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Photos on page 16

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Jewish Ethicists, Experts Put Stem Cells Under the Microscope

by Jon Rubin
Herald Editor

An organism no thicker than an eyelash has crash-landed into the political arena, and the medical community, the research and business sectors, and religious

pair tissue, and provide new insights into battling Parkinson's disease, diabetes, heart disease and other ailments.

A number of groups, the most powerful of which are on the Catholic right, are vigorously opposed to stem cell research

gal tradition (Halacha), which includes both ancient law and modern responsive literature and reinterpretation.

There is no doubt that Judaism has always stressed the importance of healing and medicine. Since our bodies are crafted in G-d's image, we are required to treat them as holy objects, and we are commanded to both avoid self-injury and to seek medical attention if we are ill. Judaism views physicians and doctors as "partners with G-d" in their mission to heal and bring life.

The Torah permits the use of both natural and artificial methods to heal ourselves. The frequently championed Jewish value of pikuach nefesh ("the saving of a life") requires us to save the lives of others, an act which is ruled as being more important than almost any other commandment. Pikuach nefesh has been used in the past many times as justification for numerous forms of medical experimentation, including genetic engineering.

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What are stem cells?

Human embryonic stem cells are found in extremely early-stage embryos (fertilized eggs), which are usually not more than one-hundred cells in size. Stem cells are "master cells" that have the potential to form practically any of the body's tissues, from brain to skin to heart to liver.

Many researchers believe that stem cells can potentially be used to replace cells that are damaged or diseased, and may be effective in curing a host of illnesses, including Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's, diabetes, multiple sclerosis, heart disease, spinal cord damage, and juvenile diabetes. Stem cells are cultivated inside a petri dish outside of the human body.

and ethical authorities are all squabbling over its potential use. The issue lies with the recently discovered stem cell, extracted from human embryos outside the womb when it is less than one week old. Researchers say stem cells promise the unbelievable potential to heal organs, re-

and view it as destroying human life. The Jewish community, however, is only starting to stand on a soapbox. Because Judaism is not a hierarchical religion like Catholicism, there is no "top-down" consensus on moral or ethical issues. Judaism derives morality through the ethical-le-

Seniors Explore Spirituality

by Seth Bromley
Editorial Assistant

According to Susan Adler of Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island, the spiritual needs of the aging are the same as those of everyone else—identity, meaning, love, wisdom. "Basic [spiritual] needs don't change, they intensify."

Adler asked, "How do you hold onto things spiritually as

you go through life?" This was the focal point on July 23 for the discussion group that meets once a month at the Village at Hillsgrove, an assisted living community in Warwick. Adler leads the discussion, and can always count on active participation from regular participants. This time the group concentrated on ways to explore and express their spirituality.

Adler began by quoting a dictionary definition of spirit and spirituality, and gave some examples of what these words meant to her. She felt that for herself and many others, one of the most spiritually fulfilling things is "making connections with people." She said that sometimes through relationships with other people, "you

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'Hidden Jews' at the JCC

by Jon Rubin
Herald Editor

On July 20 at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, Rabbi Natan Schafer of Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island, a program of Jewish Seniors Agency, spoke to a small group of elderly residents about "Hidden Jews." He told the tale of "Yossela the Holy Miser of Krakow," which told the story of a man who secretly supported the poor of an entire town when he was alive, while he had everyone convinced he was a stingy and uncaring man. This "miser" thus completed one of the highest forms of charity in Judaism—to give without letting other people know—and was well-received when he passed to the other side.

Rabbi Schafer said that it is best to act while being "hidden," just as "G-d's presence is completely hidden."

He then finished the session one of his popular niggunim (melodies) taken from a Viennese Waltz, and opened up the floor to some questions from the group.

JWV Memorial Wall Hits Delays

Unearthed Well Slows Construction

by Jon Rubin
Herald Editor

Construction of the Jewish War Veterans Memorial Wall of Honor was slowed last week by the discovery of a hidden well in the spot where the foundation was to be laid. The well was discovered at Lincoln Park Cemetery in Warwick, and the precise depth of the well was unknown.

The well was believed to have once supplied the superintendent's house that once stood there with water. The house had been demolished last October to make way for an office building, and the well did not appear in any of the plans of the cemetery, which was established in 1908 and has graves dating into the 19th century.

"It's gonna set us back—no question about it," said Irv Levin of the JWV who heads the construction of the wall. "It's another blip in the road."

When the well was originally discovered, there was fear that it could structurally weaken the wall's foundation, especially if the area were to be hit by an earthquake.

Very little information about the composition of the well was known at first, and speculation produced some demoralizing scenarios: If the well was found to be filled with water, or if it

was discovered to be empty, it would require tremendous costs to properly prepare the site with concrete. The projected costs for fixing these setbacks would have been so great that Levin was considering moving the wall backward about 10 feet, which would have required the cutting of trees and numerous other large expenses.

Upon closer inspection a few days later, surveyors discovered that the well, which consists of a cement cylinder reinforced by steel, was filled in with soil or sand. This lucky find would only require engineers to level off the top of the well at a depth of about four feet, and then to pour concrete as normally planned. Construction is to resume as normal this Wednesday.

This is not the only delay the wall has suffered. Due to an unexpectedly large number of submissions and corrections for names of fallen veterans to be inscribed on the wall, the cut-off date had to be moved back from June to August 1.

Levin estimates that the wall will be completed no earlier than late September.

Donations are still being accepted for the wall's construction. Please contact Irv Levin at 941-6032.

Jon can be reached at <jonjherald@hotmail.com>



SUSAN ADLER (seated, second from right) with the members of her monthly discussion group at the Village at Hillsgrove in Warwick.
Herald photo by Seth Bromley

OPINION

On CAMERA: Ha'aretz, the Lie of the Land

by Andrea Levin
Executive Director CAMERA
www.camera.org

In a familiar syndrome, many otherwise impartial American journalists newly posted in Israel slip quickly in their reporting into unmistakably hostile views of the country. Why?

One factor is their sources in the Israeli media. As Eric Weiner, former Jerusalem bureau chief for National Public Radio, told a Palestinian media symposium, every working day began with scanning local papers for stories. He relied especially on what he termed the "very respectable [Israeli] newspaper" Ha'aretz. Like NPR, countless other media cite Ha'aretz writers regularly, while a global audience reads the paper's English Internet edition online.

Although Ha'aretz bills itself as "an independent newspaper with a broadly liberal outlook," many of the opinion writers and some reporters espouse views of the extreme far left, and factual accuracy is often sacrificed to their political predilections. Reporter Amira Hass, for example, has just been ordered by the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court to pay \$60,000 in damages to the Jewish community of Hebron for her false and in-

flammatory report that Jewish residents there had abused the corpse of a dead Arab shot by Israeli border police in a violent incident. The allegations were disproved by multiple televised accounts of the event.

The same reporter's stories, replete with distorted and inaccurate charges that Israel is an "apartheid" state, steals Palestinian water, callously targets Palestinians over the age of 12 with sniper-fire, and generally subjugates Arabs out of sheer viciousness, are posted on countless anti-Israel Web sites. So also is the commentary of a score of other Ha'aretz writers (Gideon Samet, Gideon Levy, Akiva Eldar, Baruch Kimmerling, Ze'ev Sternhell, Joseph Algazy, Danny Rubenstein, Moshe Reinfeld and many more), in the company of other favorites of such Web sites like Noam Chomsky, Hanan Ashrawi and Edward Said (e.g. cesr, pmwatch, globalsolidarity, liberate-palestine).

Indeed, a look at such sites and the content of the Ha'aretz articles posted suggests that Ha'aretz writers are in the vanguard of those making the Palestinian case against Israel.

Hass and the extreme among her colleagues are also eagerly quoted by the most virulent anti-Israel commentators in the

American media. The *Orlando Sentinel's* Charley Reese, a syndicated writer obsessed with supposed Israeli iniquity praises Hass for writing "poignantly of this practice [of targeting Palestinians over 12 with sniper-fire] in the Israeli newspaper Ha'aretz."

A ferociously anti-Israel writer at Connecticut's *Hartford Courant*, Amy Pagnozzi, warmly endorses the observations of veteran Israel-basher Robert Fisk from Britain's *Independent* newspaper, who said: "In particular, coverage in the Israel newspaper Ha'aretz 'outshines anything' reported in the States... The Israeli paper's Gaza correspondent, Amira Hass, recently reported on an Israeli Defense Forces sniper whose orders were to shoot anyone over 12 as fair game."

In addition to the Reeses, Pagnozzi and Fisks who seize on the strident anti-Israel voices at Ha'aretz, more mainstream American reporters and commentators routinely reflect the less radical but still harsh views of others at the paper (as well as carrying at times the views of less ideologically driven and more factually accurate Ha'aretz reporters). These, for instance, are a few of the Ha'aretz observations conveyed to millions of Americans.

Danny Rubenstein told National Public Radio listeners in October 2000 that Jews do not value the land of Israel the way Arabs do, since Jews are urban dwellers. He blamed Israel for not having dismantled "even one settlement since the Oslo agreement" as though Oslo had stipulated such measures.

Rubenstein is the same journalist who reported as fact, and without including the IDF's vehement refutation of the lie, that Israel was using poison gas against Palestinians (Ha'aretz February 15, 2001).

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The Disastrous 'Unity' Government

Theoretically, the move made sense. At a time when the enemy was at the gates, there was a need for everyone to unite under one leader in order to better combat Arafat and his murderous followers. The unity in question, however, has proven to be illusory. Instead of a unity behind Sharon, the overwhelming choice of the people in the last election, we have the minority voice of Labor in effect dictating. Peres has refused to take orders from Sharon. It is a unity government in name only.

Once again, with Peres as our foreign minister, we are being forced into dealing with the murderer Arafat as our "peace partner." Peres, who has been consistently wrong, tells us we have no other alternative. A thoroughly failed Oslo is being dusted off, and we are silently proceeding as if our only hope is to have Arafat stop the violence so that we can return to the bargaining table. It is as if we have learned nothing from the murders that Arafat is deviously manipulating. He complies with America's and Europe's modest demands, and reaps the rewards of continuing his reign of terror. Nor has he compromised in any way his declared aim to destroy Israel. That, too, remains the sole and determined objective of the surrounding Arab nations.

In this difficult position in which Israel finds itself, are there any reasonable choices? Yes, there are. We have become convinced that Arafat is not a peace partner. That this evil and immoral man will not change his ways. It is simplistic, and against our long and ancient experience with human nature, to think otherwise. He will not rein in Hamas, nor change his daily propaganda of hate and lies against our Jewish State and his plan to destroy it. Nor will

he, nor the rest of the Moslem world, permit the sharing of worship on the Jewish Temple Mount. Therefore, some hard decisions are necessary for the survival of a Jewish State in its Promised Land, and they must be made at this time.

Shimon Peres must be replaced, even if it means an end to the "unity Government." Secondly, the Palestine Authority, with Yasser Arafat at its head, is a threat to the existence of our Jewish state and must be dismantled immediately. There cannot be a Palestinian state. Arafat has clearly demonstrated to us that such a state constitutes a dire threat to the existence of a Jewish state. Thirdly, there can no longer be permitted the hate propaganda being taught in Arab schools and disseminated over its media. Fourthly, no further negotiations whatsoever will be held on the basis of the Oslo Accords. Oslo is dead and should be buried. And last but not least, a deadline should be fixed for all guns, weapons and explosives to be turned in; if that order is not fully complied with, steps should be taken to confiscate all such weaponry in Arab hands, particularly where no valid permit exists.

Concomitant with such steps is the need to explain to America and the European nations why it is mandatory for Israel to take such decisive action. It is not expected that the United States and Europe, who are still dependent on Arab oil, will approve all of the above steps which Israel takes. It is expected that every nation will react according to what it believes is in its own self-interest. Israel should not be disturbed by the double-standards and hypocrisy that emerge from the protests of some of the nations.

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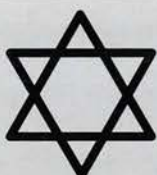
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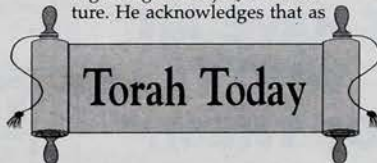
Last week we read the first part of *Devarim*, the beginning of the book of Deuteronomy. Since this is the final book of Torah, of the *Chumash*... are we at the beginning of the end (the end of Torah), or at the end of the beginning (the journey of the Jewish people to deliver Torah to the rest of the world)?

In *Devarim*, Moses addresses the children of Israel. In fact, the entire book is in Moses' own words, although it is G-d speaking through him. (The Sages say that Moses recited the book "on his own initiative," yet these are the words of the Divine Presence.) So it is the beginning of Moses' address to his flock.

It is, at the same time, the end of the 40 years in the wilderness: "...in the fortieth year, in the eleventh month, on the first day of that month..." The anticipated time has come. Here Moses starts his people on their transition to the Promised Land. It is the end of Moses' journey, however. He will view Canaan

from Mt. Horeb, but not cross the Jordan. It is the beginning of a new life for the Jews, on the other hand: they will finally realize the promise of milk and honey, of being a multitude, of spreading G-d's word.

It is also, for Moses, the end of the Jewish "tribes" and the beginning of a major Jewish culture. He acknowledges that as



he says, "I am not able to bear you myself alone." He cannot lead such a large community in the intimate way that he has until now. Seventy elders will be appointed to take the responsibility for this vast assemblage. It is the end of our isolation as a small band, interacting only with those in our vicinity. We will now become a part of the larger world.

And it is the beginning of a major chapter in history. The dawning of monotheism, of a

comprehensive body of law and morality that will influence all that comes afterward. Though the Jews will never be a majority, they will from now on be a major force in the conduct of nations.

But what are we talking about? What is this nonsense about beginnings and endings? Step back a minute and consider what is going on. There are no beginnings. There are no endings. Even the first words of Torah, "In the beginning..." are merely a convenience for our limited perspective. This was not the beginning of everything. It was only the beginning of our physical universe.

This is a continuum. It has no start and finish. What it has is you — the means by which good is done. Even if you have been less than perfect (who hasn't?), there is always time to begin a new mitzvah, a better life. Right now. Begin.

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

JEWISH COMMUNITY

Stem Cells and Jews

(Continued from Page 1)

A Common Voice?

Despite the fact that Judaism contains multiple sub-groups that often disagree on issues of morality, it seems that Jews are primarily in agreement on the subject of stem cell research, to the point that heated debate is unlikely within the Jewish community. "I don't think it's an issue in Judaism," said Rabbi Joel Meyers, executive vice president of the Rabbinical Assembly, the worldwide organization of Conservative rabbis.

Meyers believes in the popular opinion that life in Judaism begins when the fetus is 40 days old, a definition that roughly

Union of American Hebrew Congregations, speaking on behalf of over 1.5 million Reform Jews, wrote a letter to the Bush administration supporting the use of fetal tissue for stem cell research as long as the donor consents. The letter reads: "Cutting off funding for medical research that has such tremendous potential benefits - even where, as here, it raises complex and far-reaching issues - is both immoral and unethical according to our tradition."

The UAHC had released a resolution in 1993 that supported fetal tissue research, and the 2001 statement went along

and biblical scholar Rabbi Moshe Tendler, who teaches at Yeshiva University. In a famous speech at the 11th International Conference on Jewish Medical Ethics in Burlingame, California, Tendler praised the use of stem cell research and decried those that are attempting to prevent it.

At the conference covered in a story in the *Jewish Bulletin of Northern California*, Tendler called attention to the current Federal regulations that prohibit federal funding for deliberate destruction or experimentation of human embryos. Although the private sector is currently able to conduct research on stem cells in the United States, they lose the incentive to share information or cooperate with competing companies. "It is the power of the Catholic Church that has held back embryonic research for decades," Tendler said. "We concur with the Catholics that abortion is murder — but not from a petri plate."

Tendler spoke in overwhelming praise of the massive restorative potential of stem cell research. "[Stem cells] hold the promise of being able to provide cells that are young and vital to a failing heart and liver, without worrying about an organ transplant."

Four Methods, Multiple Problems

Outside of the question of the legitimacy of stem cell research in general, the four methods used to procure the embryos — fertility clinics, cloning, "made to order" embryos and aborted fetuses — are all under some degree of scrutiny.

In-Vitro Fertilization

The method that generates the least controversy is through embryos that already exist as unused extras from fertility treatments. Couples using in-vitro fertilization (IVF) would fertilize numerous eggs and then implant them inside the woman's uterus.

Often there are many unused embryos which sit in frozen storage lockers, often unable to be destroyed, used, or claimed by anyone. Because the embryos already exist, there is the least resistance from religious groups to using them of any of the four methods. Indeed, Judaism states that if there is medical advantage to be gained in a situation, one should attempt to

learn from it. This proclamation has allowed autopsies, normally banned by Jewish law, to take place if something can be learned from the procedure.

Fertility treatments gained acceptability in Jewish eyes for numerous reasons. Rabbi Daniel Eisenberg, M.D., who has spoken and written frequently on matters of medicine and Halacha, called attention to the Jewish commandment to "be fruitful and multiply" in legitimizing the use of the IVF technique. He also felt that it would be foolish to unnecessarily restrict such a potentially useful medical technique as stem cell research. "We don't agree with the Pope," Eisenberg said. "[There is] no such thing as bad technology."

Cloning

Another method of obtaining embryos is to clone them from other, pre-existing cells, such as the ones obtained from fertility treatments. On one hand, because the embryos are still not considered to be people, many

Jews have reason to raise deep concern about the evil specter of genetics, Jews certainly must do so as a primary consideration."

There are dangers of trying to move too far too fast in the healing of "disease." Dorff remarked later in an interview that "Eugenics is lurking in the background — what's going to count as a disease? If we find genetic roots to homosexuality, is that a disease?" He said mentioned that the creation of "designer babies," such as ones with blue eyes and blond hair, could become a reality very quickly.

Judaism, in fact, prizes diversity in human beings. If we see someone who is unusual in appearance, we are asked to say the prayer "Blessed are you, G-d, Ruler of the universe, who varies creation."

"We are not G-d," Dorff has remarked, "we are not omniscient, as G-d is, and so we must take whatever precautions we can to ensure that our actions do not harm ourselves or our world in the very effort to im-

"[Stem cells] hold the promise of being able to provide cells that are young and vital to a failing heart and liver, without worrying about an organ transplant."

— Rabbi Moshe Tendler

"We are not G-d, we are not omniscient, as G-d is, and so we must take whatever precautions we can to ensure that our actions do not harm ourselves or our world in the very effort to improve them."

— Rabbi Elliot N. Dorff, Ph.D.

corresponds with "the quickening" of the fetus, or when its movements become noticeable. Since the embryonic cells are only 5 to 7 days old, there is no specific Jewish transgression in utilizing them as they have no halachic status, he said.

Meyers said that the Jewish tradition views genetic materials outside the body as being "substances without merit," or, in the words of the Talmud, "like water." Meyers also said that Jewish tradition indicates that genetic material outside of a mother's body does not have the same value as one contained within, and that since they are being cultivated in a petri dish they do not have the potential to form human beings by themselves.

"Can we use stem cells for research that would lead to the curing of illness? Absolutely," Meyers said. He did not predict any future divisions in the Jewish community over the stem cell debate.

Organizations Speak Out

The Reform Jewish community entered the fray early on, and quickly voted its support for stem cell research. The

same guidelines. "Our Jewish tradition reminds us that while only G-d can create life, G-d has charged humans with doing everything possible to preserve it."

The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, representing the Conservative movement, has not officially issued a statement so far, but legal experts from the Rabbinical Assembly's Committee of Law and Standards have spoken in favor of the research.

The Orthodox community has been largely silent on the stem cell debate, although there is said to be much deliberation behind closed doors as to the acceptability of the research. Rabbi Avi Shafran, director of public affairs for Agudath Israel of America, remarked in a recent article that "For Jews who put their faith in the Jewish religious tradition, resolving the formidable ethical issues surrounding things like cloning or stem cell research will have to await the guidance of Torah scholars."

Perhaps the single most well-known and most quoted Orthodox Jewish expert on stem cell research is biology professor

experts feel there is no immediate controversy in cloning them from another source, such as IVF. Said Tendler on the subject of cloning: "So someone pulls off a Dolly. So what? Who cares? ...Who's concerned that people will run around reproducing themselves? One or two kooks in the world are interested in that."

Cloning has a negative side to it as well; it hints of potentially frightening attempts by man to change the genetic landscape to the whims a very few. Jews are all too familiar with the perils of eugenics. Rabbi Elliot N. Dorff, Ph.D., rector and distinguished professor of philosophy at the University of Judaism in Los Angeles and author of *Matters of Life and Death: A Jewish Approach to Modern Medical Ethics*, gave an important report on stem cell research to the National Bioethics Advisory Commission in May of 1999. In his report Dorff commented, "The Shoah (Holocaust) changed the entire landscape of genetic research. While not only

prove them."

"Made to Order" Embryos

The third method of receiving stem cells is through the donations of embryos by couples. On this subject, Dorff again commented that, "I don't see the problem [with it]," provided that permission is given from the donors and the process is used sparingly, as to not damage the female reproductive organs. Dorff was overwhelmingly in favor of research, believing that not only should the avenue of stem cell research remain open, but that it is the moral imperative that we are supposed to undertake because of the immense potential for healing it can have for humanity.

Stem Cells from Abortions

The fourth and final method is perhaps the most problematic. Judaism has given extensive commentary on abortions, and is largely against it, unless the mother is in some sort of danger. Many Jews see abortion as murder, quoting a line from Genesis which reads, "He who spills the blood of a man [person] within a man [person], his blood shall be spilled." This passage has been interpreted by the Talmud to mean a fetus as well, and strong feelings against abortion are one of the reasons some Jewish groups may oppose stem cell research.

Some groups see abortion as a form of "self-inflicted injury," from the passage that describes an unborn child as being like "the thigh of the mother." Abortion has never been a capital crime for Jews.

If the fetus is aborted under

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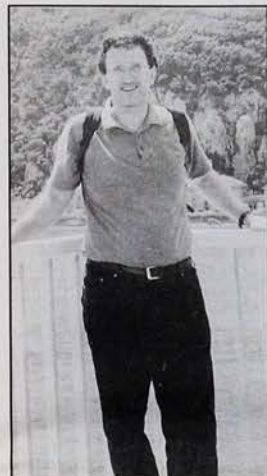
JEWISH COMMUNITY

Eichenbaums in Europe — Part II of Part III

by Cary Eichenbaum

Editor's Note: Cary and his family have been moving throughout Eastern Europe visiting Jewish communities.

Up next was the "it-has-to-be-seen-to-be-believed" Old Jewish Cemetery, established in the first half of the 15th century. The oldest tombstone dated from the year 1439. Today the cemetery contains about 12,000 graves, although some say the number believed to be buried there is actually quite larger. Because the city of Prague forbade its Jewish community from ever enlarging this cemetery, it is assumed that several burial layers are actually super-



Cary Eichenbaum

imposed on top of each other. Graves are literally right next to each other and on top of one another.

There are many famous Czech Jews buried in Prague's Old Jewish Cemetery, most notably The Maharal, Rabbi Löw.



ONE OF THE MANY tombstones in the Old Jewish Cemetery in Prague. On the right is the grave of The Maharal Rabbi Löw, who is said to have created the legendary golem.

Photos courtesy of the Eichenbaum family

He was a noted Talmudic scholar and the creator of the legendary "Golem" (either a "Bubbe-meise" or a true story about a mechanical man made of clay, mud and water who protected the city's Jews from violent gentiles). Many Israeli tourists say Tehillim at the maharal's grave and stuff notes of paper inside. Rabbi Mordachei Maisel, David Oppenheim, and noted 16th century astronomer and symbolist David Ganz are also buried here. In addition, symbols, such as pair of hands on the grave to indicate Cohanim and a jug-shaped tombstone to show Leviim, are employed in this graveyard, and most of the headstones I gazed at also had the words Hacham and Hahasid (the wise and the pious) written across them.

The next synagogue on the tour was the Klausen Shul, located at the exit of the Old Jewish Cemetery. Maisel had this house of worship erected in honor of a visit by Emperor Maximilian II to the Prague Ghetto in 1573. Work on the current Klausen was completed in 1694. It served an important role in the life of Prague's Jews as it was the largest synagogue in the ghetto and was also home to the city's Hevre Kadisha (burial society). The gallery of the Klausen Shul contains exhibits associated with everyday life in the Jewish family, and customs dealing with birth, circumcision, bar mitzvah, wedding, divorce and the Jewish household.

The final — and most fascinating leg — of our tour of the Jewish Museum was the Alte-Neue (Old-New) Synagogue. The Old-New Shul is one of Europe's oldest surviving Jewish houses of prayer. It was built in early Gothic style around the

middle of the 13th century. It was originally called the "New" or "Large" Shul so as not to confuse it with Old Synagogue models which did not survive. In the 16th century, when the other Prague synagogue models were erected, then its name was changed to the "Old-New" Synagogue. Its main hall is the only existing medieval type hall of its kind.

I found the Alte-Neue Shul fantastic in its uniqueness and originality. I also found it in real life to be much smaller than I had thought it to be. Another truly amazing part of this antique prize of Judaism was that the only way the women could be connected to the service was through small, intermittent holes carved out in the men's section. Frau Eichenbaum unequivocally stated: "No Jewish woman in the United States — Lubavitch, Orthodox, Shm-orthodox or whatever, would accept this treatment today."

The Old-New Synagogue is still in use today, with Schacharis minyan every morning at 8 a.m., Minchah and Maariv at seasonal times and Shabbos services at 9 a.m. There could only be 70 or 80 places to sit in the men's section, most must no doubt be reserved, so the rest just stand the whole service, our tour guide remarked. There is a 100-year-old Torah, the only one in the shul, in the Aron Hakodesh, pillows on steps leading up to the Holy Ark for a Sandek (person who holds the baby at a bris) and the fabled Golem's body is said to rest upstairs.



DON'T GET MY FRIEND MAD! A brawny golem stands guard outside of an Israeli tourist beureu in the streets of Prague, in the Czech Republic.

"Muti" and I capped off our remarkably "Yiddishe Tage" (Jewish day) in Prague with a trip to Jerusalem (the kosher restaurant, not the city) where we had the equivalent of a \$12 American, one-course meal served by typically overzealous Israeli waiters. Finally came a visit to the brand-new Chabad House on the same street as the Old Jewish Corner. In that shiny, 5-year-old build-

ing there is a long courtyard, living quarters for students upstairs and a beautiful interior shul. That night a group of Israeli tourists were visiting, and the rabbi there, Rabbi Barash — who must have been no more than 30, addressed them in Hebrew. It was a delightful way to end an entire day exploring both my own and the city of Prague's Jewish roots and history.

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Researchers at Shaare Zedek Discover Breast Cancer Mutation

A medical genetics researcher at Shaare Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem and her colleagues recently identified a mutation in a gene that greatly increases the risk of developing breast cancer among women at a comparatively young age. The team studied the BRCA1 and BRCA2 mutation in 257 women, and their findings were recently published in the June 15 issue of the *British Medical Journal*.

One in 40 Jewish women of Ashkenazi origin carries either the BRCA1 or BRCA2 mutation. Their risk of breast cancer is not higher than that in other populations, explained Shaare Zedek's Dr. Levy-Lahad, "but they are an excellent group to study because of their genetic homogeneity. Thus there are fewer variations, and results provide a clearer picture."

The two mutations are responsible for about 100 percent of cases of breast cancer and 30 percent of cases of ovarian cancer. Levy-Lahad discovered that a polymorphism on a different gene and chromosome, called RAD51, greatly influences the risk of contracting breast cancer among women who carry BRCA2.

This polymorphism appears in two forms: a common one called 135G and a rare one called 135C: the rare form is found among 8 percent of women of Ashkenazi origin.

The team found that BRCA2 carriers who also have the rare RAD51 mutation are four times more likely to get breast cancer than those with the common mutation. All women with BRCA2 and the 135C mutation who were studied contracted breast cancer before the age of 58; half of those with the common form were completely healthy women when they reached that age. Levy-Lahad explained that the BRCA1 mutation is a more "powerful" cause of breast cancer than BRCA2, which needs "help" from other mutations to trigger it.

Women with a family history of those tumors can take a blood test to determine whether they carry the mutation that puts them at risk. Carriers have several options: they may be given tamoxifen as a preventive measure, have frequent check ups, or undergo prophylactic mastectomy or oophorectomy (removal of the ovaries).

"Genetic research is changing the way we examine cancer, and continued support for oncology services at Shaare Zedek makes it possible for us to adapt these discoveries to a clinical setting," said Menno Ratzker, president of the American Committee for Shaare Zedek.

However, it is crucial that carriers realize that not all of them will develop cancer. Until now, scientists have agreed that there are other factors, both hereditary and environmental, that cause variation in risk, but no one has identified any.

Recently, personnel from Shaare Zedek's Cancer Genetics Unit, including Levy-Lahad, participated in a program at the Knesset to explain the concept of cancer genetics and to provide genetic counseling to those with a family history of cancer.

Jews in Japan, 1946

Story and photos by
Al Resnick

It was the third week of August, 1946 when our troopship, the U.S.S. Victory, docked at the port of Yokohama, Honshu, Japan.

During my 11-month tour of duty in Japan, I had the opportunity to travel and visit many places. I viewed the unbelievable devastation in the atom-bombed city of Nagasaki. I took a walk inside the Great Buddha of Kamakura, where I felt a tap on my shoulder and turned to see my cousin, Ben Nulman of Fall River, who had been stationed in Southern Japan!

But the most memorable experience during my stay in Japan has to be my visit to a small synagogue in an international settlement high in the mountains outside the city of Kobe. The settlement, or compound, housed foreign nationals from many different countries, most of whom had lived on the Japanese home islands before the attack on Pearl Harbor.

I must admit, putting on tallit and a yarmulke so many miles from Providence and Temple Emanu-El did create a feeling of homesickness. However, what completely amazed me was the fact that here I was, reading from a Torah in Japan, while the Japanese allies on the other side of the world were involved in the most heinous crimes in the history of mankind, singularly against the Jews.

No effort whatsoever was made by the Japanese government to interfere with the daily lives of these people, whatever faith they practiced, and these people were able to mingle



A GIANT BUDDHA statue in Kamakura

freely with their Japanese neighbors. At times I imagine what would have happened if more Jews had been able to find their way to that island? Unfortu-

nately, we shall never have the opportunity to find out.

Al Resnick is retired and lives in Warwick, R.I. His Web site is <www.guthrieweb.com/reshon>.



A SOLDIER HOLDS a young boy named Bobby inside a western-style camp in the Kobe mountains. Behind them stands the community synagogue.

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Fisher to Discuss State of Israel at JCC

On Aug. 7, Jeremy Fisher, academic affairs officer for the Consulate General of Israel to New England will be discussing "The State of Israel. What State Is It Really In?" at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence. The time will be 1:30 p.m., and refreshments will be served.

If you have any questions, call Sue Robbio at 861-8800 or Susan Adler at 621-5374.

Perspectives Events in August

Canoeing with Steve Part Deux August 5

So, did you take time to read *Huckleberry Finn*? Well... Steve Schwartz is still not him, but he still wants to take whoever is interested canoeing. On August 5, weather permitting, we're going to set a course, launching from 106 Angell Street at noon and landing at Steve's Secret Spot soon there after.

RSVP to Jamie at 863-9357.

Book Club August 15

On August 15, this month the book club is reading Abraham Joshua Heschel's *The Sabbath*. One of the most influential books in understanding Shabbat and its observances. As always the club will meet at Books on the Square, 471 Angell St. Providence, at 7:30 pm. Come one come all... if you've read the book. For more information call Nora Klein at 331-4732.

The mission of Perspectives is to provide a social outlet and a resource for Jewish Adults in their 20s and 30s and to offer a connection to the greater Rhode Island Jewish Community. Perspectives is a project of the Brown-RISD and URI Hillel Foundations and is made possible by grants from the Jewish Federation of RI and the Bureau of Jewish Education of RI. Call 863-9357.



Cranston, We Have a Problem-Solver

Rachel Yidana, a 10-year-old Cranston resident, was recently part of a team that took first place at the International Future Problem Solvers competition, held at the University of Georgia June 7 through 10. After her excellent showing at the Rhode Island Future Problem Solvers competition, Yidana was invited to represent her home state in the international competition along with children from all over the world. After traveling to Georgia with her mother, Karen Brandt, Yidana was placed on a team with students from Texas, Tennessee and Ohio. Her team won the junior division for writing a scenario about global interdependence.

Photo courtesy of Shirley Brandt

JEWISH COMMUNITY

Reform Movement Mission Heads to Israel

Nearly 200 leaders of the North American Reform movement of Judaism departed recently for a five-day solidarity mission to Israel, where they met with Israeli citizens and government officials and with leaders and members of Israel's growing Reform movement.

The trip is intended to demonstrate the American movement's unconditional support of the State of Israel and the Israeli people, its leaders say. It comes at a time among the highest of tensions between Israelis and Palestinians.

Aliyat Nefesh: A Spiritual Pilgrimage, from July 29 to Aug. 3, is a joint mission with the leadership of the various organizations of Reform Judaism in North America. The delegation includes congregational rabbis and presidents, members of the boards of the American Conference of Cantors, ARZA Canada, ARZA/World Union North America, The Central Conference of American Rabbis, the National Conference of Temple Educators, the Reform Pension Board, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, and Women of Reform Judaism. It is also traveling under the banner of Operation Joshua, which is the Israel Ministry of Tourism's program to bring representatives of all the American movements to Israel.

The 162-person mission, including more than 40 rabbis, is designed to demonstrate the commitment of North America's largest Jewish religious movement to Israel and its solidarity with the Israeli people. Although trips for young teen-agers were suspended this summer, visits by adults, college students, and older teen-agers have continued unabated, including Reform participation in the Birthright program and congregational trips. Sixty-two Reform students arrived in Jerusalem recently to begin a year of study at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion.

"Reform Jews are committed to the mystery and wonder of the modern State of Israel," says Rabbi Eric Yoffie, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the synagogue arm of the Reform Movement. "We are a religious movement, and our commitment to Israel is not conditional," he said. Rabbi Yoffie also spent two weeks in Israel recently and will return with this mission.

The group will receive background briefings on the security situation from *Ha'aretz* columnist Danny Rubenstein and former Army chief of staff and government minister Amonon

(Continued on Page 15)



'No Fast Moves — This Vanilla is All Mine'

Rebekah Heath (left) and her sister Miriam sample some ice cream at the Jewish Community Center's Ice Cream Social on July 18.

Herald photo by Jon Rubin

Appealing Food, Good Nutrition Are Key in JFS Home Care

Mrs. B. does not like to cook for just one person. Mr. S. has trouble using the stove. Mrs. P. seems to have lost her appetite. Sometimes eating properly is a problem for older people living alone. The Home Care program at Jewish Family Service recognizes the significance of maintaining proper nutrition and its effect on both physical and mental health. It is a key component in helping elders remain independently in their own homes for as long as possible.

Jewish Family Service's Home Care Service takes this into account during each initial assessment of a new client, with a JFS nurse evaluating the quality and adequacy of the senior's diet. What is the person's current nutritional status? Are there any dietary restrictions or

requirements that need to be addressed? Does the client lack the strength or the desire to eat properly? How can his or her nutritional needs best be met?

For all clients, the Certified Nursing Assistants on the JFS Home Care staff provide a number of services, many of which are designed to rebuild the client's strength and encourage him or her to eat. The CNAs will develop a nutritious meal plan, shop for groceries, affix easy-to-read labels on foods, organize refrigerators and food cupboards so that they are easy to use, and prepare meals.

Each client is asked about food preferences and the CNAs make sure that menus are to his or her liking, appealing as well as nutritious. The CNA may also keep a client company while he or she has a meal so the person is not always eating alone. People are encouraged to enjoy good nutritional choices,

such as eating a hearty and healthy breakfast. For those who keep kosher, the CNAs are trained in the Jewish dietary laws of kashruth.

For a typical client in his or her mid-80s, these services, as well as many others delivered through JFS's Home Care Service, make a great difference in quality of life, allowing the senior to continue living at home with comfort and dignity.

JFS Home Care Service Certified Nursing Assistants provide personal care, meal preparation and shopping. The service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week depending on availability. A registered nurse calls on Home Care clients, to assess and monitor their health, help with medication and provide information.

For more information about Home Care or to arrange an appointment, call Jewish Family Service at 331-1244.

JCC Brown Bag Club Events

Aug. 14 — Noon

Weathering storms and conserving energy — come join us today to learn more from Narragansett Electric. Who knows? Maybe we will learn how to cut our electric bills!

Aug. 28 — Noon

Peter Harrington is the curator of the Anne S.K. Brown Military Collection at Brown University Library. His presentation will include slides and photographs of this fascinating collection of Mrs. John Nicholas Brown that dates from 1500 A.D. to World War II.

Thursdays — 1:30 p.m.

Cards and coffee. Call Sue Robbio for details at 861-8800.

The Brown Bag Club is a casual, long-standing social group that offers a friendly forum for adults who happen to be available for lunch and are interested in discussing current events and a variety of other topics. Bring your own lunch to the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month and enjoy hearing a guest speaker, participating in a workshop, or simply gathering with like-minded adults. Most events are held at noon and a donation of \$1 is appreciated. Bring your lunch and we'll provide the dessert and drink.

Eight Cantors To Sing in Hyannis Synagogue Aug. 4

Local Cantor Judy Sepulwin of Beth-El to Perform

There will be a concert of eight (or more!) cantors from the New England area presented at The Cape Cod Synagogue, 145 Winter Street in Hyannis on Saturday evening, Aug. 4 at 7:30 p.m. The theme of the concert is "D'ror Yikra: Let Freedom Sing" and is based on the recent convention of the American Conference of Cantors held in Washington, D. C.

The event will feature music from the Jewish liturgical tradition as well as secular songs from Jewish culture and Broadway shows. A variety of languages will be heard, including English, Hebrew, and

Yiddish. There will be ensemble and choral singing along with solos by individual cantors, including Judy Sepulwin of Temple Beth-El in Providence.

Tickets are available by calling The Cape Cod Synagogue at (508) 775-2988 or through Puritan Clothing at locations throughout Cape Cod. Admission is \$15 adults, \$12 seniors citizens and \$5 for children under 12.

The concert will be a benefit for the American Conference of Cantors, a national organization of the Reform movement in Judaism.

U.S. Maccabiah Coach Searching for Israeli Bride

The coach of the U.S. Maccabiah Seniors Basketball team Todd Schayes, 36, from Denver, Colorado, held up a sign at the opening ceremony of the games saying "An American single looking for an Israeli bride," *Yediot Aharonot* reported.

Since then, he has received thousands of telephone calls from Israeli women. In an interview with Israeli Television, Channel 2, Schayes said that he wants to marry an Israeli, and after three visits to Israel he thinks, "Israeli women are beautiful, energetic and full of passion."

He added that his parents would be very happy if he married an Israeli, even if it meant emigrating to Israel. Schayes decided to extend his stay in Israel for at least one month.

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

'Return to the Mountains'

Seventh Annual History of the Catskills Conference

Remember the drive from New York City, stopping at the Red Apple and struggling up the Wurtsboro Hill? Remember the great comedians and singers you heard get their start? Remember the embraces in the staff quarters, the enormous meals, the mah-jongg by the pool? Remember Ruby the Knish Man coming to the bungalow colonies? Remember how the magical summer world of New York Jews pulsed in hundreds of hotels and bungalow colonies?

You can put yourself back in the Mountains, at the Seventh Annual History of the Catskills Conference, when the Catskills Institute again convenes a talented group of speakers at Kutsher's Country Club in Monticello over the weekend of Aug. 24 to 26.

Harvey Jacobs will read from his novel, *Summer on a Mountain of Spices*, a coming-of-age piece set in a small Monticello hotel in the closing months of World War II. Dealing with the same time frame, *New York Times* writer Joseph Berger will read from his new book, *Displaced Persons: Growing Up American after the Holocaust*, which features wonderful material on the

refugees vacationing in the Catskills. Eileen Pollack will read from her novel, *Paradise, New York*, based on her long experience in a hotel family. Long Island University historian Joe Dorinson will speak on "Catskills comedy" and the official Sullivan County Historian, John Conway will present his work on "Gangsters in the Catskills." Arthur Tanney will entertain with "Life in the Bungalow Colonies," based on his extremely popular internet essays series, Irwin Richman, professor of American Studies at Pennsylvania State University, will present a slide lecture from his just published book *Sullivan County Borscht Belt*, and Brown University sociologist Phil Brown will present a slide lecture, "Searching for the Ruins."

Now in its seventh year, the conference is one of the major activities of the Catskills Institute, a group of Catskills veterans who work to preserve the many important elements of Catskills culture. The Catskills Institute publishes the newsletter *In the Mountains*, runs a Web site <www.brown.edu/Research/Catskills_Institute/>, coordinates research activities, and collects archives for its spe-

cial collection at the American Jewish Historical Society.

The Catskills Institute organizers, both scholars and non-scholars have been propelled by the near-total demise of the amazing resort area that once hosted a million guests a year. Chartered as an educational organization by the New York State Regents, the Catskills Institute works to preserve the legacy of hotels and bungalow colonies where people formed communities and established intricate relationships in a neighborhood and family milieu. For the better part of this century, Jews in the Catskills incorporated music, humor, vaudevillian entertainment, cuisine, language, and Jewish identity, forming a resort culture unmatched by any other ethnic group.

For more information, contact: Phil Brown at <phil_brown@brown.edu> or call (508) 349-1987.



Super Swimmer Snags First at Maccabiah

Olympic triple gold medalist Lenny Krayzelburg recently set a record at the Maccabiah Games in Jerusalem with his 55.24 second first place finish in the men's 100-meter backstroke event. Krayzelburg, the Ukrainian-born breaststroker who won three gold medals last year at the Summer Olympics in Sydney, was co-captain of the U.S. Swim Team at the Maccabiah Games. Krayzelburg (left) is seen here with EL AL West Coast Regional manager Bill Gale prior to flying on EL AL.

Photo courtesy of EL AL.

Seniors Explore Spirituality

(Continued from Page 1)

learn about different spiritual planes," and feel more connected to G-d. She told the group about her father, who passed away on Shabbat shortly after the high holidays. "G-d allowed [him] to live through one more holiday cycle so that he could be inscribed in the book of life for one last time."

Adler asked those in the room for more examples of spiritual experiences, and some discussion group members mentioned certain religious observances such as lighting Shabbat candles and saying Kiddush, or just spending time among other Jews. One woman said that having grown up on

Block Island, which had only a few Jewish families and no shul at the time, meant that just being in the company of other Jews was a spiritual experience for her.

One participant talked about having his son's non-Jewish friends attend his family's Passover seder and what it meant to him. Several people testified that carrying out family traditions that have lasted for many years makes them feel connected on a spiritual level to generations past, present and future.

Objects can also be a part of our spiritual lives, as one group member reminded everyone.

She said that some years ago, her and her husband's home caught fire and burned to the ground. When they went through the ashes afterwards, they saw that everything had been destroyed, except for the menorah, which she still has to this day. "The menorah was the only thing in the house that survived. It was a miracle."

Adler makes visits to Jewish seniors in assisted living facilities throughout Rhode Island as part of JERI, which is a program of the Jewish Seniors Agency. To find out more information about JERI and its schedule of programs, call 621-5374.

APN Endorses Third Party Monitoring of Cease-Fire

Americans for Peace Now recently publicly endorsed the concept of third party monitoring to assist Israel and the Palestinians with enforcement of the Tenet cease-fire. The most recent G-8 summit supported the concept of third party monitors, which has also received varying degrees of support from parties in the region. APN's mission is to enhance Israel's security through peace and to support the Israeli Peace Now movement.

"Third party monitors may be a useful tool for assisting Israel and the Palestinians to implement a cease-fire in current hostilities, given the complete absence of trust between the two sides and often conflicting versions of events on the ground," said Debra DeLee, president and CEO of Americans for Peace Now.

"The use of third party monitors may provide Palestinian leader Yasir Arafat with a significant enough political incentive to fully move forward with security commitments that he has under-

taken. Further, outside monitors may provide some incentive for both sides to live up to their security obligations if they know that objective observers are closely watching and reporting their activities. As to the composition of a third party monitoring force, in our view, Israel's preference for limiting such a presence to American personnel would not impede the success of this effort.

"While third party monitoring could supplement good-faith actions to stop Israeli-Palestinian hostilities, Americans for Peace Now does not believe that it can substitute for a 100 percent effort from both sides to break the cycle of violence, renew security cooperation, engage in confidence building measures, and resume negotiations. It will take the ongoing exertions of the United States, Israel, and the Palestinians to create a situation in which third party monitoring could be effective."

Visit Americans for Peace Now at <www.peacenow.org>.



Touro Elects New Officers

The following are the officers and members of the board of directors of Touro Fraternal Association and the officers of its lodges, the largest independent Jewish fraternal order in the northeast, for the year 2001-2002:

First Row: Dr. Burton L. Fischman, Joel Pressman and Morton L. Coken, directors; Richard Glucksman, president, Harmony Lodge; Jeffrey Goldberg, president, Friendship Lodge; Michael Glucksman, treasurer, Friendship Lodge; Steven Dinerman, vice president, Friendship Lodge, and Nathan Lury, director. **Second Row:** Gerald Tebrow, association secretary; Richard Land, secretary, Friendship Lodge; Gerald D. Hodosh, association treasurer; Andrew Lamchick, vice chairman, board of directors; Robert D. Miller, chairman, board of directors; Arthur Poulten, chairman emeritus, board of directors; Rodney Locke, Robert Hodosh, Stevan Labush and Barry Shaw, directors. **Third Row:** Peter Hodosh, treasurer, Harmony Lodge; Irving Wolpert, Bruce Weisman and Michael D. Smith directors; Jeffrey Davis, vice president, Harmony Lodge; Charles Dressler and Alan Lury, directors; and Ronald Berman, secretary, Friendship Lodge.

Not present when photo was taken: Milton Bronstein, Andrew Gilstein and Dr. Aaron R. Sherman, directors, and Judah Rosen, association chaplain. Photo courtesy of Touro Fraternal Association.



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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Torah Peace Corps On the Move

Zalman Leven and Levi Goldstein, who are in Providence as part of the Torah Peace Corps Outreach Program, have been hotfooting it around Rhode Island helping people put on tefillin and do mitzvot. Keep up the good work, guys!

Photos courtesy of the Chabad House



LEVI GOLDSTEIN helps summer students at Brown University try on tefillin and make a prayer



ABOVE LEFT: Zalman Leven putting on tefillin with a Thayer Street barber as part of the Torah Peace Corps Outreach Program. ABOVE RIGHT: Levi Goldstein visiting with a Jewish nursing home resident and trying on tefillin as part of the Chabad outreach program.



Providence Rotary Charities Foundation Makes Donation to Jewish Organizations

The Providence Rotary Charities Foundation has donated \$850 to Jewish Family Service, Providence, R.I., and \$2,500 to Camp JORI in Narragansett.

Foundation chairperson John J. Connors Jr. presented the awards to Christine Boc of Jewish Family Service and Michael Schuster of Camp JORI at a July 9 awards luncheon at the Providence Marriott. "It's people helping people," Connors said to the many Rotarians and guests in attendance. Connors also noted that, since 1995, the foundation has presented more than \$357,000 to worthy organizations.

Jewish Family Service is a private, non-profit agency which provides counseling for individuals, couples, and families. It also offers a continuum of services for the elderly and their families with the goal of maintaining independence for the senior with supportive assistance; an adoption agency; Family life education workshops; and resettlement ser-

vices. The organization was one of 10 recognized by the foundation this year.

Established in 1937, Camp JORI is an overnight camp in Rhode Island offering a full program of sports, arts, and water activities, along with skill building in leadership and self-esteem. The camp is co-ed with two four-week sessions for ages 7 to 13. There is also a Leadership in Training program for 14- and 15-year-olds.

Rotary is an organization of business and professional persons united worldwide who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. The Providence Rotary Charities Foundation was established in 1953 as a philanthropic endeavor of the Rotary Club of Providence, R.I. The 135-member Providence club, which was organized in 1911, was the 22nd Rotary group to be established. Today, there are thousands of Rotary clubs worldwide.

Hadassah Only Major Organization to Hold Convention in Israel This Summer

550 Delegates Convene in Jerusalem, Aug. 5 to 9

Five hundred fifty delegates, representing Hadassah chapters and units from across the United States, will travel to Israel to attend the 87th national convention of Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, to be held in Jerusalem, Aug. 5 to 9. This year's national convention theme is "Dwelling Together in Unity." It is the fifth convention held in Israel's capital city since 1978, and the first since 1995.

Bonnie Lipton, Hadassah national president, stated: "There was no possibility that we would have cancelled this convention. Hadassah's ideology regarding Israel is unequivocal: as a Zionist organization, we believe that the best way to support Israel and keep it central in our lives is to visit

our homeland and interact with Israelis. We are steadfast to these principles, especially during this difficult period. It gives us great joy to fill the streets of Jerusalem with activity; we are only sorry that ours is the only major convention of an American Jewish organization to be held in Israel this summer."

The convention will open with an address from Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and close with an appearance by President Moshe Katzav. During the course of four days of discussions, deliberations and site visits, a host of Knesset members, dignitaries, and public figures from across the political and religious spectrum will participate, including: MKs Naomi Blumenthal, Yuval Steinitz, Colette Avital, Naomi Chazan,

and Benjamin Elon; Rabbis Shlomo Riskin, Daniel Gordis, and Daniel Landes; journalists Dalya Yairi and Ehud Ya'ari; activist Adina Shapiro and industrialist Dov Lautman.

The delegates will exercise their prodigious advocacy skills with a Legacy of Life Walk through the center of Jerusalem to raise awareness of the need for lifesaving organ donation and tissue typing. In another move that will have a tremendous positive impact on the lives of all Israelis, Bonnie Lipton will announce the initiation of a \$28 million campaign to expand Hadassah.

In an unprecedented session open to the public, the national board will host a program, entitled "Life Goes On," that will examine the impact of the events of the last 10 months on the lives of ordinary Israelis. Participating will be the parents of Beni Avraham, an Israeli MIA; Malka Shumer, the grandmother of Chaim Yehuda Shoham, the 5-month-old murdered by a terrorist's bullet; Moti Abu the director of the Community Center in the beleaguered neighborhood of Gilo; and Ra'anana Gissin, spokesman for the prime minister.



AT THE PRESENTATION of a Providence Rotary Charities Foundation gift to Camp JORI are, from left: Michael Schuster, president of Camp JORI's board of directors; John J. Connors Jr., chairperson of the Providence Rotary Charities Foundation; and Paul L. Segal, president of the Rotary Club of Providence, R.I.

Photo by Jean Duffy

Islamic Jihad Teaching Martyrdom to Gaza Children

Islamic Jihad is running four summer camps in Gaza teaching 8-12 year-olds the importance of becoming suicide bombers, Israeli Television, CHANNEL 2 reported. At the "Paradise Camps," children undergo military training and view films about martyrs who have died while killing Israelis.

A teacher at one of the camps told a BBC reporter, "We are teaching the children that suicide bombs make Israeli people frightened and we are allowed to do it. We teach them that after a person becomes a suicide bomber he reaches the highest level of paradise."

Am David to Hold Charity Golf Outing Aug. 13

The newly renovated Swansea (Mass.) Country Club will be the site of the 5th annual Temple Am David Charity Golf Outing Aug. 13.

The outing has become a tradition on the Victory Day holiday in recent years and has attracted increasing numbers of golfers for the daylong event, proceeds of which supplement the Warwick congregation's religious school budget.

Jerry Tebrow, co-chair of the 2001 edition of the event, said the competition is "open to the entire community. Its purpose is to raise funds to provide innovative programming for the children at the Temple Am David religious school."

Included in the \$90 per golfer fee (\$350 per foursome) will be 18 holes of golf in a scramble format golf cart and a kosher deli lunch at the club. There will be opportunities to win prizes at various holes on the course for closest to the pin, longest drive, hole in one and more. Prizes also will be awarded for lowest and highest team scores. Tee-off times will begin at 7 a.m.

An auction and raffle for the benefit of the temple religious school also will be part of the day's activities.

A number of sponsorship opportunities are available. Additional information about these and reservations are available by contacting Jerry Tebrow at 822-0434 or the temple offices at 463-7944.

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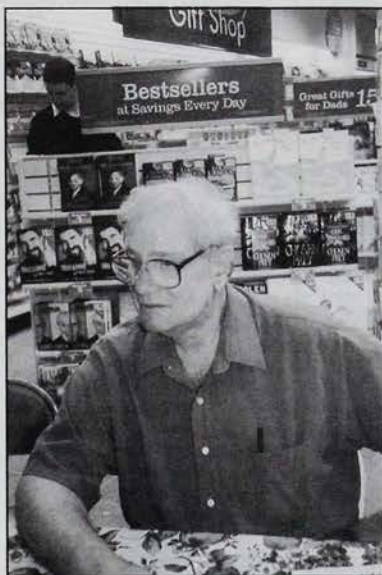
Marc P. Smith to Participate in Two-Week Program in Berlin

Trip Seeks to Further German-Jewish Dialogue

At the invitation of the German Consulate in Boston and the American Jewish Committee, Marc P. Smith will be one of six Americans from Massachusetts who will travel to Berlin in August for two weeks. As a guest of the German government, Smith will have an opportunity to further the goal of German-Jewish reconciliation and to learn about present day Jewish life in re-unified Germany. The program, under the auspices of the European academy Berlin, will take participants to centers of Jewish culture in and around Berlin, including the Jewish Museum; to East German memorial sites; to the former Ravensbruck concentration camp; and to Wannsee Villa where "the final solution" was mapped out. Talks and discussions will focus on how to deal with the past; how German schools teach about National Socialism and the Holocaust; Jewish culture as a lost component of German life; and American-German-Jewish dialogue.

Smith is first and foremost a writer — playwright, film writer, story teller, but he is also an American and a Jew, one who is passionately absorbed by the history of the 20th century, in particular the profound and horrific events surrounding the Holocaust.

He has participated in a Boston-based German-Jewish dialogue group for the past few years out of a fervent belief that some path toward reconciliation just be achieved between Jews and Germans for the sake of all the generations that came to adulthood after the 1930s and 1940s. Smith sees his future life's activities as a fusion of his long-time interests and participation in both politics and in the arts; his hope is that successes in the area of German-Jewish reconciliation can serve as a model for other conflicts throughout the world.



MARC P. SMITH at a signing for his audio CD "My Life... in Smitherens," at Walden Books. Photo courtesy of Blue Pumpkin Productions

B'nai B'rith Raises \$1 Million in New Money for BBYO; Transition to Lead to Independent Governing Board

Richard D. Heideman, president of B'nai B'rith International, announced today that B'nai B'rith has raised \$1,000,000 in new funding to help cover the costs of establishing the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization, the world's oldest and largest Jewish youth movement, as an independent organization. Among the philanthropists contributing to the transition effort are Newton Becker, Edgar Bronfman Sr., Lynn Schusterman and Michael Steinhart.

"Thanks to the vision and support of these major funders, as well as to BBI's decision to continue to provide a minimum of a \$1,000,000 in annual funding, and funds raised by BBYO in many communities, BBYO now will have the basic resources it needs to assure a bright future for the organization and the Jewish teens it serves," Heideman said.

The new funding, in addition to BBI's ongoing funding,

will permit BBYO to continue along a transitional process during this program year to become a self-sustaining, independent agency to be governed by a new board, which will include BBI, philanthropists, representatives of foundations and key leaders of the American Jewish community.

Over the past several months, representatives of BBI, the B'nai B'rith Youth Commission, the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation, the Jewish Community Centers Association and the United Jewish Communities met and pledged to work together to stabilize BBYO and to explore ways to enhance the scope and reach of its unique, youth-led programs.

"We are delighted to be able to contribute to the effort to stabilize and strengthen BBYO," said Lynn Schusterman, president of the Schusterman Family Foundation, who will serve as chairwoman of an advisory

team overseeing the BBYO transition. "Like many others, we recognize the valuable role BBYO plays in fostering Jewish identity and developing leadership skills among Jewish teens from affiliated as well as unaffiliated families."

High among the priorities of the advisory team will be to assist the BBYO search committee in its effort to identify a new executive director for BBYO. According to Gary Saltzman, chairman of the B'nai B'rith Youth Commission, Mark L. Meridy, currently the associate executive vice president of B'nai B'rith has agreed to serve as the BBYO interim international director.

Record Number of Participants at 2001 JCC Maccabi Games

This summer, a record number of Jewish teens (more than 6,500) from all over the United States, Canada, Mexico, Israel, Great Britain, Poland, Australia, Venezuela and Argentina will take part in the Jewish Community Centers Maccabi Games — whose theme is "Tomorrow Israel."

For an entire week, these young athletes will share in the fun of competing, the joy of meeting other Jewish peers and the pride of being part of a world-famous Olympic-style event filled with Jewish content and values. It is a life- and personality-shaping experience that the JCC Maccabi Games have been offering to Jewish teenagers since 1982.

Host communities of the 2001 JCC Maccabi Games are:

- Atlanta and Sarasota (Aug. 5 to 10)
- Miami (Aug. 12 to 17)
- Philadelphia and the Jersey Shore (Aug. 19 to 24)

According to Lenny Silberman, JCC Association's continental director of the JCC Maccabi Games, "For many of these athletes coming to the games means getting in touch with their own Judaism for the first time... The JCC Maccabi Games are about sport competition, but also about Jewish heritage, Jewish culture and our connection to Israel."

For many of these participants, the games open the door to a broader personal Jewish journey, "Over the years," Silberman continued, "we've seen a number of our athletes and coaches — who might have never thought of going to Israel before — decide to join a JCC Maccabi Experience Israel Program (JMaX) and travel to the Jewish homeland, inspired by their involvement with the games. When this happens, when people connect to Israel, one of the central missions of the games is fully accomplished."

More than 2,000 generous families will provide accommodation for thousands of athletes. More than 1,000 coaches will volunteer their time and talent to train and guide the participants throughout the JCC Maccabi Games. A total of 16,000 volunteers will ensure that the weeklong event runs smoothly.

At this Jewish mini-Olympiad, each participant has the chance to learn some great lessons that will be cherished for life: teamwork, respect for the rules and respect for the opponents, fair-play, acceptance of success as well as of failure, and much more.

"We try to make the JCC Maccabi Games a memorable experience for our teens, one which combines sports and socialization with fun and meaning, in a setting that constantly stresses Judaism and Jewish values," Steve Reiner, chairman of the JCC Maccabi Games, said. "We hope that in meeting teens from other places, both near and far, the athletes learn that their common heritage as Jews links them together in a special way, not just for the week of the games, but always."

The Rachmanus rule plays a key role in our athletic event: from the Hebrew word for 'compassion,' the Rachmanus rule applies to individual players, teams, coaches and spectators. There is no room for violent reactions, slander, gossip or trash-talk at the JCC Maccabi Games.

In order to reinforce the Jewish collective memory among our youth, the JCC Maccabi Games Opening Ceremony will feature a memorial tribute to the 11 Israeli athletes killed by terrorists at the 1972 Olympics in Munich, Germany.

The JCC Maccabi Games are sponsored by JCC Association of North America as the managing partner, Maccabi USA/Sports for Israel, Maccabi Canada and Maccabi World Union.

JTS is Newest Member of Faith & Values Media

Jewish Theological Seminary of New York City has been accepted into membership of Faith & Values media, the country's largest interfaith coalition dedicated to media production, distribution and promotion. JTS joins the ranks of 29 religious organizations who represent 70 faith groups with 200,000 congregations and 120 million members. Faith & Values Media is a major program provider to the Hallmark Channel (formerly Odyssey Network), of which it is part owner.

Jewish Theological Seminary, representing Conservative Judaism, has one of the oldest media ministries in the country.

It launched the radio series "The Eternal Light" on NBC in 1944. In its 60 years of production, JTS has produced close to 1,000 hours of award-winning network programs for national broadcast on both radio and TV. It hopes to expand its viewership with new programs on the Hallmark Channel.

"It is inspiring to be part of an organization that embraces such a diverse array of religious beliefs," says Dr. Ismar Schorsch, JTS chancellor. "We are pleased to have the opportunity to add another Jewish perspective to the quality shows produced by Faith & Values Media."



Swimming, Swimming, in the Swimming Pool!

Pre-school children take a dip in the swimming pool at the Jewish Community Center.

Herald photos by Jon Rubin

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



RI International Film Festival to Screen 200 Films in Six Days

Five Jewish Films to Be Screened

The fifth annual Rhode Island International Film Festival which takes place August 8-13, 2001 is so large that it will be held in two cities: Providence and Newport. In the course of six days, the Festival will screen over 200 titles at six locations that will boast 42 World Premieres and 20 U.S. Premieres. Along with a host of shorts and documentaries, the Fest will screen 41 narrative features. Rhode Island Governor Lincoln Almond serves as the Festival's honorary chairman and Brooks

Rhode Island State House. Tickets for the film are \$15 and the post-film party is \$35 per person.

Tickets for RIIFF will be available at select Brooks Pharmacy store locations throughout the state. Advance ticket sales for screenings and special events are now available through the award-winning RIIFF Web site (www.film-festival.org) and www.virtuous.com. Student, group and senior discounts are available. To purchase tickets or obtain more in-

formation about any aspect of the Rhode Island International Film Festival, call 861-4445.

Showing at: Columbus, Sunday Aug. 12, 11:30 p.m.

"Moosh"

(Israel, 2000, 16mm, 28min, directed by Erez Tadmor)

U.S. Premiere

A 32-year-old policeman named Moosh has a crumbling marriage with an absent wife. One night he finds an abandoned baby in an alleyway, and must take the child home until Social Services opens the next morning. And in taking care of the infant, a touching reconciliation between husband and wife occurs.

Showing at: List, Thur. Aug. 9th, 11 a.m.

"The Living Century: A Teacher and Student for Life"

(USA, 2000, Video, 26min, directed by Steven Latham, executive produced by Barbra Streisand)

"A Teacher and Student for Life" chronicles the life of 100-year-old Dr. Ray Crist, a renowned scientist and researcher who grew up on a south central Pennsylvania farm. Crist recalls life at the turn of the century, shares incredible family stories and the Civil War diary of one grandfather. He laughs as he recalls chopping wood and eating sparrow pie and tearfully speaks of his deceased wife.

Showing at: List, Sat. Aug. 11, 1 p.m.

"The Living Century: Three Miracles"

(USA, 2000, Video, 26min, directed by Steven Latham)

"Three Miracles" features 107-year-old Rose Freedman, who breaks all stereotypes about the elderly. She lives on her own, wears a dress and high heels every day, paints, is an avid Los Angeles Lakers fan and speaks six languages - including Spanish, which she just began studying. Freedman is the only remaining survivor of the tragic 1911 Triangle Shirtwaist Company fire in New York City. Her story is told with incredible detail and is the definitive memoir about the fire. This segment is introduced by a poem from U.S. Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky.

Showing at: List, Friday Aug. 10th, 11 a.m.

"Diamonds and Rust"

(USA, 2000, 35mm, 73min, directed by Adi Barash and Ruthie Shatz)

On a trawler moored off the coast of Namibia, diamond mining continues around the clock. On the ocean floor the supply of the coveted little diamonds seems endless, but their capture is muddy with politics and fraught with racial tensions. Without commentary, the filmmakers plunge into the daily life of an international crew working in the service of a faceless mining conglomerate. It's a fascinating tale - a heart of darkness in which diamonds are forever.

Showing at: Columbus, Friday Aug. 10, 5 p.m.

Guest Cottage on Display at JVC Jazz Festival in Newport Aug. 11 and 12

Classic American Home magazine has embarked on a program to create actual physical spaces that bring its design pages to life. In a unique promotion, a creative team from the magazine developed and designed a 600-square-foot guest cottage which will be on display to the general public for the first time at the JVC Jazz Festival in Newport, Rhode Island on Aug. 11 and 12 - in the shadow of famous mansions that were considered summer "cottages" in their day.

The Classic Guest Cottage, initially on display at this year's Kitchen's and Bath Industry Show in Orlando in April, fuses classic American elements with Greek, Asian, eclectic and high-tech influences. Designed to reside on the grounds of a much larger home and function as a true guest cottage, it was built on a traditional foundation, but with Editor-in-Chief Jason Kontos' signature "twist." A relaxing haven for weekend fun, its flexible interior design and open floor plan easily enables its use as a pool house or party cabana. The bath is the only truly private space in the design. The kitchen flows into the dining area, which opens into the living room. The hearth and entertainment center form the rooms focal point, while the luxurious bedroom combines privacy with the possibility of use as another lounge area.

The cottage was designed by architect John Sanford Newman and kitchen designer Susan D. Drake, CKD, with the help of the magazine's decorating department. Generous sponsors and project editor, Mallory F.M. Finger, supplied the fixtures and fittings for the space.

"We are honored that the publishers and editors of such a beautiful home magazine would share parts of their Classic Guest Cottage with those we are trying to help," said Herman deKoe, executive director of Habitat for Humanity Providence. "We are trying to promote the idea that, no matter what the financial status, people can strive - and we can help them strive in some cases - to have comfortable and beautiful homes. Associating with those in the design and decorating community helps us to continue to bring the housing pride and comfort needs of the less fortunate among us into the mainstream consciousness of our society. We are thankful for the magazine's thoughtfulness and willingness to help us achieve our goals."

For more information on the Classic Guest Cottage or future design projects, contact the magazine at (212) 830-2909 or call Angela Drinkwater at (631) 477-1221 or Amy Krakow at (212) 962-7767.



Assaf Bernstein, director of "Run"

Pharmacy is the premiere sponsor of the event.

This year, RIIFF received more than 700 entries from across the globe, representing 37 countries and 32 states in the US. These include Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Bangladesh, China, Germany, Iceland, Israel, Russia, Slovenia, South Africa, Sweden, the UK, and Yugoslavia. Over 15,000 people are expected to attend film screenings and events including over 250 filmmakers, producers and distributors from around the world.

Opening Night Gala festivities will take place on August 8 at the Columbus Theatre, 270 Broadway in Providence. A special \$125 per person fundraising reception, open to the public, will be held at the Columbus at 5:30 p.m. prior to the film screening of one of Blake Edwards' classic films. A post-film party will be held at the

formation about any aspect of the Rhode Island International Film Festival, call 861-4445.

At the showing will be five films that are either Israeli or Israeli/American productions, as well as films by Jewish filmmakers and production crews. They are:

"Run"

(USA/Israel, 2001, Video, 50 min, directed by Assaf Bernstein)

When the body of an Ethiopian boy is found in a garbage pit outside an immigrant camp in the Israeli desert, two police detectives are called to solve the mysterious case. The intense search for truth leads the two men into an unfamiliar world where ancient customs mix with contemporary crime. As they piece together the tragic events leading up to the child's death, the detectives find themselves with a poignant portrait



"RUN" DIRECTED BY ASSAF BERNSTEIN will be shown on Aug. 12 at the Rhode Island International Film Festival.

Photos courtesy of RI International Film Festival

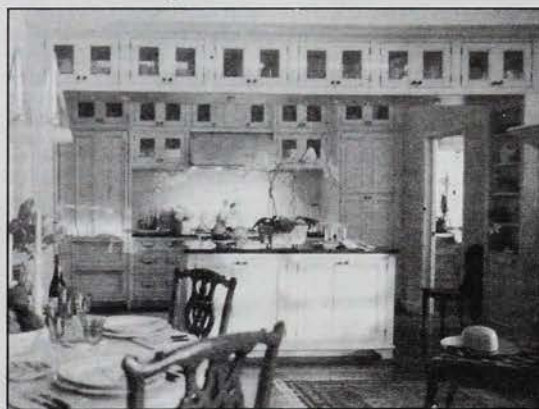


Photo by Jeff McNamara for Classic American Home

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Moritz Daniel Oppenheim: Jewish Identity in Nineteenth Century Art

At Yeshiva University through September 5

Two newly discovered paintings by the 19th century German artist Moritz Daniel Oppenheim have just been installed at Yeshiva University Museum. These significant works will take their place in the current exhibition among more than 90 paintings and 14 works on paper. Oppenheim, known as the "Painter of the Rothschilds and the Rothschild of Painters," is considered by many art historians to be the greatest Jewish genre painter of his time.

Both paintings had been listed as "whereabouts unknown" in the exhibition's catalogue raisonné. When the owners of one of the paintings — a portrait of the artist's first wife — read Grace Glueck's review of the Yeshiva University Museum exhibition in the *New York Times* (April 6, 2001), they contacted the museum and offered to lend the painting.

Welcoming these new additions to the exhibition, Sylvia A. Herskowitz, YUM Director, said, "Like buried treasures, these two paintings have just recently come to light, and we are terribly excited that they will now be shown publicly for the first time."

New Painting Descriptions

One painting, a very small and tender genre scene, depicts a young widow — seemingly in need of money after the death of her husband — selling her jewelry to a dealer. It has been

neutral and gentle manner than the stereotypical anti-semitic caricatures portrayed in similar melodramatic senses of that period. This painting recently surfaced on the European art market where it was offered for sale by Dorotheum, Vienna, a lead-

aunt had purchased the painting in a shop in Hamburg, Germany in the mid to late 1930s before fleeing the Nazis.

About Oppenheim

The significant body of work produced by the 19th century

modern era and the first Jewish painter to receive classical academic training. His success afforded him considerable official recognition throughout his life, not only in his own milieu, but also in the larger non-Jewish world. His impressive portraits include some of the best-known non-Jewish and Jewish personalities of his day, in particular the Rothschild family, his primary patrons.

Exhibition Information

Moritz Daniel Oppenheim: Jewish Identity in Nineteenth Century Art was organized by the Jüdisches Museum der Stadt Frankfurt am Main, under the patronage of German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder. Yeshiva University Museum is the only U.S. venue for this import exhibition.

Among the institutional lenders to this exhibition are the Kunst-museum Düsseldorf, Hamburger Kunsthalle; Banque Rothschild in Paris; National Portrait Gallery in London; Israel Museum; Jewish Museum in New York; and Skirball Cultural Center in Los Angeles.

Yeshiva University Museum is located at 15 West 16th Street in the Center for Jewish History in New York. Museum hours are: Tuesday, Wednesday and Sunday, 11 am. to 5 p.m., Thursday 11 am. to 8 p.m. the museum is closed Mondays, Fridays and Saturdays. General admission is \$6 for adults, \$4 for seniors and students. Museum members and children 5 and under are admitted free.



A widow offers her jewelry for sale, date unknown, oil on canvas, private collection.



Adelheid Cleve Oppenheim, 1829, oil canvas, collection of Steven and Rosalie Schneider, Shelburne, Vt.

suggested that this tender narrative by Oppenheim presents the Jewish jewelry in a more

ing European auction house. It was then purchased by a New York art dealer specializing in works of Jewish art, and very recently was sold to its current owner.

The second painting, from the collection of Steven and Rosalie Schneider of Shelburne, Vt., is a portrait of Adelheid Cleve Oppenheim, the artist's first wife. The present owners'

German artist Moritz Daniel Oppenheim (1800-1882), was a milestone in the history of Jewish art. Since the Middle Ages, Jewish artists had been confined by ghetto walls, unable to study in art schools or with master artists; and their work was restricted to their own Jewish communities. Oppenheim was the first Jewish artist to connect with the artistic currents of the

Slide Travelogue of Pacific Northwest at Barrington Public Library

Join Barrington resident Bob Darling at the Barrington Public Library on Aug. 8 at 7:30 p.m. for his slide travelogue on the Pacific Northwest. Darling has this to say about his program:

"The Pacific Northwest has to be one of the most scenic areas of North America. On this slide journey, we'll visit Seattle, Portland, and Victoria, but spend more time in the country admiring the likes of Mt. Rainier, Mt. Hood and, of course, St. Helens. Parks abound in the mountains and on the seashore. Flowers are with us everywhere, from the gardens of Victoria to the rose test gardens in Portland. We'll visit a virtual dam, courtesy of Seattle City Light, and see some of the large dams on the Colum-

bia River. Oregon highlights include the magnificent Oregon coast and Crater Lake, with a couple of neat museums thrown in for good measure. It's a great part of the country, and one which we want to visit again. My wife Marilyn and I enjoy traveling, both in the United States and abroad. We often combine an Elderhostel with a week's independent travel, as we did with the Oregon portion of this presentation. The photography comes as a side benefit; we enjoy sharing our experiences with others."

This program is part of the Library's Friends Sponsored Series. It is free and open to all. The Barrington Public Library is located at 281 County Road in Barrington. Call 247-1920.

Roger Williams Announces Fund-Raising Golf Tournament

The Roger Williams University Law Alumni Association is pleased to announce its second annual Law Alumni Golf Tournament to be held on Sept. 9 at the Cranston Country Club in Cranston, R.I. Registration begins at 11:30 a.m., followed by a noon lunch, and a 1:30 p.m. shot gun start. Dinner, prizes, and a raffle will conclude the day.

The \$90 per golfer entry fee includes greens fees, golf cart, lunch, dinner, bag drop, free range balls, complimentary golf balls and tees, and food and beverages throughout the course. Tee sign sponsorships are available for \$100. Each tee sign sponsor will have its company/firm name displayed on a tee sign placed in a prominent location on the golf course as well as recognition of support in the tournament program. Look for registration details on the web at <<http://law.rwu.edu>> or e-mail the Office of Alumni, Programs, & Events at <shart@law.rwu.edu>

SATRC Holds Annual Fund-Raiser on Narragansett Beach

The Sexual Assault & Trauma Resource Center of Rhode Island will host Under the Stars by the Sea for the second time on Aug. 4. The event, which will take place on beautiful Narragansett Beach, includes a full-course dinner provided by Gatehouse Catering. Elegant eveningwear, no shoes required, is the unique suggested attire for the event. The evening, which begins at 6:30 p.m., will also feature music by The Kim Trusty Band.

Sponsors for the event include, GTECH, Citizens Bank, CVS Pharmacy, Rustigian Rugs, *The Providence Journal* and Edwards & Angell. Tickets for Under the Stars by the Sea are \$100 per person.

SATRC is the only agency in the state organized specifically to deal with issues of sexual assault as a community concern. Its mission is to address the issues of sexual assault and trauma through a comprehensive range of services, including intervention, treatment, education and prevention. All proceeds from the event benefit SATRC programs.

To attend the event, or for more information, contact Marlene Roberti, director of development at 421-4100, ext. 28.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



RISD Announces New Certificate Program in Art and Antiques

Appraisal Studies Focus, First of Its Kind in Region

The Division of Continuing Education at Rhode Island School of Design announces a new certificate program in Art and Antiques with two possible tracks of study — Appraisal Studies and Arts and Antiques Appreciation. Students will begin to take classes in September, 2001.

Designed with the needs of both prospective and practicing appraiser and collector in mind, RISD's certificate program provides a structured overview of how fine and decorative objects are valued. The program is intended for current and prospective dealers, collectors, interior designers, appraisers seeking recertification by their professional society, and all those who

appreciate the meaning and value of fine objects.

Appraisal studies constitutes the study of the methodologies, ethics, laws and research tools of the professional appraiser. An appraiser is essentially an expert who can help to determine the value or heritage of objects — ordinary and artistic. Building on professional standards appraisers apply systematic criteria for determining value. These sorts of appraisers are in increasing demand for purposes of insurance, estate tax, charitable donations, art collection and auction.

In a unique collaboration with the American Society of Appraisers, RISD's appraisal studies track will offer four approved foundation courses designed to

help students prepare for the ASA qualifying examination.

While two other schools offer certificate programs in appraisal studies in partnership with ASA, no other school in New England offers the ASA curriculum. The RISD program will be modeled after a similar program at George Washington University which focuses on fine and decorative arts.

RISD CE may be contacted at 454-6200, (800) 364-7473, ext. 2 or <ce@mail@risd.edu>.

An open house for information about the certificate programs has been scheduled for Sept. 6, 7 to 9 p.m., Bayard Ewing Building, Room 106, 231 South Main Street. To R.S.V.P., call RISD CE at 454-6200 by Aug. 30.

Kobe Says... Walk Like a Polar Bear at Roger Williams Park Zoo

Kids can test their survival skills every Thursday in August with Arctic Survivor Days at Roger Williams Park Zoo. There will be contests for the little ones and the big ones and a special performance by the zoo's resident theater group, the Zoobadours.

With the help of the Zoobadours, kids under 6 will join in a game of Kobe Says. Everyone wins in contest where kids can learn how to walk like a polar bear, or call Mom for a seal hunt. Other kids ages 7 to 10 can test their survival skills in the zoo's own Arctic Circle. Contestants will race to put on polar bear-style attire, get ready for a hunt and then find the right polar bear snack.

Arctic Survivor activities run from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and are free with zoo admission. Finalists in both contests will be eligible for special prizes from Wrentham Village Premium Outlets and Coca-Cola. Everyone participating will receive special giveaways. Arctic Survivor Days are sponsored by the zoo, Wrentham Village Premium Outlets, Coca-Cola and Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation.

Roger Williams Park Zoo is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and weekends and holidays until 6 p.m. For more information, contact the zoo at 785-3510 or <rogerwilliamsarkzoo.com>.



'KOBESAYS' come on over to Roger Williams Park Zoo for "Arctic Survivor Days" every Thursday in August. Kids can test their survival skills in special contests with Kobe, take a chance at surviving the Arctic Circle and see a special theater presentation.

Photo by Rick DeBari Sunrise Photography

Cranston Community Theatre Presents 'Doorway to Broadway'

Cranston Community Theatre will present "Doorway to Broadway," a musical revue, Aug. 10, 11 and 12 at Bishop McVinney Auditorium in downtown Providence. Show times are 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday night and 2 p.m. on Sunday afternoon. The performance will include musical selections and scenes from "Carousel," "Guys and Dolls," "Cinderella," "Smile," and "The Secret Garden."

"I am very excited to work

with such an enthusiastic and talented group of individuals this summer," said Bert Silverberg, director. "CCT prides itself in being an educational theatrical experience for actors of all ages."

CCT debuted in 1995 with the revue "In Love With Broadway" to provide a theater outlet for Cranstonians, along with the chance to enhance theater education among participants. Members now travel from all over Rhode Island, Southern

Massachusetts and Connecticut to join the CCT experience.

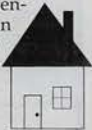
Nancy Vitulli-Donagan, one of the founding members, is the current CCT choreographer and theater director at Cranston High School West. Silverberg brings his experiences as theater professor and theater department chairperson at the Community College of Rhode Island, where he has been teaching since 1974. As a charter board member of CT, he likes to think of the organization as "an inclusive group. As much as possible, we like to provide performing opportunities for everyone who wishes to get involved. The revue format allows us to select material suitable to the performers." The cast of "Doorway to Broadway" numbers 26.

Tickets for "Doorway to Broadway" are \$10 general admission and \$8 for students and senior citizens. For advance reservations, call 825-2219.

Energy Smart House on Exhibit

Louis Pugliese will exhibit his plans, models and photos for an energy efficient house for the 21st century at the Cranston Public Library, 140 Sockanosset Cross Road, from Aug. 6 through Sept. 4.

The exhibit is free and open to the public during library hours. Call 943-9080 for more information.



OPENING DOORS — Rehearsing for the Cranston Community Theatre's production of "Doorway to Broadway," a musical revue, are: (front row, L-R) Bethany Giammarco, Libby Ricardo, Hannah VanMeter, Ashley Ledoux; (Middle Row, L-R) Lauren Steingold, Amanda Beaudoin, Johanna Goldberg, Kristee Cordeiro; (Rear Row, L-R) Jennifer Grady, Sarah Goldberg, Erica Warren, Christine Borrelli, and Nina Levetin. Performances will be presented at the Bishop McVinney Auditorium in downtown Providence on August 10 and 11 at 8 p.m. and Aug. 12 at 2 p.m. For ticket information and reservations, call 825-2219. Photo by Bert Silverberg

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OBITUARIES

ETTA (GOLDMAN) ABRAMS
WARWICK — Etta (Goldman) Abrams, 95, of 660 Commonwealth Ave., a former hospital and hardware store employee, died July 29 in Kent Hospital.

She was the wife of the late Sigmund Abrams. Born in the Hyde Park section of Boston, a daughter of the late Samuel and Rose (Friedman) Goldman, she had lived in Cranston for many years before moving to Warwick five years ago.

She was a graduate of the former Bryant & Stratton Business School, now Bryant College.

An employee for many years of City Hall Hardware, in Providence, she also had worked in the billing and collection department of Rhode Island Hospital, in Providence, and had volunteered at the former Ladd School, in Exeter.

During World War II, she had volunteered as a nurse's aide and as a "Grey Lady" with the American Red Cross.

She was a former member of Temple Torat Yisral and its Sisterhood, the Cranston Hadasah, the Women's Association for the former Jewish Home for the Aged, and the Meshanicut Vista Tenants Association.

She leaves two sons, Justin Abrams of Block Island and Burton Abrams of Naples, Fla.; a brother, Sanford Goldman of Warwick; a sister, Martha Sherman of Boca Raton, Fla.; five grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren. She was a sister of the late Frank Goldman, Ruth Kagan and Betty Hellman.

The funeral service was held at Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Trigeminal Neuralgia Assn., P.O. Box 340, Barnegat Light, N.J., 08006. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel.

Y. MARTHA DRESS

JOHNSTON — Y. Martha (Bezzan) Dress, 92, of Cherry Hill Road, a head payroll clerk, died July 23 at Cherry Hill Manor. She was the wife of the late Dr. Harry Dress.

Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Ida (Jacobs) Bezzan, she had lived in Providence most of her life before moving to Johnston more than 10 years ago.

She worked as a head clerk in the payroll department of Speidel, Providence, for more than 15 years before retiring.

She was a member and past president of the former Pioneer Women's Club. She was a former member of the Majestic Seniors and Temple Sinai.

She leaves a daughter, Pauline Cohen of Providence and Narragansett; two sons, Samuel Dress of Santa Monica, Calif., and Jeffrey Dress of Northborough, Mass.; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

The funeral was private. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to your favorite charity.

The family was assisted with

the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

ALFRED AARON ELKIN

PROVIDENCE — Alfred Aaron Elkin, 77, of Blackstone Boulevard, owner and operator of Vinyl Packaging and Plastic Development of Pawtucket for more than 30 years, died unexpectedly July 27 while at work.

He was the husband of Gisele (Champoux) Elkin; they were married for 53 years. Born in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, the son of the late Samuel and Dorothy (Grossman) Elkin, he immigrated to East Providence in 1956, and had also lived in Pawtucket before moving to Providence.

He had designed many disposable medical products, which were the foundation on which his company was based, and had obtained many patents.

During World War II, he served with the British Ferry Command, and was stationed in Labrador and Greenland.

The Preservation Society of Pawtucket had recognized him for his role in the restoration of the illuminated clock tower at Sabin Street and Central Avenue.

During the past two years, he had made almost weekly trips to Boston to watch his grandson play hockey.

Besides his wife, he leaves a daughter, Dorothy Elkin of Stoneham, Mass.; and a grandson, Benjamin Halpin. He was the brother of the late Phyllis Irene Nudel.

A memorial service was held in the chapel at Swan Point Cemetery, Blackstone Boulevard, Providence.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to your favorite charity.

The family was assisted with the arrangements by the Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

SHELDON L. "BUD" "BUDDY" GERBER
BOYNTON BEACH, FLA. — Sheldon L. "Bud" "Buddy" Gerber, 80, a former real-estate developer and Providence city official, died July 29 at home.

He was the husband of Helen (Nelson) Gerber. Born in Providence, a son of the late George and Rose (Goldberg) Gerber, he had been a lifelong resident of

the city until moving to Florida.

He had attended the former Rhode Island State College, now the University of Rhode Island.

Before his family sold out, he had been vice president of Gerber's Jewelry and president of Gerbers Inc. He later became a real estate developer, working on projects that included developing the former Coat Field into a discount operation, together with his father; founding the B/G Stores, and selling them to the NHD Hardware Store chain; and participating in partnerships that invested in the former Outlet Co. on Weybosset Street, and the Old Stone Building.

He was a past member of the Capital Center commission, the Providence Redevelopment Agency, the Zoning Board of Review, and the Port Commission. He had been appointed to the Federal Home Loan Bank Board, and had been elected as a corporator of Woonsocket Savings and Trust.

An Army veteran of World War II, he served overseas.

He was a former president of Ledgemont Country Club.

Besides his wife, he leaves two daughters, Judith and Nancy Gerber, both of Las Vegas, Nev.; two sisters, Shirley Sadler of Providence and Phyllis Shapiro of Newton, Mass.; and two grandchildren. He was the father of the late Alan J. Gerber.

Funeral services were held in Temple Emanu-El, Morris Avenue, Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Hospice by the Sea, Boca Raton, Fla., or your favorite charity. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

GERTRUDE "HONEY" GLEKLEN

PROVIDENCE — Gertrude "Honey" Gleklen, 87, of 355 Blackstone Boulevard, a retired travel agent, died July 24 at Laurelmead.

She was the wife of the late Leo Gleklen. Born in Norton, Mass., a daughter of the late John and Rose (Freedman) Ketover, she had lived in Woonsocket, and Franklin, Mass., before moving to Provi-

dence almost 70 years ago.

She worked part-time as a travel agent for 30 years before retiring.

She was a graduate of Pembroke College, class of 1935, and recently attended her 66th class reunion.

She was past president of the PTA and the Miriam Hospital Women's Association, and volunteered at Bradley Hospital, the Jewish Community Center and Laurelmead.

She was a member of Temple Emanu-El and Hadassah.

She enjoyed giving parties, playing contract bridge, traveling, and collecting antiques, miniature furniture, fossils and minerals.

She leaves a son, Donald Gleklen of Newtown Square, Pa.; four daughters, Meredith Gardner of New York City, twins Jane Wyeth of New York city and Judy Kopff of Washington, D.C., and Susan Norman of Providence; and six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. She was the mother of the late Jill Gleklen, and the sister of the late Louis, Samuel and Max Ketover.

The funeral service was held July 26 in Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be made to a charity of your choice as a way of remembering her joy of life and the many, many friends whose lives she treasured and touched. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel.

EVELYN S. WEINBERG

PROVIDENCE — Evelyn S. (Gilstein) Weinberg, of Pinehurst Ave., died July 28. She was the wife of Robert Weinberg.

Besides her husband, she leaves a daughter, Vicki Weisman of Providence; a brother, Benjamin Gilstein of Cranston; a sister, Doris Reffkin of Providence; and two grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Alton, William, Cyrus and Charles Gilstein.

Funeral services were private. In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory can be made to your favorite charity. Arrangements were made by Shalom Memorial Chapel, 1100 New London Ave., Cranston.

"The essence of G-d's greatness is that the very person who is most distant from Him and most attached to physicality can and should serve Him. Such service as G-d's greatest pleasure and delight! For wherever we find G-d's greatness, we also find His humility (Megillah 31a).

As I have often told you, there is a common misconception among young people that this principle does not apply to them, for a person may think he has too deeply tainted himself and has done too much wrong. But the truth is just the opposite — this principle applies especially to him! A person's main test in life, and the essence of the refining process he must undergo, is that, through all the declines and falls and through all that he experiences, he should not allow himself to become distanced from G-d, Torah or prayer."

— From the letters of Reb Noson

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FEATURE

Legion Lauds House For Protecting 'Old Glory'

The leader of the nation's largest veterans organization praised the U.S. House of Representatives for passing a constitutional amendment recently that would return to the Congress the right to protect the U.S. Flag from acts of physical desecration.

"It is gratifying to see that the majority of our elected representatives responded to the clarion call of the people," National Commander Ray G. Smith said. "The American Legion is truly proud of all those members who ensured that their constituents will be able to exercise their constitutional

rights under Article V to restore dignity to Old Glory and common sense to the legal definition of free speech."

In 1990 the Supreme Court further struck down a federal flag-protection statute passed by Congress, leaving a constitutional amendment as the only flag-protection recourse. Each high court ruling was by a 5-to-4 margin. Prior to 1989, the Supreme Court ruled flag-protection laws were compatible with constitutionally protected free speech.

"We now look to the Senate to heed the will of the people as the House did," Smith said.

On CAMERA

(Continued from Page 3)

Doron Rosenblum, another favorite with the American mainstream media, often provides ridicule of Israeli leaders. An Associated Press story quoted a December 2000 Rosenblum observation that prominent Israeli figures Ariel Sharon, Shimon Peres, Ehud Barak and Benjamin Netanyahu are, "a bunch of junk satellites that continue to orbit the earth even after their mission is over; an eternal beehive of has-beens and schemers..."

Akiva Eldar too, despite a record of factual sloppiness and twisted interpretation, is often cited. A May 23, 2001 *New York Times* story quoted him declaring that Ariel Sharon's "shelling of Jibril Rajoub's house removes any remaining doubts. Ariel Sharon has decided to turn the Palestinian Authority into the enemy." Thus eight months into an unprecedented mini-war launched by Arafat's PA, Eldar points the finger at Sharon.

Stem Cells and Jews

(Continued from Page 4)

necessary medical means, many experts feel that Jewish law would not stand in the way of allowing the fetal material to be used for the purposes of healing research.

Conclusions

While the U.S. fights amongst itself, Israel has already taken major strides in the areas of stem cell research. Numerous mentionings have been made of the breakthroughs Israeli researchers have made in the field of stem cell research. An issue of *Proceedings of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences* contains an article describing the significant work made by collaborative researchers from The Hebrew University, the Technion in Israel, and Harvard University on growth factors of human embryonic stem cells. Professor Nissim Benvenisty, Herbert Cohn Professor of Cancer Research at the Alexander Silberman Institute of Life Sciences of the Hebrew University, leads this particular study on stem cells received from medical centers in the U.S.

It is unknown if there will be a large-scale, coordinated effort to bring Jewish beliefs on stem cell research to the attention of the general public. Besides the

fact that Jews are a minority, Jews also have different beliefs for Jews and non-Jews. Non-Jews are not expected to keep the Sabbath, and neither are they expected to be held to the same medical or moral standards as we keep for ourselves. This sort of "inward-centered morality" might keep Jews outside of the public forum for debate.

Rabbi Avram Reisner, who serves on a subcommittee of biomedical ethics for the Committee of Jewish Law and Standards, remarked that stem cell research has a "see-saw" potential, weighing health benefits of the research against the possible risk of ethical problems that can emerge from its use. Keeping this balancing act in mind, he was still in favor of stem cell research. "Judaism doesn't allow you to hurt yourself, but it allows you to put yourself in 'normal risk,'" he said.

President Bush, who during his campaign described the "culture of life" he would promote if elected, is currently at a standstill on the decision whether or not to allow federal funding for stem cell research. A nation awaits his decision.

You can be reached at <jonj.herald@hotmail.com>

"With 49 states having passed resolutions petitioning Congress to send them a flag-protection amendment for ratification, the U.S. Senate has a clear road map to passage of Sen. Joint Res. 7... Pass the amendment, not just because four out of five Americans want it, and 49 state legislatures have demanded it; pass it because it's the right thing to do."

Reps. Randy "Duke" Cunningham of California and John Murtha of Pennsylvania sponsored the amendment in the House. Sens. Orrin Hatch of Utah and Max Cleland of Georgia introduced the Senate version.

fighters, and before it the test of the violations of the Oslo Agreement by Arafat, and it turns out that the support of some of the prominent reporters [for Palestinian positions] is absolute. ...They have a mission."

The ultimate political effects of prestigious Israeli media disseminating continuous and often inflammatory anti-Israel misinformation in English in the era of the Internet should not be underestimated.

Disastrous 'Unity'

(Continued from Page 3)

Israel has a right to survive as a Jewish nation. The steps outlined above will insure that this result is achieved.

This article was submitted by *Women For Israel's Tomorrow* (*Women in Green*). Visit <www.womeningreen.org>.

The article originally appeared in the *Jerusalem Post*.

Police Clash with Rioters at Temple Mount

Stone Throwers Attack Tisha B'av Worshipers

Jews who gathered at the Western Wall on Tisha B'av on July 30 to mourn the destruction of the Holy Temples were hit by volleys of stones from Palestinian rioters, *The Jerusalem Post* reported. Huge numbers of Jewish worshippers were evacuated from the site, and hundreds of police rushed the rioters at the Temple Mount in an effort to stop the attack.

The violence came about three hours after the Jewish fringe organization The Temple Mount Faithful drove their "cornerstone for the third temple" just outside the Dung Gate. After removing the stone, the group gathered a few hours later around the Western Wall and protested Muslim occupation of the mount.

A large group of Palestinian youths responded a few hours afterward by hurling rocks, and in the end 28 Palestinians were arrested. Fifteen policemen and 20 Palestinians were reported wounded during the melee.

Reform Movement

(Continued from Page 7)

Lipkin-Shahak and on the peace process by the new U.S. Ambassador Daniel Kurtzer and by Rabin Center president Ze'ev Tadmor, MK Dalia Rabin Philosofoff and Tel Aviv University president and former Washington ambassador Itamar Rabinovitch.

Participants will travel to the West Bank settlement Efrat, where they will meet with Rabbi Shlomo Riskin, to Neve Shalom and to Gilo, the Jerusalem suburb which has been under attack from nearby Palestinian neighborhoods.

The American Reform leadership group will also study Zionism and the Israel-Diaspora Connection on several occasions and visit Reform Israeli communities in Jerusalem, Modi'in, Mevaseret, Gezer, Ra'anana, and Tel Aviv. In addition to morning prayer sessions, they will lunch with Reform rabbinical students, meet with Reform Israelis in their homes, visit the Western Wall and attend a Russian immigrant festival at the largest Reform synagogue in Tel Aviv.

The Central Conference of American Rabbis, the national Reform Jewish Movement's rabbinic arm, had long scheduled its conference in Israel for this coming year. It is now intensively encouraging a record number of rabbis to attend. More than 1,000 Reform congregations each year take thousands of Reform Jews to Israel. Over the last seven years, nearly 1,000 Reform rabbis have participated in movement programs in Israel. And privately, scores of thousands of Reform Jews have traveled to Israel, with Federations/United Jewish Communities, or with other organizations.

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The 16th Maccabiah Games Conclude

The closing ceremony of the 16th Maccabiah Games took place July 23 at the Sultan's Pool in Jerusalem, *MA'ARIV* reported. The ceremony was attended by Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert, as well as the 3,200 athletes who took part in the Games. Israel won a total of 244 medals: 96 gold, 74 silver and 74 bronze.

At a ceremony held in the Maccabiah Village Director General of the Ministry of Science, Culture and Sports Ari Schumer awarded trophies to the heads of the different delegations. In reference to the Maccabiah slogan of "One Nation-One Dream" Schumer said "We are one nation and we will stay like this forever. Do not forget us and continue to be with us in the future."

The Israeli swimmer Keren Leibowitz, who won three gold medals at the Sydney Paralympics last year, dedicated her Special Achievement Award to Sasha Elterman, the Australian athlete who was severely injured in the Maccabiah bridge disaster four years ago. Leibowitz said she hopes Elterman "would make a speedy return to her sporting activities."



Photos courtesy of Maccabi USA/Sports for Israel



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