way. Nothing can occur beyond His control, because, quite simply, there is nothing that can exist independent of Him.

Like most of us, I have always had a difficult time comprehending the concept of "the infinite." In the world around us, everything takes on definite dimensions, both in time and space. It is difficult to understand a realm in which such barriers do not exist.

However, although my mind had a difficult time understanding it, my soul understood it instinctively. All souls do.

For a soul is, in essence, a spark of the Divine. It can never be satisfied by the pleasures of-

(Continued on Page 15)

NCJW Opposes Nomination of Sen. Ashcroft as Attorney General

National Council of Jewish Women President Jan Schneiderman issued the following statement denouncing the nomination of Sen. John Ashcroft (R-Mo.) to be the next attorney general of the United States:

"The National Council of Jewish Women is deeply concerned by the nomination of Sen. John Ashcroft. The attorney general is not only the chief law enforcement officer for the nation but is the government official more than any other who must act to protect the rights of the powerless and to promote equal justice. He or she stands as a symbol of the commitment of the executive branch to the

rule of law. Sen. Ashcroft's record in the Senate and elsewhere opposing affirmative action, civil rights, a woman's right to choose abortion, and separation of religion and state is extreme.

"Sen. Ashcroft has long been a vocal opponent of reproductive choice, voting against an amendment affirming the Roe v. Wade decision and cosponsoring a resolution calling for a Constitutional Amendment banning abortion even in cases of rape or incest. In the area of civil rights, he has opposed affirmative action and accepted an honorary degree from Bob Jones University, an institution which, until recently, bared in-

terracial dating. Sen. Ashcroft is the proud author of legislation permitting states to fund social services delivered through sectarian religious organizations. He has also opposed criminal background checks for gun purchases at gun shows. In these individual actions and others, Sen. Ashcroft has often served as a champion for extreme causes.

"In recent weeks, we have heard a great deal about how the next president should seek to heal the wounds left by the election's extraordinary aftermath by selecting moderates for high office. Rather than unite us, this appointment is divisive. It

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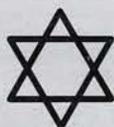
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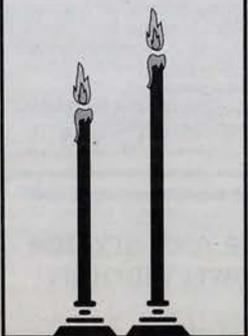
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Candlelighting

January 5, 2001

4:11 p.m.



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

Making Blessing

We have just celebrated Chanukah, a time when we celebrate a miracle, appreciate our freedom, and give gifts to represent our love of others.

Did you give a blessing at the same time? Not the blessing over the candles, but a blessing to your family. How can I give a blessing? you might ask. Only G-d gives blessings. We ask for them. We say them. We thank Him for them. But we do not produce them.

Not entirely so. We read last week in Miketz of the further adventures of Joseph. He is now in Egypt as a result of being sold into slavery by his brothers. One of the reasons they were jealous of him was his habit of reciting dreams he had in which it seemed that he was describing his superiority, or a prophecy of his ruling over them.

Now, however, there is a change in perspective. In Egypt, Joseph does not mention his own dreams, but interprets those of others. When the Pharaoh has a disturbing dream about seven fat cows and seven lean cows, news of this prisoner's ability reaches him, and he asks Joseph to explain the dream.

Up to his point, Joseph has merely described his own dreams. He offered his family

In other words, we do not "create" the blessings, but serve as a conduit, or starting mechanism, for their application. Inspired by G-d, we recognize the goodness in others, and ask a blessing on their behalf.

This is what Joseph is doing. His own dreams, being a blessing he was apparently born with, do not admit of his interpreting. He just has them, and appreciates the ability to see these things. When others come to him with their dreams, however, he is not only using his own blessing, but helping them to understand theirs. In giving them a new perception of the dream, he is awakening them to the joy of this knowledge, which helps them prepare for the future.

And you can do the same. Look at someone you know today. See if you can perceive a blessing. Then-bless them. You'll see how it works.

Submitted by Rabbi Yossi Laufer of CHAI Center of Chabad of West Bay, Warwick.

Torah Today

JEWISH COMMUNITY

Gift of Israel

A Gift For Generations

Formal research and personal testimony demonstrate convincingly that a summer visit to Israel profoundly influences how young people relate to Israel and their Jewish identity. In recognition of the potential positive impact the Israel experience can have, the Rhode Island Jewish community is working to sharply increase the number of young Jews who visit Israel.

The Gift of Israel Program is a partnership among families, synagogues, the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island and the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island. The JFRI's generosity has enabled this program to begin.

Students may enroll in grades three to eight, as long as they are registered in a Jewish educational program, and remain there for the duration of the Gift program (10th grade). The trip to Israel may be taken

anytime after the 10th grade until age 23. The family contributes \$150 annually, participating synagogues allot \$50 each year, and federation matches with \$200 per year.

The Gift of Israel program, now beginning its sixth year, currently has 270 active participants in the JFRI catchment area. Twelve synagogues are "participating synagogues," and students from non-participating synagogues may enroll as long as they attend approved Jewish educational programs, and their parents contribute the additional \$50 ordinarily paid by the "participating synagogue." Registration for this year is from Sept. 1, 2000 to March 1, 2001.

For information on how to enroll your child(ren), or grandchild(ren) in Gifts of Israel, groups, and/or to find out which synagogues are "participating," contact Ruth Page, Israel desk director at the BJE/RI, 331-0956.

Caring Helpers And Visitors Enliven Residents: Become a Spiritual Care Visitor

A New Volunteer Initiative Through JERI

Volunteers are a special breed of people. They understand that through their efforts, other people's lives are enhanced and at the same time, that their own lives are also enriched. They are fully aware of the impact their services have upon others and as such, gain the sense of meaning, fulfillment and warmth that comes from being there for other people. Often, individuals are anxious about becoming a volunteer because they are concerned that they don't have the training, skills or background to do the job effectively. CHAVER is a new program that is designed to address those concerns.

The Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island, a program of Jewish Seniors Agency, has announced a new volunteer initiative, CHAVER, through which volunteers will receive extensive training on how to become spiritual care visitors to Jewish residents who are currently living in nursing homes. CHAVER — Caring Helpers And Visitors Enliven Residents — has been designed to help nursing home residents feel more connected to

the larger community and to form spiritual relationships with the trained CHAVER volunteers who will gain the skills on how to listen, respond, and be a spiritual visitor. After concluding a training program, meeting once a week of 1 1/2 hours, volunteers will then be assigned a nursing home that is close to where they live. The CHAVER volunteers will visit the Jewish residents who live there on a regular basis as a way of forming long-term relationships that help to bring a sense of connection to the residents. Much of the research shows that it is through these types of relationships that nursing home residents feel a sense of belonging and worth; they feel re-connected to the community and gain more of a sense of purpose and that life is worth living. There will be on-going support for the CHAVER volunteers and on-going workshops to help deepen their skills and provide guidance while doing this essential work.

We are very excited to have Rabbi Andrea M. Gouze as the coordinator of this program. Through her own training at

Interfaith Health Care Ministries and certification as chaplain, Rabbi Gouze brings her professional expertise and rabbinic experience to this initiative.

If you think that this is the type of volunteer experience that you would like to participate in; if you want to be involved in something that is larger than yourself and from which you will gain meaning and spiritual satisfaction; if you are the type of individual who always wanted to be able to visit someone in a nursing home but felt inadequate to the task because you didn't think you had the skills or emotional ability, then CHAVER is the program for you. We will train you, we will mentor you, and we will provide the structure and the support necessary so that you will have the ability to reach out to those nursing home residents who are feeling isolated and alone. Become a true Chaver, a friend, through CHAVER.

If you would be interested in learning more about CHAVER or to receive an information packet, call Susan at JERI at 621-5374 or Joyce at JSA at 351-4750.



Chanukah Lights

The Jewish Community Center in Providence boasts a huge steel menorah next to the front entrance. *Herald photo by Jon Rubin*

Israel Trips Forum — Jan. 8 at the JCCRI

Calling All High School Students (and Parents)

The Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island's Israel Trips Forum, where last year's Israel student travelers will speak about their Israel experience programs, will be held on Jan. 8 at 7 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence. Information on grants and scholarships and brochures of Israel programs — from summer to academic year options — will be available. Details on the Israel Test, required of all grant recipients, will be explained. The Israel Test will be on March 5 at 7 p.m. at the JCCRI.

Call Ruth Page, Israel desk director at the BJE/RI, 331-0956, for more information.

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Do you have memories of The Jewish Orphanage of Rhode Island?

Do you have letters, photographs or papers that date back to the early days of The Jewish Children's Home and Foundation of Rhode Island?

Did you attend Camp JORI long ago?

If you or someone you know would like to share reminiscences about the organization, the Camp JORI board would like to hear from you. The board is putting together an archive of historical papers, remembrances and objects to celebrate the organization's long-standing service to the Jewish community in Rhode Island. The history project corresponds to a time of unprecedented growth in the camp as it looks to the utilization of its new property.

The organization began in 1909, when a group of community leaders responded to the sad plight of orphans early in this century by founding The Jewish Orphanage of Rhode Island, later known as The Jew-

ish Children's Home and Foundation of Rhode Island. The home was enlarged and expanded its mission to take care of the needy, indigent and neglected children in addition to orphans.

Through 1942, the home cared for hundreds of children ages 3 to 17, with a staff of trained social workers. Many of these children later became community leaders. Some became doctors, lawyers, successful businessmen and school teachers. Many raised families of their own. A history of the organization says, "It can be said truthfully that no child of ours ever became a problem or reflected any discredit upon the orphanage at any time."

During the 1929-1939 administration of board president Walter I. Sundlun, Camp JORI was established at Narragansett Pier. Benjamin Brier chaired the Camp JORI committee which directed the establishment of the camp.

The camp was designed to provide a healthy summer va-

cation for orphans and children whose families could otherwise not afford this luxury. In 1942, the orphanage closed as its functions were taken on by government-provided social services. With the advent of World War II, Camp JORI began providing a peaceful summer interlude for children who were refugees from war-torn Europe. Later, as children from the former Soviet Union came into this country, Camp JORI offered them the opportunity to immerse themselves in American culture and eased their acculturation.

In 1999, the camp acquired property, in a partnership with The Nature Conservancy, on Worden's Pond, which makes possible the expansion of the small-craft boating program, fishing, hiking and environmental programming. Plans for development of the new property are underway.

At the present time, the camp focuses on providing its warm, family-like atmosphere to children from a variety of family situations and financial backgrounds. An annual community appeal for funds for campsites assures that financial need will not keep a child from enjoying the Camp JORI experience.

As the camp plans for the future, it would like to build upon the past. Several Camp JORI alumni, some of whom have shared memories of the orphanage, have come forward.

If you would like to share reminiscences or memorabilia, call Camp JORI at 521-2655.

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

What Jews Can and Can't Eat — Part 1

by Jon Rubin
Assistant Editor

If you have ever been asked by someone, "What does kosher mean," have you been able to give an adequate answer? Were you able to say more than just, "No meat and milk together" or "You've got to kill the animal a certain way, and there is some rule about how many stomachs it has, or something?" For those of you who have non-Jewish friends who need answers you can't give, or simply to help you brush up on the particulars, I am including this introductory article on Jewish dietary law. Pass this around and help teach others. Although entire books have been written on the subject, I will do my best to condense it to two parts.

Jewish dietary laws (Kashrut) date back 3,000 years, making them among the oldest recorded beliefs between culture and food on earth. Kashrut oversees the process of food selection, preparation and consumption for all observant Jews. Most dietary laws practiced today come from the Jewish Bible, the Torah. Many of these very particular laws stem from the complicated procedures for food preparation at the Holy Temple in Jerusalem, whose second incarnation was destroyed in 70 A.D.

When thinking of Jewish food, only one question comes to mind — Is it kosher or not? Kosher means fit, proper and ritually acceptable. As a verb it is "to kasher," or to make something kosher. Food that is not kosher is referred to as being "trief." Kosher normally refers to ritually acceptable food (i.e. OK to eat) in accordance with law and tradition. Kosher is *not* a style of cooking — Chinese food can be kosher if you make it with the right ingredients and

equipment. Traditionally, observant Jews will follow all of the observances in this article (and more), while less observant Jews may follow a few or none.

One of the main purposes behind kashrut is to transform the normal act of eating and cooking into a meaningful, spiritual act as mandated by G-d. Similar to the benefits of saying grace before meals, kashrut creates respect for food and its origins. Despite its complexity, kashrut does not intend to make eating any less pleasurable; it aids in turning Jewish observance into a lifestyle rather than just a hobby. It also sustains Jewish unity, since whenever Jews travel they search out other Jews (and their kosher food) with whom to eat.

An unpopular scientific explanation for the origin of kashrut is that it was developed as a sort of safety precaution against certain types of food poisoning, especially in shellfish and swine. Many Jews today acknowledge the health benefits of a kosher lifestyle, but most attribute kashrut's existence to spiritual purification and not some sort of nutritionist fad. Historical evidence usually rules against the scientific explanation.

All fruits and vegetables are kosher. Wine has special restrictions, since wine was commonly used by idolaters in ancient times. To distance themselves from this practice and because wine is very special in Jewish ceremony, Jews can only drink wine prepared by Jews.

Food that is deemed kosher is given a rabbinic symbol of acceptability, a Hechsher (often a circled "K" or "U" on the front of the product). Be careful: because you can't copyright a letter of the alphabet, you can put

an uncircled K on anything, even pork rinds. All kosher food is inspected by both government inspectors and a kashrut supervisor (a mashgiach). Kosher food falls in one of three categories: meat (fleishig in Yiddish, basari in Hebrew), milk (milchig in Yiddish, halavi in Hebrew), and neither meat nor milk (pareve).

How does Kashrut apply to animals?

Here's a brief summary in five parts: 1. Certain animals are kosher, and certain animals are not kosher. 2. Of those animals that are kosher, these animals must be killed in a proper way or they also become unkosher. 3. Even if they are killed properly, and certain wrong portions of the animal are used, the meat again becomes unkosher. 4. Even if the right portions of the animal are used, and they are not completely healthy according to the letter of Jewish law, these pieces of meat now become unkosher as well. 5. Even if the portions are healthy, and they are improperly prepared in the kitchen, they too become unkosher. So it's complicated.

Which animals are OK to eat?

All birds and animals slaughtered for kosher meat are done so in accordance to strict Jewish law under constant Jewish supervision to avoid unnecessary cruelty or contamination.

Mammals — "Whatever parteth the hoof and is wholly cloven-footed and cheweth the cud, that you may eat" (Lev. 11:3). Chewing the cud is the process where certain animals eat, regurgitate and then eat again to ensure proper digestion. This means that beef, venison, lamb and goat are all OK for Jews to eat, while rabbit, hare, horse, dog, cat, camel and of course pig are not. In Judaism, only "clean," pastoral animals are used, not predatory ones (no lions, tigers or bears either).

Birds — The Bible has a long list of forbidden birds, from eagles to falcons to ostriches, but it does not say why they are forbidden. Similarly, it has a list of acceptable ones (which are different in every version of the Bible), such as turkeys, quail, quab, chicken and doves, but no description of which organs or parts make them so.

Fish — Fish have their own laws, and are normally considered to be pareve — neither meat nor milk, by Jews. Jewish law has the following to say about marine life: "These may ye eat of all that are in the waters: whatsoever hath fins and scales" (Lev. 11:9). This makes shrimp, scallops, crabmeat, clams, oysters, and snails unkosher, as well as sharks, squid and calamari. Most other fish, including tuna, salmon, whitefish and countless others, are all OK. Swordfish is an odd gray area — it is born with scales, but later in life it loses them and becomes smooth skinned. Some Jews consider this a "fish with scales" and therefore kosher, while others do not. (Lots more to come, stay tuned!)



Holly White Engaged to Gary Blum

Neal and Margi White of Warwick, R.I., announce the engagement of their daughter, Holly White, of New York, N.Y., to Gary Blum, of New York, N.Y., son of Bruce Blum of Boca Raton, Fla. He is also the son of the late Rose Blum.

The bride-to-be is the granddaughter of Helen Berkman of Willimantic, Conn., and Sanford and Bernice White of Providence, R.I. Her fiancé's grandmothers are Luba Fischer and Sherry Berman, both of Marlboro, N.J.

The bride-to-be graduated from Moses Brown, Providence, R.I. and the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa. She is currently employed by Cohn & Wolfe, a public relations firm in New York.

Her fiancé graduated from Marlboro High School, Marlboro, N.J., and The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa. He is currently employed by Goldman Sachs.

The wedding has been planned for July 21, 2001.

Langevin Speaks at State House Menorah Lighting

(Continued from Page 1)

Feinstein Foundation has done wonders for the children of Rhode Island and for the public school system. The charity of the Feinstein Foundation is one of the great institutions of giving that Rhode Island has, Rabbi Laufer said. "The theme of our evening is a world of good," Rabbi Laufer said. "Every good deed a person does is like another candle to light up the entire world."

After these introductions, members of the Chabad community, Langevin and Feinstein were all invited to light the eight candles of a large and beautiful brass menorah. They then went into a spirited medley of Hanukkah songs that echoed about in the mighty innards of the State House, including "Maoz Tzur," songs for world peace and for the quick coming of the Messiah.

Langevin called attention to the fact that Providence means "G-d provides." He said he was extremely pleased that it is possible in Rhode Island to celebrate the freedom of expression, and felt privileged to take part in lighting the menorah. He expressed his intent to "always

promote [religious] inclusion" and stated that he would bring this very important message to Congress.

Rabbi Laufer spoke of the Feinstein's crusade to help the children of Rhode Island. "They are the future generations," Rabbi Laufer said, and he gave his utmost thanks that the Feinstein Foundation is trying to help them "live a life of goodness and righteousness." Feinstein wished Rabbi Laufer a happy and joyous Hanukkah, and told those present since his mother was Buddhist before converting to Judaism, he knows all too well the importance of tolerance. He encouraged "increased kindness" throughout the holiday season and into the new year.

Rabbi Laufer then presented Langevin and Feinstein each with special menorot. "Where there is light, there is hope," Rabbi Laufer said. "We express our hope that the symbol of light from the Hanukkah candles go from this chamber and come to the land of Israel and help bring peace.... The message of goodness will prevail."

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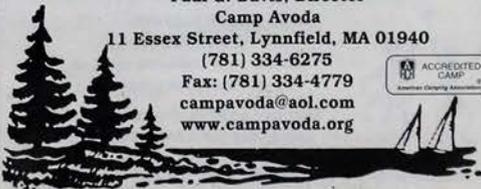
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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Local BBYO Scoops Soup For Homeless

by Luke O'Neill
Herald Editor

As the sun slowly fell one recent December evening, so did the temperatures. On a downtown Providence street corner, a few thoughtful young men, wrapped in winter coats, braved the dipping temperatures. They were there serving up warm vegetable beef soup and slices of bread for those less fortunate.

Crudely drawn, outlined letters on three posters that were taped to a nearby utility pole read, "B'nai B'rith Youth Org.," "South Street Cafe" and "Traveling Soup Kitchen."

This was the scene on the evening of Dec. 18 at the corner of Weybosset and Union streets in Providence. Four local high school students, all members of the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization, gave of their time and energy during this holiday season

drum. More and more people came pouring out of Traveler's Aid, a homeless shelter down the street.

"This is really great," said

added Hochman, "but not on the magnitude of something like this," he said, looking towards the BBYO members dishing out soup.



LEFT TO RIGHT: Evan Matzner, Craig Hochman (head down), Drew Hochman and Andrew Konicov hand out cups of soup for homeless people on a cold December night.

Herald photos by Luke O'Neill

one satisfied customer of the charitable work being done as he gripped a steaming cup of soup. The four members of BBYO, Craig and Drew Hochman, Evan Matzner and Andrew Konicov were accompanied that night by BBYO R.I. Coordinator David Hochman. Also helping out was a South Street Cafe assistant Geoff Sharp.

David Hochman, who has been the R.I. coordinator of BBYO for 24 years, pointed out that this was the first time the youth organization had organized the traveling soup kitchen. "This is the first time we've tried something like this," said Hochman, "but we've always gone to help." He cited the several BBYO visits to churches during past Thanksgivings and holidays to help those less fortunate.

"So we've done this before,"

Hochman recalled meeting with South Street proprietor Paul Kielyka one day and the two men planned the traveling soup kitchen. The food and supplies were provided by South Street Cafe with help from Sharp.

Hochman said he'd like to see the outdoor soup kitchen set up every Monday night during the winter months. He hopes that each time the South Street and BBYO collaboration organize the traveling soup kitchen that there will be different BBYO members to experience the gift of giving. Hochman estimated that just in Rhode Island, by the end of last year, he'll have nearly 150 members enrolled in the BBYO—from the sixth to 12th grades.

As the sky became darker and temperatures dropped even further on that December night, the group had quickly doled out more than 50 cups of soup. Customers just kept coming—and across the street from this humble traveling soup kitchen for the homeless, a gigantic Johnson and Wales dormitory was being erected.

Bronx Bomber

by Zev Roth

Zev Roth is an author living in Israel. The following is excerpted from his book *The Monsey-Kiryat Sefer Express: True Tales from Two Cities* (Targum Press, 2000). *Am Ehad Resources*

Unlike today's vista of decrepit buildings, dilapidated housing and rusting junked cars, the South Bronx in 1950 was the home of a large and thriving community, one that was predominately Jewish. Today a mere remnant of this once-vibrant community survives, but in the 1950s the Bronx offered synagogues, mikvas, kosher bakeries, and kosher butchers—all the comforts one would expect from an observant Orthodox Jewish community.

The baby boom of the post-war years happily resulted in many new young parents. As a matter of course, the South Bronx had its own baby equipment store. Sickser's was located on the corner of Westchester and Fox, and specialized in "everything for the baby," as its slogan ran. The inventory began with cribs, baby carriages, playpens, high chairs, "changing tables," and toys. It went way beyond these to everything a baby could want or need. Mr. Sickser, assisted by his son-in-law Lou Kirshner, ran a profitable business out of the needs of the rapidly-expanding child population. The language of the store was primarily Yiddish, but Sickser's was a place where not only Jewish families but also many non-Jewish ones could acquire the necessary paraphernalia for their newly-arrived bundles of joy.

Business was particularly busy one spring day, so much so that Mr. Sickser and his son-in-law could not handle the unexpected throng of customers. Desperate for help, Mr. Sickser ran out of the store and stopped the first youth he spotted on the street.

"Young man," he panted, "how would you like to make a little extra money? I need some help in the store. You want to work a little?"

The tall, lanky African-American boy flashed a toothy smile back. "Yes, sir, I'd like some work."

"Well, then, let's get started." The boy followed his new employer to the store.

Mr. Sickser was immediately impressed with the boy's good manners and demeanor. As the days went by and he came again and again to lend his help, Mr. Sickser and Lou both became increasingly impressed with the youth's diligence, punctuality and readiness to learn. Eventu-

ally Mr. Sickser made him a regular employee at the store. It was gratifying to find an employee with an almost soldier-like willingness to perform even the most menial of tasks, and to perform them well.

From the age of 13 until his sophomore year in college, the young man put in from 12 to 15 hours a week, at 50 to 75 cents an hour. Mostly, he performed general labor: assembling merchandise, unloading trucks and preparing items for shipments. He seemed, in his quiet way, to appreciate not only the steady employment but the friendly atmosphere Mr. Sickser's store offered. Mr. Sickser and Lou learned in time about their helper's Jamaican origins, and he in turn picked up a good deal of Yiddish. In time young Colin was able to converse fairly well with his employers, and more importantly, with a number of the Jewish customers whose English was not fluent.

"Young man," he panted, "how would you like to make a little extra money? I need some help in the store. You want to work a little?"

At the age of 17, the young man, while still working part-time at Sickser's, began his first semester at City College of New York. He fit in just fine with his, for the most part Jewish, classmates—hardly surprising, considering that he already knew their ways and their language. But the heavy studying in the engineering and later geology courses he chose proved quite challenging. Colin would later recall that Sickser's offered the one stable point in his life those days.

In 1993, in his position as the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff—two years after he guided the American victory over Iraq in the Gulf War—Colin Powell visited the Holy Land. Upon meeting Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir in Jerusalem, he greeted the Israeli with the words "Men kent reden Yiddish" (We can speak Yiddish). As Shamir, stunned, tried to pull himself together, the current secretary of state-designate continued chatting in his second-favorite language. He had never forgotten his early days in the Bronx.



THREE LARGE POSTERS on the side of Weybosset Street in Providence proclaim the happenings on the corner of Union Street Dec. 18. This first-time endeavor between BBYO and the South Street Cafe resulted in a successful traveling soup kitchen.

to help feed some of the city's homeless. B'nai B'rith is the largest Jewish human rights organization in the country.

Wearing latex gloves, the four teens ladled out cup after cup of soup from a large metal

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Hebrew University Eases Path For Staff-Developed Start-Up Ventures

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem will enable academic staff to establish their own start-up companies while also working full time at the university.

Moshe Vigdor, vice-president and director-general of the university, said the new procedures will make it possible for staff members who have developed a product or concept that lends itself to commercial application to continue with their teaching and research activities at the university, while at the same time establishing a start-up company backed by investors. The arrangement allows professors up to one day a week to devote to "company busi-

ness." This will alleviate the need for professors having to take absence-without-pay leaves in order to launch their enterprises.

Under the arrangement, the university's Yissum Research Development Company, which deals with commercialization of all university-generated knowledge, will grant the start-up companies exclusive access to the approved projects.

According to Vigdor, "Our expectations are that within the coming year some 15 start-up companies will be established on the basis of inventions deriving from university staff. This development ties in with overall university policy to further

the connection between the university and industry, investors and venture capital funds."

The university, along with its Yissum Company, is working toward the establishment of a special venture capital fund to invest in faculty-generated projects in order to help them develop into commercially viable ventures. Vigdor added that the university is also planning to establish a \$25 million venture capital fund for investing in start-up projects initiated by students at the university.

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem is now celebrating its 75th anniversary, marking 75 years of groundbreaking scholarship and research.

Winter Classes at The 'J'

The holidays have past and all you're left with are those 15 extra pounds from all those scrumptious holiday meals. The children are already bored with all the holiday gifts they had to have, and it's too cold and icy to go outdoors. What do you do to chase away those post-holiday winter blues? Come to the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island!

Beginning in January, adults and children can enjoy many different classes being offered at the JCCRI. In addition to the many tried and true programs, the JCCRI is offering some new and unique classes. The following is a sample of some of the many new classes at the JCCRI:

Early Childhood Program

Parent/Child Multi-Media Adventures in Art (ages 3 to 5) — Parent and child create original multi-media works of art by exploring different materials and techniques.

Journey Through the Jewish Life Cycle (ages 3 to 5) — Young children will explore Jewish life cycle events on their own level: from how babies get their names to b'nai mitzvah to the cherishing of grandparents.

The Wonderful World of Eric Carle (ages 3 to 5) — Young children delight in the world of Eric Carle through storytelling, creative arts and crafts.

Indoor Soccer (ages 4 to 5) — Soccer skills and game play introduced in a low intensity and fun environment.

Children and Youth Programs

Drawing and Painting Explorations (ages 6 to 9) — Children learn and explore the fundamentals of drawing and painting through sketching, landscape, still life and portraiture.

Performing Arts Workshop

(ages 8 to 12) — Children build self-awareness and confidence by exploring theatrical principles. A range of exercises will culminate in a final presentation for parents and friends.



Private Music Lessons (ages 7 to 10) — Children choose from piano, violin, or other stringed instrument (no guitar), and learn how to play.

Fencing (ages 8 to 12) — Introduce your child to a new sport emphasizing balance, fitness and concentration.

Adult and Senior Adult Programs

Introduction to Acrylic Painting — Learn painting basics of acrylics.

For information on any of the above listed classes, as well as for others being offered at the JCCRI, call the center at 861-8800.



Shalom from Ohawe Shalom

Moshe Laufer stands beside the menorah outside of Congregation Ohawe Shalom.

Herald photo by Jon Rubin

Genealogical Society Presents Events

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston presents "Fact and Fiction about Immigration," on Jan. 21 from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Walter Hickey, archives specialist in the National Archives in Waltham, Mass., will explore the content of passenger arrival records, with an emphasis on New York and Boston arrivals and Canadian border crossing records. The event will be held at Temple Reyim, 1860 Washington St. (Rte. 16), W. Newton, Mass. (Woodland MBTA). Admission is \$3, wheelchair accessible. Call (617) 796-8522.

Journey of Discovery

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston also presents "Journey of Discovery" by Alexander Woodle on Feb. 11 from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at Temple Reyim. Woodle, a librarian with the NE Historic Genealogical Society, will give a slide presentation of his search for his Bohemian family roots in the modern day Czech Republic and show a documentary film he helped make for the Ellis Island Museum. We will be treated to the first public showing of this film. Admission is \$3, wheelchair accessible. Call the above phone number for more information.

Hadassah Medical Organization Names New Director General

Professor Shlomo Mor-Yosef has been named director general of the Jerusalem-based Hadassah Medical Organization, it was announced recently by Bonnie Lipton, national president of Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America. Mor-Yosef will assume his duties on Jan. 21. He will replace Professor Avi Israeli who recently announced his resignation as head of the largest medical, treatment rehabilitation, research and teaching facility in the Middle East.

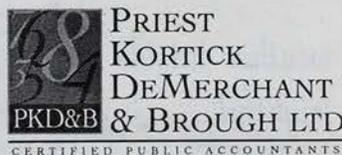
Mor-Yosef, who is currently director of the Soroka Medical Center in Beersheva, is 49 years old and a native of Jerusalem. He is a graduate of the Hebrew University-Hadassah School of Medicine, board certified in obstetrics and gynecology, and holds a master's degree in public administration from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Prior to his current appointment, Mor-Yosef served as deputy director general of the

Hadassah Medical Organization, the umbrella administration for Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center in Ein Kerem, the Hadassah University Hospital on Mount Scopus, five related medical schools, the Kiryat HaYovel Community Health Center and various out-patient clinics.

Said Belle Simon, Hadassah Medical Organization chair, of Mor-Yosef's appointment: "Professor Mor-Yosef brought his own distinctive leadership style to the Negev, which earned him a great deal of respect throughout Israel. The changes during his tenure in Beersheva have brought significant growth in terms of new projects and directions for the medical center. We look forward to him rejoining the Hadassah Medical Organization in the top-ranking position of director general."

Mor-Yosef is a physician with the rank of lieutenant colonel in the Israel Defense Forces Reserves; he is married with four children.



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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Chanukah Reflections



top right

Moshe Laufer, Providence Mayor Vincent A. Cianci, Jr., and some Laufer children representing the Chabad House stand outside Providence City Hall on the sixth day of Chanukah.

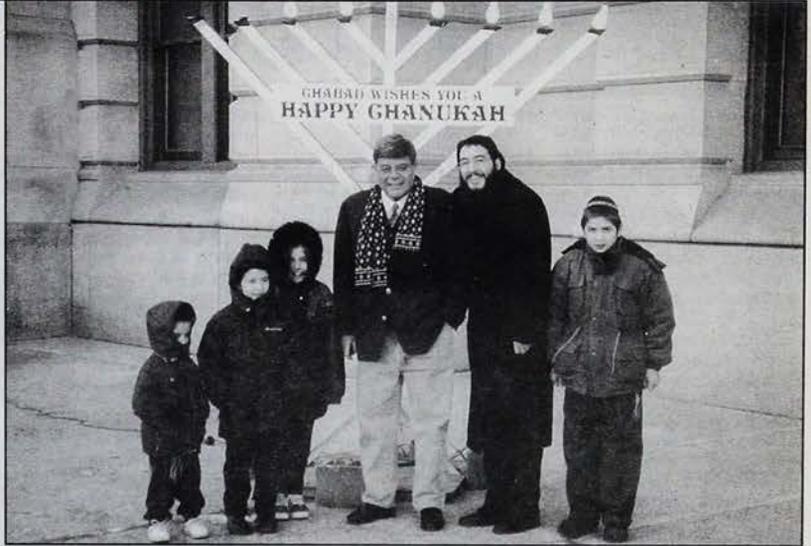
bottom right

Dance the Clown performs for a large turnout of children Dec. 24 at the Chabad House on Hope Street in Providence. The children made prayers for Israel and gave charity.

top left

Rabbi Yehoshua Laufer visited an assisted living residence to light the menorah and get residents into the Chanukah spirit.

Photos courtesy of Chabad House



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References Upon Request

Judy Kaye to Speak at Temple Emanu-El in Providence

Kulanu and the Koffler Bornstein Institute of Jewish Studies are pleased to co-sponsor a series of Brunch Programs for 2000-2001. The featured speaker at the brunch on Jan. 21 will be Judy Kaye, whose topic will be "Jewish Renewal."

Kaye, president of Judith Kaye Training & Consulting, designs and facilitates workshops for businesses, government agencies, educational institutions, and non-profit organizations in the areas of prejudice reduction, diversity, and sexual harassment prevention.

A graduate of Harvard Law School, Kaye was a legal services lawyer for 10 years representing low-income individuals and families in landlord-tenant and subsidized housing cases. She attended Brown University, where she majored in religious studies, minored in Hispanic

studies, and was active in the Brown women's minyan.

Active in Temple Emanu-El, she serves on the Social Action Committee, chairs the Religious School Committee, and helped start a meditation group. Kaye frequently leads davening at Kallah retreats and family services and is a lay cantor at High Holidays. She co-founded a Black-Jewish Dialogue Group in Providence, and organizes a community event at the synagogue on Martin Luther King Day in partnership with a local African-American church.

Kaye is married to Bruce Phillips, a family doctor who is also a founding member of the meditation group at Emanu-El. Together with their children, they attend annual retreats at Elat Chayyim, the Center for Jewish Renewal near Woodstock, N.Y., and continually try

to introduce renewal ideas and practices at the synagogue.

In addition to this Jan. 21 program, other brunch programs are scheduled for Feb. 25, March 18, and May 6, at Temple Emanu-El, 99 Taft Ave., Providence. Brunch will be served at 9:30 a.m. followed by the speaker at 10 a.m. The general topic this year is "Judaism at a Crossroads." The series is open to the public. Call Temple Emanu-El at 331-1616 to register.

PHDS Third Annual Winter Extravaganza

On Jan. 20, the Providence Hebrew Day School will host another exciting evening of raffles, musical entertainment, door prizes and delicious refreshments — all of this for free admission.

More than 50 value-packed gift packages will be raffled off including a complete computer system, two round-trip tickets on Southwest Airlines, a sterling silver menorah, a sofa, and family vacation packages to New Hampshire and Newport.

To receive a Winter Extravaganza booklet detailing all the gift packages, call Marvin Stark at 331-5327.

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Large Crowd Gathers For Chanukah Celebration

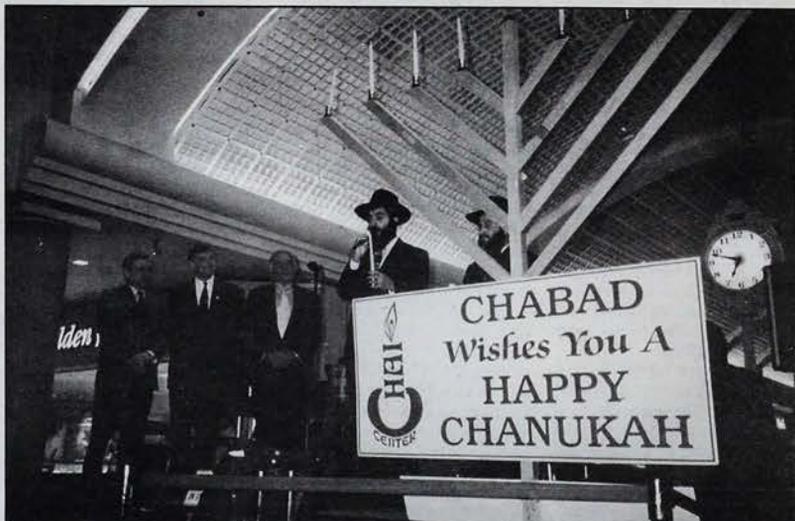
(Continued from Page 1)

menorah was on display at the mall throughout the entire week of Chanukah.

Danco the Clown then performed his trickery with juggling and a magic show leaving all celebrants, young and old, laughing and smiling.

Chabad is the largest worldwide Jewish educational and

outreach organization. Last week also capped a period of charitable work by the Chabad CHAI Center, an affiliate of Chabad of Rhode Island. The center visited hospitals, nursing homes and shut-ins to help those who could not attend Chanukah celebrations get into the Chanukah spirit.



top picture

Rabbi Ari Laine, chief Ashkenazi rabbi of Panama, holds a lit candle and addresses the large gathering at a Chabad CHAI Center Chanukah celebration last week. Rabbi Laine shares the stage with, from left to right, U.S. Sen. Jack Reed, Warwick Mayor Scott Avedisian, State Senator-elect Aram Garabedian and Rabbi Yossi Laufer.

left picture

Danco the Clown dances with a young and jubilant Chanukah celebrant as the flames of a giant menorah flicker high above in the Warwick Mall last week.

Herald photos by Luke O'Neill

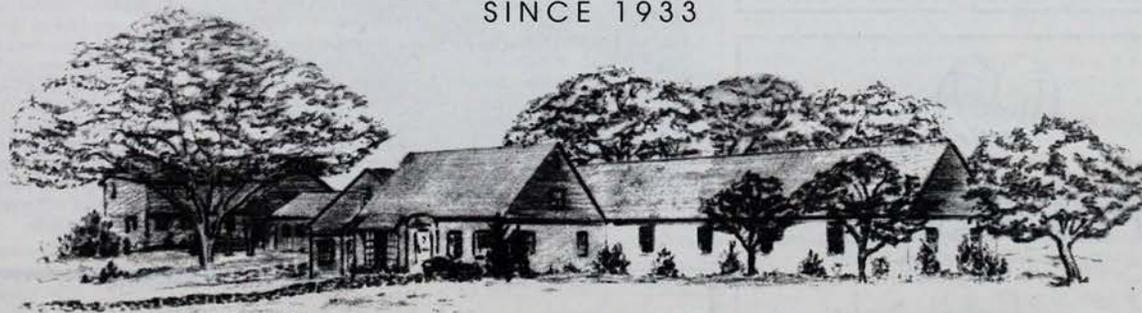


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FEATURE

U.S. Foundation Plans Delivery of Wheelchairs to Needy Persons in Mideast

Wheelchairs for the World started the New Year by delivering 940 desperately needed wheelchairs to poor and disabled Palestinians and Israelis in the conflict-ravaged Mideast region. Beginning Jan. 1, representatives of the foundation traveled to Gaza City and then on Jan. 4 to a small town near Tel Aviv, Israel where they personally delivered the devices to medical authorities for immediate use, including by severely disabled children.

Wheelchairs for the World, with a volunteer delegation of physical and occupational therapists in tow, made its first delivery of 840 wheelchairs to the Palestinian Children's Relief Fund and the Ministry of Social Affairs and Ministry of Health in Gaza, an area where some 3,500 people live with physical disabilities and the average person lives on merely \$3 (U.S.) a day. The foundation then traveled to Zerfin, near Tel Aviv, where it distributed another 100 wheelchairs at the Assaf Harofeh Medical Center. Half of the wheelchairs scheduled for delivery in Zerfin are specially equipped to correct spinal curvatures.

Wheelchairs are being donated strictly based on need without any regard to the recipients' political or diplomatic stance in the region's ongoing conflict, said noted U.S. philanthropist Ken Behring, who founded the non-profit organization this summer.

"This is about nothing other than helping make life more livable for some world citizens who struggle daily with mobility," Behring said. "We are a

humanitarian organization, not a political entity. All we are concerned with is who needs wheelchairs and where do we deliver them."

Behring added, "It is amazing the difference a wheelchair can make in the life of someone living with a disability. A wheelchair can enrich some people's lives more than many of us could ever know."

The wheelchairs are desperately needed, said Erica Reiter, of the California-based Friends of Assaf Harofeh, which helps raise funds for the Israeli hospital. "Even with limited funds for equipment, the hospital serves some of the poorest people in Israel and is in an area with one of the fastest growing populations. Because the demand for these chairs is much greater than the supply, the Wheelchairs for the World gift is a much-needed boon for the hospital. It will be particularly helpful for the hospital's pediatric and geriatric patients."

The deliveries to Israel are part of an overall effort by Wheelchairs for the World to deliver more than 1 million wheelchairs around the globe in the next five years.

Anyone can assist Wheelchairs for the World in its work. With a donation of \$150, the foundation will purchase, ship and deliver a wheelchair to someone in need. It is estimated that more than 100 million people worldwide need wheelchairs.

For more information about Wheelchairs for the World Foundation call (877) 378-3839 or visit <www.wheelchairsfortheworld.org>.

Local URI Freshman Travels to Japan After Winning ADL Essay Contest

She Participates in Ceremonies for Late Japanese Diplomat Who Saved Thousands of Jews

In the midst of the just-completed final exam period at the University of Rhode Island, Worcester's Allison Vuona hopped a couple of jets for a weeklong visit to Japan.

The freshman pre-med student wasn't avoiding the rigors of her exams. Instead, she worked around them to participate in a celebration of a late Japanese diplomat who helped thousands of Jews flee Nazi occupation.

Vuona earned the all-expense paid trip from Dec. 8 through 15 as one of three winners of the Anti-Defamation League's Sugihara "Do the Right Thing" essay contest. It was the first time the League's World of Difference Institute ran the contest. In June, Vuona won the New England Regional contest and then was entered in the national contest.

The contest was named in honor of the late Chiune Sugihara, the former Japanese consul to Lithuania who in 1940 issued more than 2,000 visas to Jewish families, who had escaped the Nazi occupation in Poland. As a result of his efforts, which met with strong resistance from the Japanese government at the time, 6,000 lives were saved. Now the country is honoring Sugihara's great moral courage 100 years after his birth.

A graduate of Doherty High School in Worcester, the 18-year-old Vuona wrote her winning essay as part of a class discussion on non-violence during her senior year. She is the daughter of Peter and Cynthia Vuona, both longtime educators. Peter is a retired principal from the Worcester School Department, and Cynthia, a URI graduate, continues to teach there.

"To have [Allison] so well-received on this essay on tolerance really bolsters what we should be teaching our children. This also shows that URI is reaching out to great kids," Peter said.

"My teacher, Marion Giocomelli, encouraged me to write," said Vuona, who wants to be a pediatrician or a pediatric surgeon. Vuona's essay talked about some little girls she babysat and some of their friends who together made fun of an-

other girl's clothes and the way she talked. They talked about ignoring her in school.

"I had never met the girl who they were making fun of, but it really bothered me how cruel they were to this girl only because she was different," Vuona wrote.

As she listened to the girls, she remembered a story called

before the mayor and it was televised. I spoke about how it was time to honor Sugihara, and how his decision impacted my life and others' lives. TV followed us around all day." Vuona said she was a little nervous at first during the speech, but she got over that quickly and worked well with a translator.

In addition to the widow of Sugihara, the U.S. ambassador to Japan, local officials, and chiefs of major Japanese companies, Vuona traveled and chatted with 86-year-old Samuel Manski, who made the trip with the students. He was one of those granted a visa through Sugihara's efforts. He lived in Japan for a time, and then emigrated to the United States. He now lives in Massachusetts, about 20 minutes from Vuona's home.

He presented Vuona with a book he wrote, *With G-d's Help*, which details his odyssey.

"Today, I am not certain why the Japanese took the trouble to issue visas to us Jewish refugees," Manski wrote. "I have heard speculation that the Japanese government was grateful for Jewish assistance in the Russo-Japanese war of 1905. Or it may have been that the consul in Kovno (Lithuania), observing

the distress around him, acted out of humanitarian motives. Whatever the reason, again G-d was with us."

Vuona, a Centennial Scholar at URI, also came back with Japanese stamps for the new millennium, and the first one issued honored Sugihara. "I also have a paperweight, which is a copy of the stamp Sugihara used to issue the visas."

Because of the ceremonies, Japan is now beginning to recognize the great contributions of Sugihara, Vuona said. "At Yatsu, the Hill of Humanity is the site of a museum dedicated to Sugihara," she said.

Established in 1913, the Anti-Defamation League is one of the nation's premier civil rights and human relations agencies. Its mission is to stop the defamation of the Jewish people and to secure justice and fair treatment to all citizens alike.



ESSAY WINNER — Allison Vuona, of Worcester, a freshman at the University of Rhode Island is one of three winners of the Anti-Defamation League's Sugihara "Do the Right Thing" essay contest.

URI News Bureau photo by Michael Salerno

Erasers she had read about a new girl in school who had been tormented. "I gave the book *Erasers* to the girls and told them to read the story. I thought that I had done the right thing and I hoped that it would make a difference. A few weeks later when I was baby-sitting for the girls again, they had their friends over, but this time they invited the girl who a few weeks ago they had been making fun of."

Although Vuona realizes her actions were not of the magnitude of Sugihara's, she said, "It is just my small contribution."

During the New England Regional awards ceremony last June, Vuona was presented \$500 and a medallion.

Vuona participated in a major ceremony at the Osaka Convention Center honoring Sugihara on Dec. 11. "And then on Wednesday, I gave a speech



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FEATURE

NCCJ Members Visit Holocaust Museum, Carry On Message

by Luke O'Neill
Herald Editor

Last month, 16 students from the Youth Council of the National Conference for Community and Justice ventured on a one-day trip to Washington, D.C., to visit the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. The Dec. 10 trip was the first time many of the students deeply explored the Holocaust and its widespread tumult. According to Robert T. Jones, program director of NCCJ, it was also the first time the Youth Council, with Jones, made the trip to the museum in the nation's capital by themselves.

Last year, explained Jones, the Youth Council took a trip to the USHMM with a contingent from the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island. The NCCJ was founded in 1927 as the National Conference of Christians and Jews and is an organization that has always fought bigotry and racism in America.

Jones said the goals of the USHMM trip was to increase awareness and education of one of history's darkest moments. He hopes this awareness can lead to open dialogue across the different racial, religious and cultural identities within the Youth Council. He also wanted students to address the fact that anti-Semitism still lurks in today's society. The Youth Council will be holding its annual high school and middle school leadership conferences Jan. 4 and 10 respectively at the Community College of Rhode Island, Liston Campus in Providence.

After the museum trip, the question arose, Jones said, of what the students could do with their new-found knowledge of

Holocaust history and how and where they could apply it to today's world and in their own lives. After their USHMM visit, students met at the WNBC affiliate in Washington, D.C., to discuss the issues of hate and ways to create positive changes in society.

Speaking with four of the high school students who made the trip to the museum, it's clear that the teens have a better understanding of the Holocaust. Although the students had a general idea of Holocaust history and happenings, they quickly discovered a more detailed account on their trip. They felt the history was a lot to take in just one day, but felt the awareness "was something that was really important," said Emily Suarez-Harris, a Moses Brown student.

Jenny Jourdain, 15, added that the trip had "a great impact and the information we got throughout is definitely something we'll carry on."

William Threat, a Mount Pleasant student, valued seeing and learning the history first hand rather than just being told or taught in a classroom. William, 17, added that the reason for his USHMM visit was for a fuller understanding of the Holocaust. "I knew what [Hitler] did, but I didn't know the main details," said William.

All four students, including Barrington High School student Kaitlin Carter, took away some powerful and lasting images from the museum. Kaitlin, 16, and the others, were moved by a large exhibit of shoes from Holocaust victims. Emily, 17, said you could smell the fabric from the shoes and that the en-



THE YOUTH COUNCIL of the National Conference for Community and Justice recently took a trip to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. Some of the people who made the trip are, from left to right, William Threat, Raydeana Watts, Dave Wasser, Kaitlin Carter, Program Director Robert T. Jones, Jenny Jourdain and Emily Suarez-Harris.

Herald photo by Luke O'Neill

tire exhibit was "really, really powerful."

The students saw mirrors, hairbrushes, suitcases, toothbrushes and clothes left behind by some Holocaust Jewish people who had to leave their homes in haste because of Nazi invasions. Emily also recalled a freight train she saw at the museum that was used to transport Jews to Auschwitz.

William was touched by an area of the museum that focused on Hitler's idea of "cleansing his

race," by eradicating handicapped people, homosexuals and many others. William said he would read some exhibit descriptions twice just to make sure he fully understood or didn't misread something. "It just hit me," he said.

On this self-guided tour, the students were also amazed by the strict categorizations and labeling imposed on people by the Nazis. Some displays, they said, relate Hitler's detailed plan of destruction including the measuring of facial features such as noses, cheek bones and examining eye color. William added he was shocked by pictures of stacked and burned bodies.

All the students agreed that perhaps the most devastating aspect was to see how young many of the victims were and tried to comprehend the loss of youthful innocence. "I was actually crying," confided William.

Disturbed by the harsh elements imposed on Holocaust children, Jenny, a Providence Country Day student, added: "[We] as youth, just us being categorized in our little groups, whatever groups are, the whole notion of that we wouldn't even have a life. You're two years old, you don't know what a life is, but then your life is taken away."

Asked if the Holocaust relates to today's world and in their own lives, Jenny mentioned that they could try to take a lesson from the Holocaust and relate it to their peers in a way their peers could understand present day and every day injustices and seclusion.

The students also recalled an analogy from a previous discussion group. William proposed: "We were describing like, maybe what Hitler did—if you put a frog in boiling hot water, he'll jump out quick. But if you put him in room temperature and slowly turn it up, you know, he'll die—and that's mainly what we're saying."

"You know, you start out cool

with them and everything and all of a sudden, little by little, it changes them until they're actually your way. So that's probably what's going on now, you know, they're probably blinding us with things we don't see."

"And the frog has adapted to that water," added Jenny.

"Right," returned William, "and I wanna see if I can open up the cover and look out, you know."

Emily also mentioned the idea of ethnic cleansing acting as a kind of modern form of Holocaust such as in Kosovo and Bosnia.

"We concluded that it's happening regardless, you know, and people don't see it," said Jenny. "People I guess wanna just keep their own tunnel vision and be blinded from everything else."

William said he felt a feeling of isolation after students discussed the idea of ethnic cleansing after the USHMM visit. "We know it's out there," he said, "but we don't know what's out there." He hinted towards a possible lack of awareness or apathy in American culture for certain foreign affairs.

"Just being on American soil, you're automatically immune to like so many other diseases that everybody outside the country can have," said William, adding that although many don't want to experience these ills, it's important to at least acknowledge them.

The students hope to preserve a lasting message from their visit to the USHMM. William came away with this message: "Don't complain. Someone's always having it worse than you are—and that really hit me in a way."

Emily extrapolated a message of taking action and not letting small, every day injustices slip by. "If you just let a rude comment go by, it goes on and it opens the door for a hateful environment, and that's how it starts."

Cast of NBC's 'The West Wing' Expressed Support For Science Research

"To help the Weizmann Institute is to help — well, just about everyone we know. But, of course, it helps millions of people we don't know. So, while lots of people have thanked us for coming, we thank you." — Bradley Whitford

Leading cast members of the Emmy Award-winning television drama, "The West Wing," appeared recently at a gathering in support of science research being conducted by the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel.

Actors Dulé Hill, Janel Maloney and Bradley Whitford, along with Executive Producer Thomas Schlamme, Producer Lew Wells and ThinkFilm Production Manager Jonathan Zurer, met with local supporters of the American Committee for the Weizmann Institute of Science. "The West Wing" cast members were in Washington to tape several episodes of the series; they expressed interest in many of the research areas being pursued at Weizmann, specifically the battle against cancer and multiple sclerosis. The Weizmann Institute is a leading international center of science and technology research and graduate study. The Institute's 2,500-strong scientific commu-



"WEST WING" AND WEIZMANN (left to right) — Weizmann supporter Rena Dweck and daughter, Susan Dweck, actor Bradley Whitford (Deputy Chief of Staff Josh Lyman), and Harriet Nahum.

Photo courtesy Weizmann Institute

nity engages in research addressing crucial problems in medicine and health, energy, technology, agriculture and the environment.

Several members of the current administration as well as other dignitaries attended the event, including Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman; Secretary to the President Betty Currie; the President's Histor-

ian Janice Kearney; Director of Save America's Treasures Bobbie Greene; Former Director of the Office of Women's Health at the Food and Drug Administration Audrey Sheppard; Former Chief Speech Writer for Vice Presidential Gore Bob Lehmann; and Susan Thaul, epidemiologist at the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences.



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Roger Williams Park Zoo Announces Conservation Lecture Series

Series Spans the Earth From Grey Seals of Nova Scotia to "Lost World" of Madagascar

Roger Williams Park Zoo's 2001 Conservation Lecture Series, a collection of nine day and evening programs, explores a variety of topics and environments with presentations from Israel, Nova Scotia, New Guinea, Africa, Madagascar, and our own backyard.

The series kicks off on Jan. 14 with Zoo Veterinary Medicine, a program designed to give viewers a glimpse into the unique and challenging work performed by zoo veterinarians every day. This lecture is one of

Evening lectures featuring special guests will be held once each month in February, March, April and May. On Feb. 8 learn about the bushmeat crisis of Central Africa from Dr. David Wilke of Boston College. Hunting has become the most immediate threat to apes, other primates and antelope in the Congo Basin, and has already resulted in widespread local extinctions throughout West Africa.

On March 8, join Peter Tyson, on-line producer of PBS's

She also served on the president's Council on Competitiveness and is a consultant for various international organizations including the World Bank and United Nations. Schneider will provide useful and inspiring insight into the world of environmental advocacy.

Finally, on May 17 Dr. Don Bruning, curator and chairman of Ornithology at the Bronx Zoo and an expert in the area of bird conservation in New Guinea, tells of his involvement with a project to develop shade grown coffee plantations, and how these plantations will help save some beautiful birds of paradise.

All Sunday afternoon lectures are held at 2 p.m. in the zoo's Meller-Danforth Education Center and are free with paid zoo admission. Zoo admission is \$6 for adults, \$3.50 for children 3 to 12 and seniors. Thursday evening lectures are held at 7 p.m. at the Museum of Natural History in Roger Williams Park. Admission for the evening programs is \$7 for zoo members and \$9 for non-members. Free refreshments are available at all programs. Space is limited. Pre-registration is recommended. Call 785-3510, ext. 358.



PICTURED ABOVE are two cotton-top tamarin monkeys who were paired through the zoo's version of "The Dating Game." How animals are chosen nationwide for breeding in zoos is the subject of the Roger Williams Park Zoo conservation "Valentine" lecture — just one of the 10 lectures offered at the zoo in 2001.

Photo courtesy of Roger Williams Park Zoo

six presented Sunday afternoons in January and February that spotlight the zoo's direct involvement in worldwide conservation programs. Topics include the disturbance of the Griffon Vulture colony in northern Israel (1/21), how to care for a polar bear (1/28), tree kangaroo conservation in Papua, New Guinea (2/4) and a look at the mating behavior of grey seals in Nova Scotia (2/18).

On Feb. 11, the zoo presents a special Valentine's Day installment with "The Dating Game," a look at the way zoos pair animals to maintain the best possible genetic health for the national population of a particular species.

"Nova," for a discussion of his new book *The Eighth Continent: Life, Death and Discovery in the Lost World of Madagascar*. Since the age of dinosaurs, hundreds of plant and animal species have evolved here and only here, while creatures extinct elsewhere for tens of millions of years now vie with modern man for survival.

On April 19, join Claudine Schneider for a special presentation, "How You Too Can Become a Planetary Citizen." Schneider served for 10 years in the U.S. Congress as a representative from Rhode Island, during which time she was instrumental in championing biodiversity and environmental initiatives.

Artists' Self-Portraits on Display at Bert Gallery

The Bert Gallery examines the art of the self-portrait with a special exhibit beginning Jan. 9, 2001, and running through Feb. 16. A gallery night reception will be held Jan. 18 from 6 to 8 p.m.

The psyche of the artist is tapped in unusual ways with the self-portrait. Some artists concentrate on the iconographic elements of their craft, such as palette and brush. Others use the self-portrait to examine the inner workings of their mind. This exhibit will highlight the broad range of self-interpretation as seen through the works of artists such as Kenn Speiser, Frank Gasbarro, Paula Martiesian, Joyce Devine, Brian Goblik, Riva Leviten, and other historical artists.

Martiesian, a Rhode Island School of Design graduate, is known for her paintings of lush surfaces and strong designs. Her love of color and composition is evident in her work for this show. Goblik, a painter,

uses oil pastels to create his self-portrait. He began using oil pastels "as a tool for transcribing new visual and meditative experiences quickly as I traveled about."

Speiser, a sculptor, known for using unusual found objects in his pieces, has created a self-portrait for this show using an enlarged fingerprint of his right thumb, as well as thousands of film discs from old slides. Gasbarro, whose style leans towards large colorful abstract paintings, will also be creating a special figurative self-portrait.

The other artists in the show represent self-portraiture in its many forms — from the contemporary to the more traditional self-portraits of artists such as Florence Leif and James Herbert.

The Bert Gallery, located at 540 South Water St. in Providence, is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, and noon to 4 p.m. Saturdays. For more information, call 751-2628.

If you have an event you would like featured on our Arts & Entertainment Page, please send it to the Rhode Island Jewish Herald, P.O. Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 02940 or fax to 726-5820.

All-Star Cast Comes to Foothills for 'The Cemetery Club'

A Comedy About Three Jewish Women

Foothills Theatre Company's favorite female performers Ellen Colton, Sheila Ferrini, Cheryl McMahon, and Bobbie Steinbach will appear in Ivan Menchell's comedy, "The Cemetery Club," running Jan. 4 through 28 at Foothills Theatre Company.

"The Cemetery Club" is a fun and sentimental comedy about three Jewish women — Doris, Ida, and Lucille — who get together on a regular basis to kvetch, play canasta, and visit their dead husbands. Despite all that these friends have in common, there are crucial issues which have the potential to drive them apart: among them are "How much should you pay for a fur coat?" and the looming question, "When is the right time to start dating again?" Doris, played by Bobbie Steinbach, refuses to entertain the notion while Lucille, played by Ellen Colton, can't wait for her next date. Ida, played by Sheila Ferrini, is torn between the two options. Rounding out the five-person cast is Cheryl

McMahon as Mildred and Paul Wildman as Sam. "The Cemetery Club" is directed by Jack Neary who last directed his own play, "Jerry Finnegan's Sister," at Foothills Theatre in November.

All four actresses in the cast have graced stages throughout New England. Colton is a company member of that comedy phenomenon "Shear Madness" at the Charles Playhouse in Boston, where she has acted in more than 700 performances as the Beacon Hill socialite Mrs. Shubert. Ferrini received an Elliot Norton Award for her performance as Grandma Kurnitz in the Lyric Stage Company of Boston's "Lost in Yonkers." McMahon appeared in the Hasty Pudding Theatre's critically acclaimed production of "Cabaret" as the replacement for Marnie Nixon, in the role of Fraulein Schneider. And Steinbach recently appeared in Huntington Theatre Company's praised production of "Dead End." Colton, McMahon, and Steinbach all appeared in

Foothills Theatre Company's smash comical hit production of Neil Simon's "Rumors" last season.

"The Cemetery Club" will begin preview performances on Jan. 4 at 8 p.m. The regular run of the show will begin on its opening gala Jan. 7 at 2 p.m. The run of the show will conclude on Jan. 28. The regular run of the show will include performances Wednesdays through Sundays. Adult ticket prices range from \$19.50 to \$25, depending on the date and time of the show. Student tickets are available, in advance, for \$12. An ASL interpreted performance is being scheduled for Jan. 27 at 4 p.m.

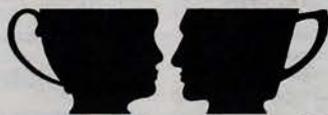
For ticket information, call the box office at (508) 754-4018 (Voice/TTY). Group rates are also available and can be obtained by calling Dianne Wilmot at (508) 754-4018. Foothills Theatre is located on the courtyard off Commercial Street adjacent to the Worcester Common Outlets and is completely handicapped accessible.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



City Nights Presents 'Wait Until Dark'

City Nights Dinner Theatre announces performances of the thriller "Wait Until Dark." The show is produced by David Jepson and opens Jan. 13 and runs as follows:

In the evenings of Jan. 13, 19; and 20; matinee, Jan. 21; evenings of Jan. 25, 26, and 27; and matinee, Jan. 28. Susy is a blind girl living with her husband in Greenwich Village and is involved in a deadly cat and mouse game with one of the most evil characters ever written for the stage. At the center of the mystery is a child's doll. Susy holds the key. The murderer and his henchmen are determined to recover it at any cost. A first rate shocker!

City Nights is located at the center of downtown Pawtucket at 27 Exchange St. The theater is at the intersection of Exchange and Broad streets on the left-hand side. There are four parking lots within a half a block of the theater.

Tickets for the dinner and show total \$23 to \$26 a person. Arrival time for evening performances is from 6 to 7 p.m. with dinner 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. Cocktails and soft drinks are available at the bar for all performances. Show only is \$14 to \$17 per person.

Reservations are also being taken for the comedy "Steel Magnolias," which opens Feb. 10. Tickets for City Nights are by reservation only. For reservations or other information, call the box office at 723-6060.



CITY NIGHTS DINNER THEATRE presents "Wait Until Dark." Kathy Oliverio and Sonny Dufault star in the show.

Photo by D. Jepson

Spertus Museum Announces Competition Guidelines

Entry guidelines are available for the next installment of the Spertus Prize, a biennial, juried competition for the creation of Jewish ceremonial art, sponsored by Spertus Museum (of Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies, 618 South Michigan Avenue). Open to artists of all nationalities and religions, the competition awards a \$10,000 prize to the winning artists, determined by the jury.

The object to be created for the upcoming Spertus Prize competition is the *mezuzah* (container for parchment with a biblical inscription). The winner and finalists will be awarded in the year 2002, and will be featured in an exhibition at Spertus Museum and included in a published exhibition catalogue.

The Spertus Prize is designed to stimulate debate about the criteria determining quality ceremonial art, and to foster greater appreciation for all Judaic art forms. Underwritten by Philip and Sylvia Spertus, and organized by the Spertus Museum, it has become the largest competition for contemporary Judaica.

Deadline for entries is Dec. 28, 2001. For more information or to obtain entry guidelines, contact Spertus Prize Competition, 618 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill. 60605; fax (312) 922-3934; or e-mail <musm@spertus.edu>.

The largest Jewish museum between the coasts, Spertus Museum invites visitors to encounter the realm of Jewish history, religion, art and culture through its exhibitions and programs. For more information, call (312) 322-1747.

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Mystic Seaport Celebrates Amistad, MLK Day and Black History Month

Vessel That Rescued Holocaust Jews Also on Exhibit

Mystic Seaport, the nation's leading maritime museum, located in Mystic, Conn., welcomes home the freedom schooner, Amistad, with a celebration that begins Martin Luther King Jr. weekend and lasts through February, Black History Month.

Be among the first to see more than a dozen quilts comprised of blocks with themes related to ethnicity, cultural diversity, issues of human rights, the Amistad story or maritime history in an exhibit that will go on display Jan. 14, the first day of the Martin Luther King weekend, through April 15. Since the Amistad Friendship Quilt Project began in 1999, more than 650 blocks have been submitted from as far away as West Africa. The quilts represent various images of the Amistad Africans, symbols of freedom and bondage, the ship Amistad, and flags from America, Cuba and Spain, to name a few. Some squares are designs that were used in 19th-century America as signals on the Underground Railroad.

All Things Amistad

Climb aboard the freedom schooner, Amistad, and learn how traditional disciplines, such as geography, history and navigation sparked by the co-operation and communication that a sailing ship naturally teaches, make sailing aboard this hand-crafted vessel a unique, enriching experience. Be sure to visit two Mystic Seaport exhibits and explore the Amistad story, past and present, in greater detail. Voyage to Freedom, in the P.R. Mallory Wing examines the conflict over the Amistad case and features nautical charts, ship models and original legal documents relating to the Amistad incident. Artifacts from Africa's Mende tribe, of which many Amistad Africans belonged, and images from Steven Spielberg's movie, "Amistad," partially shot at Mystic Seaport, are presented. At the other end of the museum, in the shipyard where Amistad was built over two years and 45,000 person hours, you'll find a new exhibit highlighting the creation of Amistad and her first season of sailing. The words of Amistad Captain Bill Pinkney, the first African American to sail solo around the world, ex-

cerpted from his log, will recount one man's voyage aboard this special ship.

Black History Month Happenings

In addition to exploring Amistad exhibits and quilt show, and going on board the ship itself, Mystic Seaport is offering two other events in cel-

and media and reference guides will be discussed. The \$10 fee includes materials, refreshments, all-day admission to Mystic Seaport and the opportunity to see the Amistad Friendship Quilt Project exhibition. Reservations are required and may be made by calling (860) 572-0711, ext. 5270, or (Continued on Page 15)



Amistad

Photo by Bill Grant, Mystic Seaport

bration of Black History Month: On Feb. 3, Hoist The Flag: A Kids' Funshop has youngsters, ages 6 to 12, experience the beauty of West African fabrics and textiles that tell tales of history, identity and culture. The workshop is free with admission to Mystic Seaport and is limited to 18 participants. Reservations are required and may be made by calling (860) 572-5322 or e-mail <beverly@mysticseaport.org>.

On Feb. 24, Amistad Teachers' Workshop — Teachers will learn how to make Amistad come to life for their students. Sample curriculum materials

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OBITUARIES



STEVEN LAWRENCE COHEN

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. — Steven Lawrence Cohen, 56, formerly of Providence, an engineer, died Dec. 17 in Virginia Beach Hospital.

He was the husband of Elizabeth Cohen. They were married for 34 years. Born in Providence, he was the son of the late Howard Cohen and Rebecca Tapper.

He was a graduate of St. Leo's College and was employed by Allied Technology Group.

He was a Navy veteran of the Vietnam War, serving from 1962 and retiring in 1988 as a chief petty officer. He was a recipient of the Vietnam Service Medal.

Besides his wife, he leaves his children, Jennifer and Robert, both of Virginia Beach; a brother, Kenneth Cohen of Johnston and numerous extended family in the Virginia Beach area. He was the brother of the late Robert Cohen.

A chapel service was conducted by Rabbi Seth Phillips, Lt. Commander U.S. Navy, at H.D. Oliver Funeral Home in Virginia Beach. Burial followed in Eastern Shore Chapel Cemetery with military honors.



JAMES GOLDSMITH SARASOTA, Fla.

— James Goldsmith, 86, of Chlanders Forde, formerly of Providence, vice president of the former Gerald C. Finkelman Inc., now the Egis Group, before he retired, died Dec. 27 at home.

He was the husband of Marion (Jagoliner) Goldsmith. They were married for 54 years. Born in Providence, a son of the late Philip and Adele (Schlossberg) Goldsmith, he had lived in Providence most of his life before moving to Florida several years ago.

During the push for fair housing in the 1950s and 1960s, he actively worked with Citizens United for a Fair Housing Law for legislation promoting fair housing without regard to race or religion.

He had been in the insurance business since 1946 and was executive vice president of Kagan & Shawcross Inc. He had been president of the Independent Insurance Agents of Rhode Island, a national board member of the Independent Insurance Agents of America, chairman of the Eastern Agents Conference, an honorary member of the advisory board of the New England Associations of Insurance Agents, and a board member of the Professional Insurance Agents of New England.

He was a member of the URI Insurance Education Committee and an insurance instructor at Bryant College and Johnson & Wales University. He was past president of the Exchange Club in Providence.

During World War II, he served in the Army for five years, advancing from private to infantry captain and held several awards and decorations for combat service in Europe, including the Bronze Star. He served with the 60th Armored Infantry Battalion, 9th Armored Division.

He was a member of Temple Beth-El. He had served on the board of trustees and with the Social Action Committee of Temple Emanu-El. He was a former board member of Trinity Repertory Company and an executive board member of the Foundation for Repertory Theatre in Rhode Island. He served on the board of the Urban League of Rhode Island, the Mental Health Association of Rhode Island and Volunteers In Action, where he served as past vice president.

He was former chairman of the advisory council of the Retired Senior Volunteers Program and a member of the National Conference of Christians and Jews. He was a volunteer patient representative at Rhode Island Hospital, Jane Brown building from 1982 to 1992.

Besides his wife, he leaves a daughter, Barbara J. Goldsmith of Barrington; a son, David P. Goldsmith of Harmony; and two grandchildren. He was the father of the late Dorothy Gold-

smith Jansma, and brother of the late Maurice Goldsmith, Esther Press and Rose Kunstler.

The funeral service was held Dec. 31 in Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence. Burial was in Sharon (Mass.) Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Camp Dotty, c/o The Tomorrow Fund, R.I. Hospital Campus, 593 Eddy St., Providence, R.I. 02903-4947 or Jewish Family Service, 229 Waterman St., Providence, R.I. 02906. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

MURIEL G. LEACH

PROVIDENCE — Muriel G. Leach, 84, of Freeman Parkway, an award-winning community activist and volunteer, died Jan. 1 at Miriam Hospital.

She was the wife of the late Max Leach. Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Ernest I. and Sophie (Lorsch) Daurel, she was a lifelong resident of the city. A past president and treasurer of the former Jewish Home for the Aged (now the Jewish Seniors Agency), she was the first woman to hold those positions. She was a 35-year member of the agency's admissions committee, and a member of the endowment committee. In 1992, she was the recipient of the agency's first Alexander Rumpel Award.

She was a past president of the Jewish Home Women's Association, a member of the board of Jewish Family Service, and a member of several committees of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, including its Women's Division Board.

She was a member of the Corporation of Women & Infants Hospital, a member of the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island and a member of the Miriam Hospital Women's Association.

She was president of the Providence Chapter of Hadasah, treasurer of the Western New England Region Board, chairperson of the Region Fundraising and American Affairs Committee, a member of the executive board, and chairperson of the Wills and Bequests Committee. In 1995, she was named Woman of the Year by the Providence Hadassah.

(Continued on Page 15)



Ask The Director

by Michael D. Smith F.D./R.E.
Shalom Memorial Chapel

I understand that there is a one-time death benefit for a spouse. Please explain how to get this benefit. A.F., Providence

I believe that you are referring to the Social Security Administration's death benefit. There is a one-time lump-sum death benefit of \$255 paid to a surviving spouse. The funeral director sends a form to Social Security advising them of the death. The spouse then has to apply for the benefit, either by phone, by mail or by going to the nearest Social Security office. There is a toll-free telephone number available for information on how to apply and what paperwork you will need. The phone number is (800) 772-1213. By calling this phone number the operator will schedule an appointment for you or arrange for the local Social Security office to take your claim by phone.

I travel both in and out of the country quite often. If I die out of state or in another country, what would my survivors have to do to get me back to Rhode Island for burial? T.S., Pawtucket

First of all, a person who does extensive traveling should decide which local funeral home will take care of him/her at the time of need. This being done, the family will call that local funeral home and the funeral director will arrange for the deceased to be returned home. Your funeral director has contacts throughout the world to make the transfer flow smoothly. Within the United States, it is relatively easy to arrange for transferring the deceased back home. Out of the country, a U.S. embassy or consulate must have the name of a funeral home in the home city in order to ship the deceased. Having a pre-selected funeral home will save the survivors from having to investigate and decide upon a funeral home under pressure. It would also make good sense to give the funeral home of your choice all of the vital statistics prior to traveling, just in case the need arises. This information is totally confidential and would give the family a little more security knowing that the director has all of the necessary information.

If no preparations are made with a local funeral home prior to traveling, and a death occurs, your local funeral home will still be the best resource for having the deceased brought back home efficiently and safely. Not having pre-arrangements made would delay the process. It is always better to know whom you are dealing with, rather than a stranger in a strange city or country.

What is traditionally inscribed on a monument and do I have to be traditional with the wording? S.K., Warwick

Most monuments traditionally have a Star of David, the family name, deceased person's first name, dates of birth and death and an endearment such as beloved husband, father and grandfather, all in English on the front. The Hebrew name and Hebrew date of death are on the back of the monument, along with 5 Hebrew symbols that mean "may his or her soul be bound up in the bond of eternal life." Having the inscriptions on both the front and back of the monument would be the standard for a double monument. Usually a single monument has all of this same information inscribed on the front of the monument. There are no hard and fast rules as to what words are inscribed. The wording is individual and personal. If there is a personal phrase that is meaningful or inspirational to your family, there is no reason that it could not be inscribed.

Questions are welcomed and encouraged. Send your questions to: "Ask The Director," c/o Shalom Memorial Chapel, 1100 New London Ave., Cranston, RI 02920, phone: 463-7771, e-mail: <shalomchapel@aol.com> or write The Rhode Island Jewish Herald, P.O. Box 6063, Providence, RI 02940.

Michael D. Smith is a licensed funeral director and owner of Shalom Memorial Chapel.

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Obituaries

(Continued from Page 14)

She was past president of the Providence Chapter of the Junior Hadassah, president of the New England Region Junior Hadassah, and a member of the National Board of the Junior Hadassah.

A past president of the Rhode Island section of the National Council of Jewish Women, she was co-chairperson of the Russian Resettlement Committee.

She was a past chairperson of the Israel Bonds Women's Division of Rhode Island and a member of the Cabinet of Israel Bonds of Rhode Island. In 1999, she received the organization's Deborah Award.

She was a member of Temple Emanu-El and a graduate of its Ben/Bat Torah Program.

In 1980, she was appointed by then-Gov. Joseph Garrahy to serve as a delegate to the White House Conference on Families. In 1982, she received a Community Service Award from the Rhode Island Section of the National Council of Jewish Women. And in 1986, she received a medal for Community Service for her volunteerism in Providence.

She leaves two sons, David H. Leach and Bruce A. Leach, and a daughter, Susan Leach DeBlasio, all of Providence; and a granddaughter. She was the sister of the late Paula Rockowitz and Marshall Dauer.

The funeral service was held Jan. 3 in Temple Emanu-El, Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Jewish Eldercare of R.I., 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence, R.I. 02906. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

MICHAEL NAMEROW

PROVIDENCE — Michael Namerow, 47, of Colonial Road, a salesman for his brother in the carnival toy business, died Dec. 27 at home.

A lifelong city resident, he was a son of Pauline (Robinson) Namerow of Providence and the late Bernard Namerow. A Hope High School graduate, he was a driver for Standard Glass for many years.

Besides his mother, he leaves a brother, Andrew S. Namerow of Providence.

The funeral service was held Dec. 29 at the Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to your favorite charity. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel.

EDITH NULMAN

PROVIDENCE — Edith (Bernon) Nulman, 78, of Barbour Drive, died Dec. 30 at home.

She was the wife of the late Ira Nulman. Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Morris and Sara (Simon) Bernon, she had lived in Providence for many years before moving to Royal Palm Beach, Fla., in 1979 and returning to Providence in 1994.

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

An avid golfer and bowler, she was a former member of Crestwood Country Club and past president of the Temple Beth-El women's bowling league. She was a graduate of Central High School.

She leaves a son, Michael B. Nulman of Providence; a daughter, Lisa J. Nulman of North Providence; and a brother, Philip Bernhardt of Lauderhill, Fla. She was the sister of the late Paul Bernon and Ethel Rodinsky.

The funeral was held Jan. 2 in Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave. Burial was in Swan Point Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to American Cancer Society, 400 Main St., Pawtucket, R.I. 02860. The family was assisted with the arrangements by the Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

Mystic Seaport

(Continued from Page 13)

e-mail <penny@mysticseaport.org>

Let Freedom Ring

Amistad is one of three "freedom boats" at Mystic Seaport this winter. Gerda III, a Danish lighthouse tender that rescued several hundred Jews during the Holocaust, is on exhibit. This fully restored, 20-ton vessel is on loan from the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York. Inside Mystic Seaport's newest and most ambitious exhibit ever, Voyages: Stories of America and the Sea, you'll find Analuisa, the third freedom boat at the museum. Nineteen Cubans and their dog crowded into this 20-foot fishing boat — risking death by dehydration or drowning — and attempted to motor from Cuba to the United States. The group was rescued by a cruise liner and abandoned their small boat on the open sea. Soon thereafter four neighbors from Mariel, also trying to reach America, at the mercy of the Gulf Stream after their tiny boat's engine failed, miraculously found Analuisa and motored her to Key West.

Voyages is the country's first exhibit to offer a national perspective of the sea's profound role in defining our national identity.

Mystic Seaport — The Museum of America and the Sea — was founded in 1929 and is the nation's leading maritime museum, housing the largest collection of boats and maritime photography in the world. Admission is \$16 for adults, \$8 for youth (ages 6 to 12). Children under 5 and members enjoy free admission at all times. Mystic Seaport is located one mile south of I-95, exit 90, in Mystic, Conn. Call (888) 9SEAPORT (973-2767) for more information or visit <www.mysticseaport.org>

A Level Praying Field

(Continued from Page 3)

fered by the physical world. It always wants more, desires something greater. It yearns for an experience that is unlimited, an experience that is "complete." It yearns to touch the infinite, to touch G-d Himself.

Part of the expression of that yearning is prayer. And yet the endeavor remains baffling. If an infinite and omniscient G-d knows exactly what we need and want, and has chosen not to give that particular thing to us, how can asking Him for it possibly have any value?

In *The Art of Jewish Prayer*, Rabbi Yizchok Kirzner, of blessed memory, conveys the traditional Jewish understanding: "The purpose of prayer is not to change G-d. G-d does not change... [Rather, prayer is an opportunity] to transform ourselves into more developed people through having to ask G-d to fulfill our physical and material needs. Prayer is a vehicle through which we can forge a relationship with G-d and make Him a reality in our lives rather than an abstract concept."

And by creating a world in which every individual has unfulfilled needs, G-d has created the opportunity for human beings to relate to Him.

Our infertile Matriarchs were

spurred by their conditions to create that relationship through continuous, soul-searching prayer. And when they achieved their incredible closeness with G-d, as it happened, children followed. G-d's purpose in making them unable to conceive had been achieved.

Yet not all prayers are answered in the affirmative like those of our Matriarchs. There are times when the wish we express in our prayers is not granted. In those cases, G-d simply deems it better for us to not have what we desire. Our prayers in such cases are no less meaningful, no less creative of a relationship with the Divine, and, if we are sufficiently sensitive, we come away from the experience able to view the things we lack in a new light. No longer do we experience our deficit as arbitrary but rather as something G-d has decided to withhold, for our ultimate good.

And so, prayer is *always* beneficial, whether our prayers affect the hopes they contain or not. The "praying field" is a level one; and everyone always wins.

Jews are commanded to pray, to connect with the Infinite, each day (Jewish men thrice daily). By doing so, we become better able to place the challenges of the day into perspective.

I personally pray at a local synagogue not far from my home. It's a wonderful congregation with a very special atmosphere. Morning prayers usually take 50 minutes, and the afternoon/evening prayers about half an hour.

When I lead the service, though, it sometimes takes a little longer.

Because, you see, I still have my speech impediment.

Am Echad Resources: Rabbi Yaakov Rosenblatt, a member of the faculty of the Dallas Area Torah Association, is the author of All I Need to Know, I Learned in Yeshiva, (Targum Press, 1995) and Maharal for the Layman (soon to be published by Feldheim Publishers).

NCJW Opposes Nomination

(Continued from Page 3)

sends a message to women and minorities that the new administration favors policies far outside the mainstream of American values and jurisprudence. It calls into question whether the new administration intends to defend the policies in place that have been enacted at the behest of the American people and tested in the courts over the decades.

"In view of these considerations, the National Council of Jewish Women opposes this nomination and will advocate against Senate confirmation of Sen. John Ashcroft."

NCJW is a volunteer organization, inspired by Jewish values, that works to improve the quality of life for women, children and families and to ensure individual rights and freedoms through research, education and community service programs initiated by its network of 90,000 volunteers, supporters and members nationwide.

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R.I. Jewish Herald classified ads cost \$3 for 15 words or less. Additional words cost 12 cents each. Payment must be received by Monday at 4 p.m. prior to the Thursday when the ad is scheduled to appear. This newspaper will not, knowingly, accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the R.I. Fair Housing Act and Section 804(c) of title VIII of the 1968 Civil Rights Act. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwelling/housing accommodations advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

The Art of The Mensch

(Continued from Page 3)

ask me, "What is His name? What shall I say?" And G-d said to Moses, "Ehyeh Asher Ehyeh"; translated loosely, "I am who I am" (Exodus: 13-14). To "be how you are" is to judge with equanimity, without preconceived notions, renouncing preferences and remaining, at all times, balanced. It's all so remarkably simple and yet as if by alchemy, people transform themselves. And the best part is — that as you learn to accept and to listen to other people's suffering, while developing as a mensch, you learn to accept yourself as well.

Velvel "Wally" Spiegler lives in Rehoboth, Mass. He is a certified polarity therapist and a student and teacher of Jewish mysticism whose primary interest is in Jewish approaches to the healing of mind, body, and spirit. He can be reached for comments or questions at his Web site at <www.geocities.com/JewishLink>

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Looking Back To Chanukah

Menorah lighting ceremonies took place all over the state for Chanukah, including this intimate one on the first night, Dec. 21, at EPOCH Assisted Living on Blackstone Boulevard in Providence. More than a dozen residents watched Sam Bresnick, pictured above, light the first candle. Residents exchanged greetings of "Happy Chanukah," remembered the song "I Have a Little Dreidel," and of course everyone received Chanukah gelt. EPOCH hosted community menorah lighting ceremonies at sundown all throughout Chanukah in the facility's Fireplace Lounge.

Herald photo by Luke O'Neill

Girl Scout Troops Get Ready For Annual Cookie Sale

All Proceeds Remain in The Local Area to Support Girl Scout Program

The 16 members of Junior Girl Scout Troop 213, like their 13,500 sister Girl Scouts in the Rhode Island area, are getting ready for the annual Girl Scout Cookie Sale which kicks off on Jan. 5. They have a goal.

"For four years these girls have been planning and saving cookie sale proceeds for this trip to Washington," said troop leader Robin Menoche of Burrillville. "With the proceeds from this year's sale they hope to meet their goal. While in the nation's capital they plan to visit the monuments, ride the D.C. ducks and hopefully meet the new president."

The annual cookie sale is an event that works in two ways. "It raises funds for an organization that supports girls with fun,

informal learning activities while cultivating values, social conscience and self-esteem," states Nancy Armstrong of North Kingstown, chair of the 2001 Girl Scout Cookie Sale in the Rhode Island area. "It also teaches important life skills such as goal setting, money management and teamwork."

All proceeds support local Girl Scout programs. A portion of each sale goes to troops where the girls can make decisions about how it is spent.

This year's local cookie sale service project is "Friends from the Forest" to provide stuffed animals to help comfort children who are victims and seek care at the Sexual Assault & Trauma Resource Center of Rhode Island. Customers may

also buy boxes of cookies for Girl Scouts to deliver to a local food bank through the national Gift of Sharing Community Service Project.

For \$3 a box, the same price as last year, customers can enjoy Thin Mints, Do-si-dos (peanut butter cremes), Tagalongs (peanut butter patties), Samoas, Trefoils, Lemon Drop, and reduced-fat Apple Cinnamon. The new cookie this year is Aloha Chips with Macadamia Nuts.

People who are not contacted by a Girl Scout may order cookies at 331-4500, ext. 0. These orders will be credited to the local troop that delivers the order.

Girl Scouts of Rhode Island is a member agency of the United Way of Southeastern New England.

'Painting With Light'

Don Gregory's "Painting With Light," an exhibition of photographs, will be on display at the Providence Art Club through Jan. 19. Opening reception is Jan. 7, from 2 to 4 p.m. Gallery Night is Jan. 18, from 5 to 9 p.m. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday 2 to 4 p.m. and Sunday 2 to 4 p.m. The Providence Art Club, Dodge House Gallery is located at 11 Thomas St., Providence, R.I. Call 331-1114.



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Attention Readers

Bridal

2001 ISSUE

WE WANT YOUR WEDDING PHOTOS

THE R.I. JEWISH HERALD IS PUTTING TOGETHER ITS SPECIAL BRIDAL ISSUE SET FOR FEB. 15.

The Herald would like your help and participation by sending in old and new wedding pictures of friends, family members and especially yourself! Send in your pictures with the proper identifications and brief explanations of the wedding story. Old wedding photos accompanied with long-time anniversary pictures are especially welcome. The deadline for submissions is February 7.

*Send your submissions to the Rhode Island Jewish Herald
P.O. Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 02940
Phone (401) 724-0200 or fax (401) 726-5820.*

Please indicate if you would like your pictures returned. Also include proper contact names, addresses and phone numbers if we have any questions.

Thank you.



CHABAD
Wishes You A
HAPPY
CHANUKAH



Young and Old Love Chanukah

Benjamin Issac Morton, 2, was one of the many young Chanukah celebrants at a Chanukah celebration at the Warwick Mall Dec. 27. The celebration, featuring dignitaries and fun for the whole family, is an annual event organized by the CHAI Center Chabad of West Bay. Benjamin enjoyed standing on a small platform underneath Chabad's Chanukah sign.

Herald photo by Luke O'Neill