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Rhode Island Jewish HERALD

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

Chanukah at
Warwick Mall

Page 4

VOLUME LXXII, NUMBER 13

KISLEV 28, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2001

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3 Synagogues, 4 Hours, 900 Jews

A Chanukah Night in Three Parts

by Jon Rubin
Herald Editor

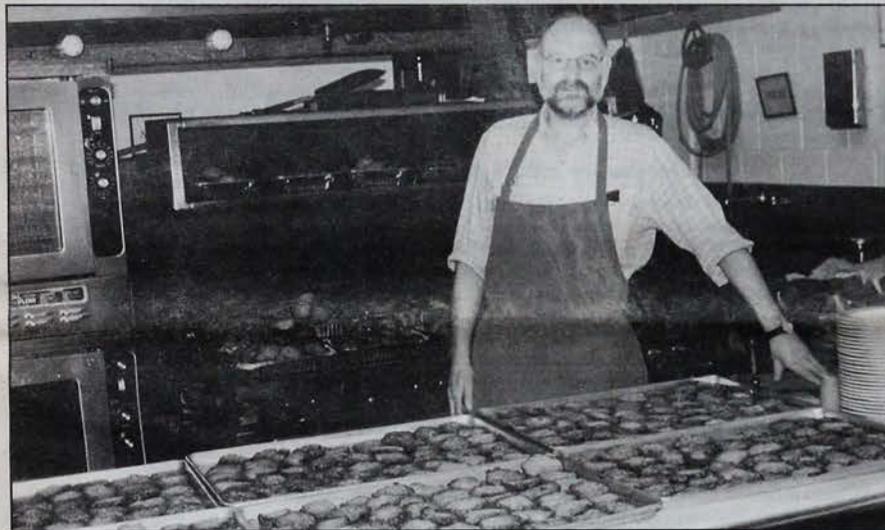
Chanukah is an extroverted holiday — we place our menorot in the windowsill to showcase the undying light of the Jewish people, and we try come together as families in celebration and song.

We also tend to throw humongous holiday parties. For a Jewish reporter on the move, I was able to celebrate no less than three Chanukah celebrations in a single evening. From Reform to Orthodox, parents, teenagers and toddlers came to their synagogues to light

candles and experience being Jewish together.

Prepping and Schlepping — Temple Emanu-El

My evening began at around 4:30 p.m. at Temple Emanu-El in Providence. People had been there for hours beforehand set-



THINK WE MADE ENOUGH LATKES? David Kaplan stands surrounded by one of the tastier Jewish traditions in the kitchen at Temple Emanu-El.



RABBI NOSSON SCHUMAN, right, plays a Chanukah guitar ballad with Norman Rosenfield at Ohave Sholam's community Chanukah party.
Herald photos by Jon Rubin

ting up in preparation for the expectant crowd. People had dissolved into their assigned duties and were crisscrossing to and fro with impressive efficiency. "It's a big volunteer effort," said Corky Friedman, who co-chaired the event along with his wife Bev. Three rooms — the Meeting House, the Sisterhood Lounge and the Vestry were needed to hold the expected influx of 480 people.

The meeting house was filled with buzzing servers whisking soda bottles and bowls of Israeli salad about on carts, while the chefs brought heaping trays of

latkes out of the ovens, along with gigantic bagel-sandwiches the size of pizzas. Space was left at the front of the Meeting House for Israeli dancing, assuming people would be able to move after all the food.

In the Goldberg Center upstairs, a family program for parents and young children was being held. Toby Liebowitz taught children how to make "sand art menorahs," where they mixed colored sand and salt into plastic tubes to create rainbow-layered menorot. Kids ran everywhere, boys young
(Continued on Page 16)

'Vestnik' Celebrates Fifth Year Anniversary

Newspaper Is Staple of Russian Community

by Jon Rubin
Herald Editor

An exultant Boris Gorbachevsky presided at the fifth annual celebration for the Russian Jewish newspaper *The Vestnik* (*Messenger*) of Rhode Island, which took place at the Jewish

Community Center of Rhode Island on Dec. 9. Vigorously introducing speaker after speaker and embracing close friends and co-workers, Gorbachevsky was immensely proud of the newspaper he has edited for the past five years.

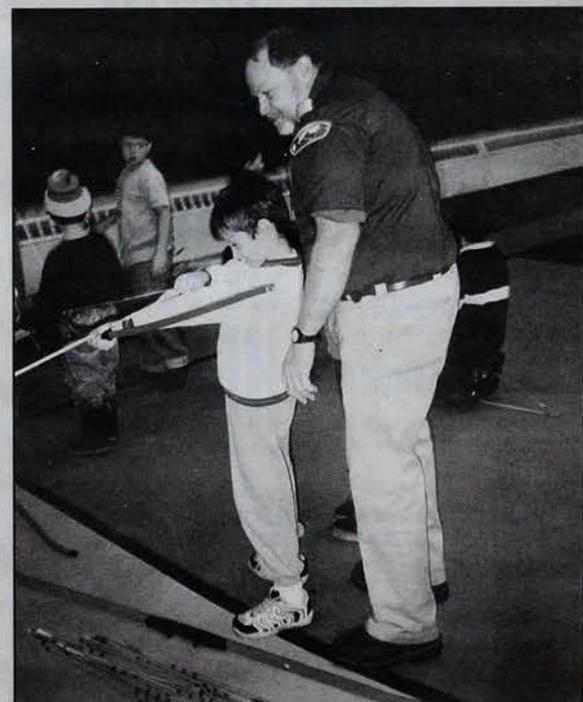
Letters of appreciation and flowers were given to many of the people who contributed time and effort to the paper, and friends old and new expressed words of gratitude to the *Vestnik* staff. Alexander Levitsky, director of the Slavic Department at Brown University congratulated the staff on behalf of the Russian community.

Rick Nelson, the new executive director of the JCCRI, spoke about how the unique partnership between the Russian community and the *Vestnik* links so many people throughout the state. "We're proud to have the newspaper as one of the programs of the JCC," he said. A letter of congratulations was even read from Kharkov High School, Gorbachevsky's alma mater in the Ukraine.

The occasion brought together more than 130 members of the Rhode Island Russian community to pay tribute to an institution that has expanded to meet their needs. Irina Vail,
(Continued on Page 4)



MAN OF THE HOUR — Boris Gorbachevsky was master of ceremonies at the 5th annual celebration for the Russian newspaper *Vestnik*, which was held at the JCCRI. Herald photo by Jon Rubin



A Maccabee Wannabe

Boy Scouts instructor Peter Reid teaches some youngsters the finer points of archery at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island Dec. 9. The program "How to be a Maccabee" was a prelude to the formation of Providence's only Jewish Cub Scout pack.
Herald photo by Seth Bromley

HAPPENINGS

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:

- Alperin Schechter Day School 751-2470
- Brown / RISD Hillel 863-2805
- Bureau of Jewish Education 331-0956
- Hadassah (RI Chapter) 463-3636
- Hebrew Free Loan Association 331-3081
- Jewish Community Center of RI 861-8800
- Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island 621-5374
- Jewish Family Services 331-1244
- JFS Kosher Mealsite 781-1771
- Jewish Federation of Rhode Island 421-4111
- Jewish Seniors Agency 351-4750
- Jewish War Veterans of RI 941-6032
- Lincoln Park Cemetery 737-5333
- Perspectives 863-9357
- Providence Hebrew Day School 331-5327
- RI Holocaust Memorial Museum 453-7860
- RI Jewish Historical Association 331-1360
- South Providence Hebrew Free Loan Association 781-1949
- Touro Fraternal Association 785-0066
- URI Hillel 874-2740

It don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing...

Members of the Brown Bag Club brought their lunches and their dancing shoes to a swing dance instruction lesson at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island. Once the tunes started up, there was no stopping anybody.

"They didn't want to leave," said Cultural Arts Coordinator Sue Suls. "They stayed and kept the music playing for a good hour afterwards."

The Brown Bag Club meets every second and fourth Tuesday at the JCC for a wide event of events and speakers.

Right: Anita Stein and Mel Levin practice a few steps.

Photo courtesy of the JCCRI



Leisure Club to Host Annual Hanukkah Party

The Leisure Club of Temple Emanu-El will be hosting its annual Hanukkah party on Dec. 16 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. at the temple. The featured entertainment for the afternoon is Temple Beth-El's Cantor Judith Seplowin, who will perform Chanukah songs and other musical selections. After this delightful program all present will be treated to latkes and applesauce.

It's an event not to be missed! This program is open to all Leisure Club members. Interested in joining? Membership is only \$15 for the year. For more information, contact Beryl Meyer, Leisure Club chairperson at 274-8745.

Calendar for 2002 • All Classes 10 a.m. to Noon

II. Semester 2002 (Winter) — Jan. 7, 10, 14, 17, 28, 24, 31, Feb. 4, 7, 11 and 14.

III. Semester 2002 (Mini) — March 4, 7, 11, 14, 18 and 21.

IV. Semester 2002 (Spring) — April 8, 11, 15, 18, 22, 25, 29, May 2, 6, 9, 13, and 16.

Board Meetings will be at 10 a.m. as follows: Jan. 9, Feb. 13, March 13, April 10, May 8, June 12, Aug. 14, and Sept. 11.

Sunday Programs as follows at 2 p.m.: 2001 — Dec. 16, Chanukah; 2002 — Jan. 6; Feb. 10; March 3, Purim; April 14; May 5, Annual Meeting.

Chanukah Happenings

The Senior Adult Chanukah Party will be held on Dec. 14 at 11:30 a.m., with latkes, entertainment and fun. A \$3 donation is appreciated. For reservations and information call Sue Robbio at 861-8800, ext. 107.

Chabad House of Providence will be holding a Malaveh Malkah on Dec. 15 at 7:30 p.m. at the Chabad House, 360 Hope Street in Providence. "Miracles in Modern Medicine" will be the topic led by Drs. Michael Felder and Pinchus Kaplan. Music to be provided by the Rosenfeld and Schuman Duet. Also, on Dec. 16 there will be a giant Chanukah Festival for the entire family, with balloon animals, prizes, dreidel tournaments and more. Call 273-7238.

South County Hebrew School will be holding a Hanukkah Party at Narragansett Elementary School on Dec. 16 from 10 a.m. to noon. Songs, crafts, menorah lighting (please BYOM) and a wonderful Hanukkah brunch. Please call Beverley at 789-8298 for more information.

Weekend of Celebration at Agudas Achim!

Two special events will take place at Agudas Achim on Dec. 14 and 15.

On Dec. 14, beginning at 7:30 p.m., there will be a Shabbat Celebration of Community featuring the installation of the congregation's new rabbi, Elyse Wechterman. Guest speaker at the service is Rabbi Jacob Staub, dean of students at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College and co-author of *Exploring Judaism: A Reconstructionist Approach*. Rabbi Wechterman came to Congregation Agudas Achim in August of this year. She formerly worked at the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation in Philadelphia where she served as director of Congregational Resources and Mid-Atlantic Regional Director. Light refreshments and fellowship will follow the service.

On Dec. 15, Agudas Achim invites the public to its annual Hanukkah Party from 6 to 8 p.m. Join the congregation in their celebration of this holiday with music, food, and fun. A \$10 contribution is requested. Call the synagogue office at (508) 222-2243 for more information on the gift grab.

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VOLUME LXXI, NUMBER 48 RECEIVED THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2001 10th FLOOR CITY

R.I. Jewish Community Reacts to Heinous Terrorist Attack

By Elyse Wechterman

When the news of the September 11 terrorist attacks hit, the Jewish community in Rhode Island was united in its shock and grief. The attacks were a tragedy for all, but the Jewish community felt a special connection to the victims, many of whom were young people. The community has since organized a series of events to honor the victims and to provide support for those affected by the attacks. These events include a candle lighting, a concert, and a meal. The community has also been active in raising funds for disaster relief efforts. The Jewish community is proud to have been a part of these events and to have provided support for those in need.

*Elyse Wechterman is the new rabbi of Congregation Agudas Achim. She is also a member of the Rhode Island Jewish Community Center and the Rhode Island Jewish Federation. She is a graduate of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College and is currently serving as the dean of students at the college. She is also a member of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association and the Reconstructionist Movement. She is a member of the Rhode Island Jewish Community Center and the Rhode Island Jewish Federation. She is a graduate of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College and is currently serving as the dean of students at the college. She is also a member of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association and the Reconstructionist Movement.

A Gift for Chanukah

by Velvel "Wally" Spiegler

When I was growing up in Brooklyn, rabbis preached Torah and mitzvot with "fire and brimstone." Rabbis are much more easy-going these days. They don't scream at us any longer. I can remember one tirade about why we should not exchange Chanukah gifts. In those days our parents didn't want to hear the "shoulds" and "should nots." They wanted homes in the suburbs, Florida vacations, and college tuition. Maybe rabbis turned us off so we tuned them out. Now I realize that the rabbis were pointing towards a way that we might have missed.

Later in life I discovered some of the absolute wisdom that the rabbis of old professed. They pointed to a way of life and a wisdom that I have yet to find in other religious traditions. Behind their fiery words hid an awareness—a realization of a deep spirituality whose absence encourages Jews to seek other religions and secular phi-

losophies. The exchange of Chanukah gifts is not part of Jewish tradition. This holiday commemorates the rebellion of the Maccabees against the Syrian Greeks, who wished to forcefully impose their culture on the Jewish nation, the subsequent military victory and the rededication of the defiled Temple. Chanukah means rededication. To instill the Chanukah spirit, we need not observe the customs of our non-Jewish neighbors who exchange gifts this time of the year.

We do, however, receive a special gift on Chanukah. This gift comes to us from the prominent mitzvah of the holiday - to light the menorah each night. After we light the wicks, say the proper blessings, we sing two melodies: Ha'Nayrot Ha'lalu (These Lights) and Ma'otzur (Mighty Stronghold). In "These Lights," we recite the following words, "these lights, they are holy; and we are not permitted to use them, only to look at them."

The mitzvah is clear about not using the lights for any purpose but to look at them, to gaze upon them. There lies the wrapping of the gift. The gift itself is what may emerge for you from the flickering flame. On first glance you may just see the flame. With a little reflection, you realize that the light represents the light and holiness of G-d. If you then focus your attention on the light for part of the half-hour that the candles burn, and reflect on such questions as what does my soul truly desire, how can I stay in touch with my inner self, or how can I express the deepest part of who I am, you can find your gift. As the number of lights increase each day, we increase the light that enters our consciousness as our special gift unfolds.

We celebrate a miracle that took place about 2,500 years ago. A miracle that caused a flask filled with enough oil to burn for one day, to burn for eight days. Why should a

(Continued on Page 15)

Confessions of a Jewish Fundamentalist

by Rabbi Avi Shafran

With all the understandable concern these days about fundamentalism, the American public might want to better understand one group of religious reactionaries that have long been lurking in our midst: Jewish ones, that is, like me.

Fundamentals. "Haredim," as we rigorously observant Orthodox Jews are called, are fundamentalists of the first order. The fundamentals we affirm without compromise are those of the Jewish faith. That there is a G-d. That He revealed Himself at Sinai. And that an ultimate reward and punishment awaits all human beings — though we tend to dwell more on the particulars of good and bad than those of Heaven and Hell.

Funny Clothes. Like all fundamentalists, we Haredim dress strange. Our men and boys wear hats or yarmulkes (turbans are rare); our married women keep their hair covered, though we're not into veils. Our clothing is modest in a way that tends to stand out, especially on summer days. And, like many chic dressers, many of our men favor black.

Strange Doings. From the moment we wake up until we go to bed, our lives are governed by myriad religious rules. We pray three times daily, eat only strictly kosher food (much of it, interestingly, Chinese), meticulously avoid a long list of

actions on Saturday, the Jewish Sabbath, and celebrate Jewish holidays as they have been observed for 3,000 years. I could try to explain the citrons, palm fronds and bitter herbs but it would take too long.

Un-American Activities. What makes us Jewish fundamentalists particularly unusual, and suspicious, is that our goal is neither material success nor world domination but rather the performance of good deeds and the study of Torah — which includes the Jewish Bible, the Talmud, and thousands of later works based on them. While we hardly lack for doctors, lawyers, plumbers, electricians and business people of most every conceivable sort, the study of Torah is considered the most fortunate "profession" in the Haredi world. What's more, Haredi families sacrifice much in the way of financial security for the sake of Torah study and the Jewish education of their sons and daughters. Which, of course, helps explain subversive tendencies as our enthusiasm for school vouchers.

Subversive Behavior. Most reactionary of all, we tend to shun television, movies and much of what passes for music and popular culture these days. We even reject the contention that witnessing thousands of murders and immoral acts is a harmless part of coming of age.

(Continued on Page 10)

Light vs. Darkness; Good vs. Evil

by Cary Eichenbaum

Terrorists tried to destroy more than just American buildings when they hijacked airplanes and slammed them into New York City's World Trade Center and the Pentagon in Washington on September 11. They tried to extinguish the very flame that burns within the heart and soul of this country and its residents. They attempted to dim the light that emanates so brightly from the United States and freedom-loving people everywhere.

But the despot did not succeed, thank G-d. Although September 11 remains one of the

most despicable acts of all time and terrorism will probably remain a threat for many years to come, the powers of good have not allowed the evil and darkness to envelop the earth. Within hours of the tragedy, millions of Americans responded in true heroic fashion; People left behind steady and secure jobs and volunteered at local Red Crosses, food pantries and anywhere else they could help the needy, grieving and displaced.

Citizens from Portland, Oregon to Portland, Maine proudly displayed American flags and other patriotic para-

phernalia in their homes, cars and places of business. And the famous song "G-d Bless America" played proudly at every U.S. sporting event after September 11, including during the seventh-inning stretch of baseball, the national pastime.

In the Jewish religion, in Israel of yesteryear, the forces of good and light refused to allow darkness and evil to triumph, as well. Truly unlikely sources fought off dictators and non-believers and brought joy and mercy back to the world. When the ancestors of the modern Jewish people resided in old Jerusalem, the Assyrian-Greek

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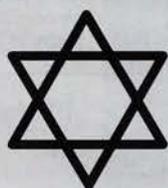
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Candlelighting
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What I Meant to Say...

You're having a fight with your wife (insert appropriate relationship if, in fact, you don't have a wife). You both say some things that are inappropriate, if not nasty and hurtful. She pushes your buttons, you push hers. It descends into a battle, not about the original subject, but about your whole lives, your history together, the pattern of things each has done wrong.

Then you both take a breath. You retreat to your corners and analyze the situation. When you meet again in the center of the ring, you shake hands instead of boxing. Each of you begins, "What I meant to say..." You want to explain not what the other person heard, but what you really intended to convey, which you think is something entirely different. This can be a moment of peace and learning, or it can be a prelude to a sequel of the fight. It's all in how you handle it.

Last week in Vayeishev we read about Joseph relating his dreams to his brothers. They are all binding sheaves of wheat in the field: his stands upright,

and theirs bow down to his. Then he dreams that the sun and moon and 11 stars bow down to him. Of course, his father and brothers are a little agitated at this news, and take exception to the suggestion that the youngest brother should rule over the family.

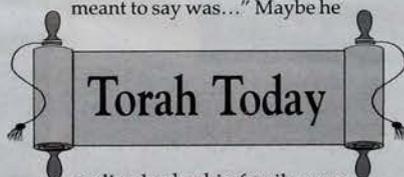
It is not reported in Vayeishev that Joseph gets defensive and replies, "What I meant to say was..." Maybe he

himself as superior: he may, in fact, be wondering why these visions occur to him. The news is direct from Above.

We must all be aware of our effect on others. Even when we are telling the literal truth, it has to be tempered by the situation and personalities involved. In Joseph's case, however, he was relating something of ultimate importance: not his interpretation, but G-d's knowledge of how his life would work out.

If you argue over who takes out the trash or who left the stove on, a little diplomacy is in order. But if you are discussing what G-d wants of us, it is important to be direct and firm. There is no "What I meant to say..." about it. What He meant to say is what He said, and we all must understand it.

Submitted by Rabbi Yossi Laufer at the Chabad of West Bay, an affiliate of Chabad of Rhode Island. For more information about our programs and classes, call Rabbi Yossi Laufer at 732-6559, 15 Centerville Road, Warwick, R.I. 02886 or visit <www.ChabadOnLine.org/Warwick>.



realized why his family was understandably rattled by his dreams, and maybe he didn't.

What Joseph said was the literal truth, a reporter's perspective: This is what happened. He didn't say what his own opinion was. His father and brothers took it to be a sign of his arrogance that he told these stories. But was it? As we see from other incidents later, Joseph is merely repeating the messages that G-d provides through dreams. He is not portraying

JEWISH COMMUNITY

'Vestnik' Celebrates Fifth Year Anniversary

(Continued from Page 1)

Garik Yuzefovich and Lora Zavilyanskaya read poems for the occasion, Pianist Irina Chanceva and Violoncellist Alex Romanenko played some mesmerizing classical pieces, and Alex Tabenkin gave a magnificent tango performance.

The *Vestnik* is a free, monthly Russian newspaper distributed to 500 subscribers in Rhode Island and a number of other states. It is headed by Gorbachevsky and his editorial board, an elite team of published writers, art critics, college professors and linguists who combine their talents to create a newspaper that represents the voice of the Russian Jewish community.

The paper's humble beginnings lie with the independent study project of Sarah Karush, then a senior at Brown University. Karush only envisioned the paper having two pages and a limited existence, but she met up with Alla Goman, currently of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, who teamed up Karush with Gorbachevsky. Gorbachevsky jumped at the chance to run a newspaper again and, after organizing an



AS PART OF THE FESTIVITIES, Irina Chanceva (right) and Alex Romanenko provided the music. Herald photos by Jon Rubin

editorial board helped beef up the paper to 24 pages.

Gorbachevsky and his board, all of whom are volunteers, select submissions locally, scour the Internet and other Russian newspapers and assist with translations, layout, proofreading and everything else a newspaper demands. Gorbachevsky is overjoyed with his new position. "This paper is his life," said Goman, who also serves on the editorial board.

It is probably safe to say that Gorbachevsky has always had

publishing in his blood. A professor of journalism in Russia, he taught the art of publishing for 40 years, worked as a newspaper editor and published more than 20 books, selling over one million copies.

The newspaper reached a more permanent status with the help of a grant from the JFRI, and with assistance from the Jewish Community Center, which donated office space, and paid for a computer, office supplies and postal fees. The paper now contains articles on health, job training and citizenship information for new immigrants, in addition to news stories, poems, and stories of a local flavor.

Gorbachevsky said he was interested in bringing works from local Jewish newspapers into the *Vestnik* and vice versa. He also plans to dedicate an entire issue to one of his favorite writers and storytellers — Sholom Aleichem.

The *Vestnik* has local advertisers, news stories on a local, national and international level with pictures, and many of its readers believe it has an intellectual edge over other Russian newspaper of this kind, of which there are few. "There is one in Connecticut," Gorbachevsky said, "but we're the best."

In speaking to the editors of other Russian newspapers, which he does on a regular basis, Gorbachevsky loves to brag about the Russian community in Rhode Island and the helpful agencies that assist him. "And, of course, I brag about the paper," he said with a smile.

Chabad Lights Up Warwick Mall

by Seth Bromley
Editorial Assistant

Inside the Warwick Mall on a Sunday afternoon, the din of thousands of frenzied holiday shoppers was not enough to completely drown out the curious music emanating from the middle of the mall. The klezmer ensemble Sounds of Simcha, led by Stan Freedman, played classic Chanukah tunes to the delight and amusement of a crowd of hundreds of Jews who turned out for the state's largest Chanukah celebration.

On Dec. 9, the Chabad CHAI Center of Warwick sponsored a Chanukah celebration and menorah-lighting ceremony at the mall. Standing before a seven-foot tall menorah, right

Warwick Mayor Scott Avedisian, who helped him light the menorah. "We salute peace, freedom and freedom of religion," said Lauffer before lighting the candles. A choir of students led by Cantor Rick Perlman, their teacher at Am David Hebrew School, accompanied Lauffer in saying the blessing.

The Chanukah party has been held at the Warwick Mall for the last 11 years, and Rabbi Lauffer has been coordinating it for the past four. "This year we made improvements [over last year]," he said. There was a two piece band last year, this year there was a six-piece. Also, many more chairs were set up so that people could sit and re-



JCCRI Executive Director Rick Nelson (right) congratulates Iva Nova for her work on the *Vestnik*.

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RABBI YOSSEI LAUFFER of Chabad CHAI Center in Warwick, welcomes the crowd that packed into the Warwick Mall for the annual Chanukah celebration and menorah lighting. Lauffer estimated that as many as 250 people were in attendance.

Herald photo by Seth Bromley

in front of The Gap, Chabad Rabbi Yossi Lauffer said that the purpose of Chanukah was "to fill in the gap," the gap of darkness that is, with light.

Lauffer presided over the ceremonies, and was joined on stage by Sen. Jack Reed and

lax during the event. "Some Jewish people didn't come for the event and were delighted to see it," said Lauffer. The mall is an ideal location, he said, since "the whole celebration is to publicize the miracle."

Prior to the ceremony, while the crowd was entertained by Sounds of Simcha, Lauffer's wife Shoshana helped children make their own clay dreidels in a nearby craft workshop. Volunteer chefs distributed the obligatory hot latkes, and shoppers took advantage of a Chanukah gift shop, offering an array of Chanukah toys and games. Following the candlelighting, the festivities continued with a magic, balloon and music show by "Michael the Balloon Animal," who entertained the children with his wacky antics.

Lauffer said he was grateful to the Warwick Mall for hosting the event, to his wife for her help, to Stan Freedman, and to all those to volunteered their time to make it a success. "I had a feeling that people were looking for this light this year," Lauffer said afterward. "We need to tell people to have faith and keep strong in difficult times."

JEWISH COMMUNITY

Kosher Mealsite Serves Up

by Seth Bromley
Editorial Assistant

More than 100 seniors from Warwick and Cranston filled the hall of Temple Torat Yisrael in Cranston last Friday for the Jewish Family Service Kosher Mealsite Chanukah party.

Now in its 20th year of existence, the Kosher Mealsite provides seniors with a low-cost hot kosher meal Monday through Friday. The

company of other Jews. Last week, it also gave them a chance to spin a dreidel or two.

The annual Chanukah party is the mealsite's most popular event, according to spokeswoman Jane Haynes. The large turnout drew visits from leaders in the Jewish community and dignitaries from the community at large. Among those in attendance were Janet

course Paul Segal, director of Jewish Family Service. Cranston Mayor John O'Leary and Warwick Mayor Scott Avedisian were also on hand to wish their constituents a happy Chanukah.

Clergy from several nearby synagogues took part in the services, which ushered in both Chanukah and Shabbat. Rabbi George Astrachan, rabbi emeritus of Temple Sinai in Cranston, Rabbi Stephan Parnes of Torat Yisrael, Cantor Rick Perlman of Congregation Am David and Cantor Rimmie Brown of Temple Sinai all took turns performing the ceremonies. Following the lighting of the menorah and of the Shabbat candles, the four men led the audience in singing Chanukah songs, such as "Ma'oz Tzur," "Mi'y'malayl" and "My Dreidl (I Have a Little Dreidel)."

Everyone in attendance was issued a colorful plastic dreidel as a party favor, which could be opened up and contained Chanukah gelt as well as directions for playing the game. Mealsite coordinator Ronda French thanked Prima Kosher, who provided the food, and recognized the many people who volunteer at the mealsite or for Kosher Meals on Wheels, all of whom were invited to attend the party.



(From left) Cantor Rimmie Brown from Temple Sinai, Cantor Rick Perlman from Am David, Rabbi George Astrachan from Temple Sinai and Rabbi Stephan Parnes from Temple Torat Yisrael light Chanukah candles at the Kosher Mealsite.



Paul Segal, director of Jewish Family Service, talks to seniors attending the Chanukah party at the Kosher Mealsite, which is sponsored by JFS.

Herald photos by Seth Bromley

mealsite gives seniors not only a place to go to get a good hot meal, but is also a place to socialize and to spend time in the

Engelhart and Sarah Ende from the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, Maxine Richman, coordinator of Lifeline/RI, and of



Kosher Mealsite coordinator Rhonda French takes a break from supervising the work in the kitchen to address the crowd at the mealsite's Chanukah party.

Chanukah Art Contest Celebrates Childhood Creativity

by Jon Rubin
Herald Editor

This year's Rhode Island Jewish Herald Chanukah Art Contest had more than 140 entries from schoolchildren all over Rhode Island. Chanukah pictures of all shapes and sizes shone with inspiration and oodles of effort, and we received lots of dreidel menorot, chimney menorot, an octopus menorah and many, many other wonderful creations.

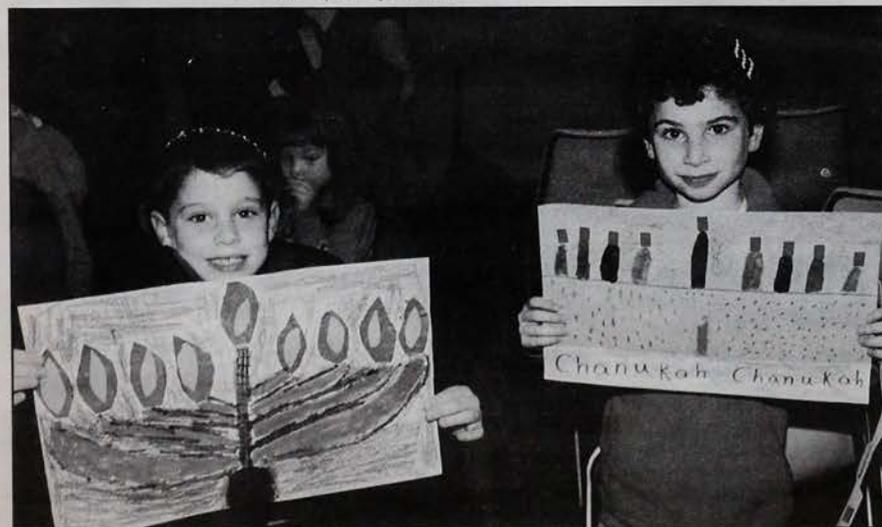
Over 100 kids and many parents showed up at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island in Providence to collect their artwork and their prizes, which included IMAX tickets, Jewish storybooks and activity books, Toys R' Us gift certificates, passes to Roger Williams Zoo and much, much more. But nobody went home empty handed, and there were enough dreidels, Chanukah gelt and other nifty Chanukah gifts for everyone.

Avshalom Shriki, right, gives his new dreidel a spin.

Avi Schechter, left, and Eli Weisman, right, hold up their artwork.



Herald photos by Jon Rubin



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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Jewish-Arab Center for Peace in Israel Wins U.N. Peace Award

A 52-year-old Israeli institute that has become recognized as one of the world's leaders in the field of Jewish-Arab reconciliation has been named one of two winners of the 2001 UNESCO Prize for Peace Education.

Representatives from the Givat Haviva Jewish-Arab Center for Peace in Israel will be joined by Ugandan Bishop Nelson Onono Onweng in receiving this 20-year-old award in Paris, France, on Dec. 13.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and its International Prize Jury selected the 2001 honorees as a means of highlighting "the exceptional efforts of the two winners in the areas of peace education, promotion of peace and non-violence" and to reward "the work done for the resolution of conflicts through dialogue." Begun two decades ago, the UNESCO Prize for Peace Education aims to promote actions that focus public awareness and mobilize consciences in favor of peace. Recipients receive \$30,000 to further their goals.

Established in 1963, the Jewish-Arab Center for Peace at

Givat Haviva is Israel's oldest and largest peace education institution. Its main aims are to foster closer relations between Jews and Arabs in Israel and throughout the region, to educate for mutual understanding, and to promote tolerance and permanent dialogue between the two communities. Each year, about 25,000 people participate in its activities.

Despite the wars and upheavals of the past 38 years, the center has made, and continues to make, an important contribution to peace and democratic values through its education and research projects, its conferences and workshops, its library and information center and its publications.

The Givat Haviva Educational Foundation was opened in Manhattan, N.Y., in 1966 as the American tax-exempt support group for the Givat Haviva Institute. This group is focused on raising awareness in America for the various issues relating to Givat Haviva's mission, and implementing fundraising projects to support that work. Its activities include publication of special reports and

brochures and the underwriting and organizing of lectures, workshops and other consciousness raising forums.

"At this critical time in the history of both the Middle East and the United States," stated Yvonne Baum Silverman, chairman of the Givat Haviva Educational Foundation's Board of Directors, "it is extremely gratifying that a major United Nations organization has recognized the importance of our work. Every day we see the powerfully beneficial impact Givat Haviva has on its participants; one can only imagine how significant Givat Haviva's work could be in the struggle for peace if the reach of these programs could be expanded to their full potential."

The Givat Haviva Educational Foundation is located at 114 W. 26th St. Suite 1001, New York, N.Y. 10001. The phone number is (212) 989-9272; the fax number is (212) 989-9840; e-mail <mail@givathaviva.org>; Web site <www.dialogate.org.ll>.



Jewish Organizations to Hold December Book Drive

The Rhode Island Jewish Coalition for Literacy will be holding its annual book drive throughout the month of December. New or gently used children's books will be distributed by Reach Out and Read of Rhode Island to day care centers, doctor's offices and waiting rooms.

Books may be dropped off at any of the following locations:

Brown / RISD Hillel, Bureau of Jewish Education, Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, Perspectives, Temple Beth-El, Temple Emanu-El, Temple Habonim, Temple Sinai, Temple Torat Yisrael, University of Rhode Island Hillel, the Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum and the Providence Hebrew Day School.

Besides collecting books, the Rhode Island Jewish Coalition for Literacy also sends volunteers into Providence schools to tutor students.

For information about the book drive or the Jewish Coalition for Literacy, please contact Rebekah Raz at the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island at 421-4111.



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Margaret Silder Weds Ryan Lax

Margaret A. Silder and Ryan Alan Lax were wed June 23 at the Westin in Stanford, Conn.

The bride is the daughter of Stephen Silder of Florida and Altie Silder of Ansonia, Conn. The bridegroom is the son of Marvin and Rhonda Lax, of Pawtucket, R.I.

They were married by Justice of the Peace, Rhona Lieberman.

The bride was given in marriage by her parents.

Maids of honor were Carolyn Silder and Beth Silder, sisters of the bride. Other attendants were Sara Marchese, Margaret Turner, Pamela Webster, and Rebecca White.

Best man was Jeffrey Bean. Ushers were Jason Bender, James Flynn, Michael McKinnon, William Parris and Cabell Philpott.

The bride is a graduate of Lynchburg College, Lynchburg, Va. She is a second grade teacher at Somerville Charter School, Somerville, Mass.

The bridegroom is a graduate of Providence Country Day and graduate of Lynchburg College, Lynchburg, Va. He is employed as principal account manager at Payroll Plus, Inc.

They honeymooned in Negril, Jamaica, and have made their home in Newtonville, Mass.



Mr. and Mrs. Ryan Lax

UAHC Gives \$1.2 Million to September 11 Victims

The Reform Movement recently presented \$100,000 to the Uniformed Firefighters' Association Widows and Children's Fund, part of the more than \$1.2 million distributed to help those affected by the Sept. 11 tragedy. The funds were raised by contributions to the UAHC Disaster Relief Fund from Reform Jews across North America.

The presentation came as the Union of American Hebrew Congregations presented its highest honor — the Eisendrath "Bearer of Light" Award for Service to the World Community — to the New York City firefighters, police officers, and rescue workers who labor around the clock to save lives and recover the fallen in its aftermath of the Sept. 11 attack on the World Trade Center. Members of FDNY Battalion 8, all of whom lost friends and comrades on Sept. 11, accepted the donation.

"I know that I will never look at a firefighter in quite the same way again," said Rabbi Eric H. Yoffie, president of the UAHC. "Wherever we were on Sept. 11,

our souls were lifted to your courage and our hearts grieved with yours as your losses were recorded," he told the firefighters at the Biennial. "We thank you for what you have done and what you continue to do for us day in and day out. Your bravery has become part of our collective national legacy. Your bravery dignifies us all."

The UFA Widows and Children's Fund was established to accept donations for the benefit of the wives, children, and dependents of UFA members who have died in active service, providing help and scholarships to firefighters' families.

The UAHC Disaster Relief Fund is the mechanism by which the Reform Movement raises money for the victims of natural and man-made disasters. In previous years, donations have been made to the victims of floods in North Dakota and earthquakes in Central America, and to help rebuild churches destroyed by arson in the American South.

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Dr. Lisa Aiken to be Scholar-in-Residence at Young Israel

The Young Israel of Sharon announces that Dr. Lisa Aiken will be their Scholar-in-Residence over the weekend of Dec. 21 to 23. Aiken, author of *To Be a Jewish Woman*, is well-known for her exploration of the role of women within the traditional Jewish community — one of the most misunderstood aspects of Judaism, with a fascinating and unique perspective.

A clinical psychologist as well as a practicing Jew and the mother of young children, Aiken completed her M.A. and Ph.D. in clinical psychology at Loyola University of Chicago. She has lectured for diverse groups in cities across the United States and Canada as well as Australia, South Africa and England. Her audiences have included members of Reform, Conservative and Orthodox groups. She has also appeared on television and radio. Aiken was the chief psychologist from 1982 to 1989 at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York City. She is currently in private practice in New York City, where she treats couples and individuals.

She will be presenting four lectures over the course of this exciting weekend at Young Israel of Sharon, 100 Ames St., Sharon, Mass. (781) 784-6112. The schedule of lectures and topics is:

Dec. 21 at 7 p.m. — "Does The Torah Believe That Men Are From Mars, Women From Venus?"

Shabbat, Dec. 22 at 11 a.m. — "Can a Modern Woman Find a Place in Traditional Judaism?"

Dec. 22 at 8 p.m. — "For Women Only: 'The Jewish Way in Love and Intimacy.'" (Co-sponsored by Chevrat Nashim, mikvah organization of Sharon)

Dec. 23 Lecture and Breakfast at 9:30 a.m. — "Can We Talk?" The Jewish view of honesty and communication in relationships.

Reservations are required for the breakfast lecture only.

Event cost is five dollars per person, \$25 maximum per family. For more information or reservations for the breakfast, contact Simi Schwartz at (781) 784-6384 or e-mail <stsschw@yahoo.com>.

JEWISH COMMUNITY

Night of Terror

The following is a report from Barbara Sofer, an experienced journalist who is on the staff of Hadassah in Israel.

Dr. Alon Pikarsky was the first to arrive because he lives minutes from the hospital. The young trauma surgeon was already wearing his greens as the ambulances raced over the curved ledges of the Judean hills up to the hospital. One by one, the ambulance doors opened and the mesmerizing horror unfolded.

"They were nearly all teenagers," said Pikarsky. "When you operate on one after another, you have to steel yourself against a terrible pessimism. When I closed the eyes of one young patient, I thought, 'there's another life snuffed out so young and for no reason.'"

Within an hour, nearly the entire Hadassah team of doctors and nurses was assembled to treat the tens of injured from the triple terrorist attack on Ben Yehudah and Rav Kook Streets. Certain doctors had to be ordered to stay home so the work could be staged in shifts.

Thunderstorms had kept most Jerusalemites home over Shabbat. Saturday night was crisp and clear. Young people gathered at the outdoor cafes and hamburger joints, taking out cash from the ATM machines at Zion Square. Outside, singers were serenading, jewelry peddlers were hawking earrings and bead necklaces. Off-duty soldiers like Yossi Mizrahi, 20, from the embattled neighborhood of Gilo was downtown treating himself to a slice of pizza. He stopped to browse through the CDs at a record store.

The terrorists parked their car on Rav Kook Street, and walked across Jaffa Road to Ben Yehuda Street. The first terrorist blew himself up at the nexus of Ben Yehudah and Luntz, by the frozen yogurt stand and Rimon Cafe.

The second terrorist ignited the explosives strapped to his body at Zion Square.

The worst cases were brought directly to Ein Kerem, where the city's trauma unit is, and where the surgical specialties are more extensive. Other patients, sent initially to different hospitals, were transferred to Ein Kerem when the seriousness of their injuries was diagnosed.

As emergency teams of medics, doctors, police, fire fighters

treated and evacuated the injured, a third blast shook the area. Before leaving their car, that terrorists had set a timer to maim the rescue workers.

Not a minute was wasted as patients were triaged and raced into surgery. "I left as soon as I heard the sirens in the street," said Professor Yaacov Berlatzky, a senior vascular surgeon. "In the Sbarro terrorist attack, we didn't have any vascular patients. These explosives were more powerful than previous ones, and they were full of large chunks of metal to maim and

"When I do surgery, I'm totally focused on work.

But we had to keep going out to speak to the parents. How incredibly depressing that was: their kids went to hang out Saturday night, and here were their parents waiting, weeping outside the operating room."

disfigure the teenagers. We had four serious vascular patients brought in, and we had to do simultaneous team surgery on all of them.

"Dr. Pikarsky, a general surgeon, had already stopped the bleeding in one of the very serious cases. I was ready to reconstruct the blood vessels. I worked on a leg while another surgeon was working on an arm. Four senior surgeons and four residents were all working on one patient over the course of six hours. We discovered a broken arm, and called over an orthopedist to take care of that.

When Dr. Sharon Einav, anesthesiologist and specialist in internal medicine, arrived at 7 in the morning for her shift, six teenagers were being wheeled out of the operating room to join the two already in the intensive care unit.

"Danny, 17, had bleached blond hair, like my neighbor's son, and he'd had both an arm and leg which needed to be restructured," she said. "I thought

to myself that these could be my own kids in a few years. They just went out for a little fun on a Saturday night and look what happened." Vered, 15, with dark skin and big almond eyes, didn't seem initially to be among the most serious patients. But a doctor did a second check of all the injured and saw that beneath her blanket, her leg had turned blue. "She would have lost her leg within an hour," said Einav. "The vascular surgeons had to leap from one surgery to the next. Thank G-d, they saved Vered's leg."

The velocity and angle of the blasts sent the nails, screws, nuts and bolts and ball bearings into the brains, limbs and throats of the teenagers. "In one case, we had to repair the major organs and also remove a ball bearing from the brain," said Pikarsky.

The trauma unit was doubled up with patients. The intensive care unit spilled out to the recovery area. Other patients were sent up to wards where staff had to give them critical care.

"The hardest part is staying emotionally detached while you see how many kids' lives will never be the same," said Einav.

"When I do surgery, I'm totally focused on work. But we had to keep going out to speak to the parents. How incredibly depressing that was: their kids went to hang out Saturday night, and here were their parents waiting, weeping outside the operating room."

Yossi Mizrahi was lucky. The first blast had sent him flying. The shrapnel could be removed from his face and hand. After the operation, he was sent upstairs to plastic surgery.

By two in the afternoon, the emergency team had been operating 14 hours straight, and there was still more surgery to go.

"Saying we're good at blast injuries, at organizing for mass casualties, and for improvisation is a double-edged sword," said Pikarsky. "We've gotten so good, because we've had so much horrifying experience. Simply speaking, the support we get from the 300,000 women of Hadassah saves lives."



A Three Ring Mitzvah Circus?

Guess who? Cantor Judith Seplowin of Temple Beth-El (left) and Anita Steiman, religious school administrator at Beth-El, get in the "Mitzvah Clown" spirit on Dec. 2. As part of the "Mitzvah Heroes Conference Without Walls," seventh grade religious school students at Temple Beth-El learned how to clown around to cheer up residents at assisted living centers.

Herald photo by Jon Rubin

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Zelniker Conference to Focus on Family Education

The Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island invites all community educators, lay and professional leaders to attend and participate in this year's Joseph and Leba Zelniker Conference on Family Education. The conference, which will take place on Jan. 27 at Temple Beth-El in Providence, is scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m. and to conclude at 2 p.m.

This year's conference will highlight Vicky Kelman as keynote speaker. Kelman is the director of the Jewish Family Education Project, collaboration between the Jewish Community Federation and the Bureau of Jewish Education of the San Francisco Bay area. She is well-known for her contributions to the field of Jewish family education.

"A community is only as strong as its component families. A Jewish community will only be strong if its component families are strong and Jewish," Kelman said. Jewish family education has been regarded as a vehicle for bringing adult and children together around their Jewish heritage, she added.

Every year the Joseph and Leba Zelniker Endowment Fund brings outstanding educators to the Rhode Island Jewish community. Ella and Sara Zelniker established the endowment fund in loving memory of their parents, in recognition of the importance of tradition and learning. The Zelnikers chose to memorialize them through Jewish education.

For further information, please contact the BJE/RI at 331-0956.

HEALTHWISE

The Flu's Coming! How to Strengthen Your Immunity... Naturally

Winter's on its way and without a doubt, the flu is either going to hit you or someone you know. We've all had the cold and flu blues and everyone is all too familiar with the symptoms. Although flu shots or antibiotics have their place, there are many things we can do to minimize the effects or avoid the flu or colds altogether.

Nutrition

Studies have shown that the people who eat nutritiously are likely to reduce the incidence of sickness. A focus on fresh vegetables, whole grains and fresh fruits with some lean fish or meat has a positive impact on health in general. Choose organic products wherever possible. Minimize your sugar consumption because even a large glass of orange juice, the bastion of home remedies for the cold and flu due to the sugar content, actually suppresses immune functioning.

But you will need more than just what the dinner table offers for optimal protection. According to our federal government, only eight percent of Americans get adequate nutrition. One study showed that healthy adults given a multivitamin-mineral supplement decreased the number of days of illness due to infection by a remarkable 50 percent. A few good products are manufactured by Rainbow Light, Solgar, and New Chapter. Shop for your supplements with discretion. Please don't go for the cheapest, because very often, they supply you with just bare bones supplementation and are often synthetic

because synthetic is the cheapest. Quality nutritional or herbal supplements are not always cheap, but why take the cheapest if it does you little or no good? Other things you can do to help your immune system are reduce alcohol consumption avoid sugar foods and drinks and reduce processed food consumption.

Herbs

There are many herbs from around the world that can really make a difference in how the immune system functions. People that may be susceptible to colds or flu could start with Astragalus, a Chinese herb and a highly valued tonic herb for more than 2,000 years. Unlike Echinacea, another excellent immune stimulant, you can take astragalus on an ongoing basis. A typical dose, says Dr. Pizzorno, N.D., is three (500 mg each) capsules three times daily. Astragalus had shown to reduce the duration and severity of colds, but also works at a deep cellular level, so you don't have to wait for a cold and can take it everyday, according to author and master herbalist, Ron Teeguarden. Echinacea, a widely studied herb showing important immune stimulating activity, can be taken at the first sign of a cold or flu and has shown to reduce the duration and severity of symptoms. But you must take about a week off for every three weeks on for best results. Other good herbs are Neem, Goldenseal, Cat's Claw, Suma, Ginseng, Osha, Thuja and several others Colos-

trum, a mother cow's first milk after giving birth as shown promising results in enhancing immune function. Garlic, dubbed nature's antibiotic, has been used in India for 5,000 years. It enhances immune function and shows antibacterial, antiviral and antifungal properties. Although fresh uncooked garlic is best, there are a few store bought preparations that are good as well, including Garlinase 4000, Garlique or Garlicin.

Stress has been related to immune function for some time and as we continue to understand the mind/body connection it will become clearer how influential the mind really is to health. If you are feeling stress due to relationships, finances, the workplace, self-value (depression, etc.) or the plethora of other stressors, your immunity is likely compromised. Analyzing the problems and working towards solutions will aid in normalizing immune function. Make sure you get proper rest and try yoga, meditation or counseling.

Exercise, done moderately, can really aid the immune system. A strong, fit body can withstand many challenges. Exercise helps clear the lymphatic system, and gives you a "feel good" feeling that can last for hours.

Although we can't always avoid picking up a virus or bacteria, you can affect how immunity works. Take care of your body and it will take care of you.

Philip Harris, a Cranston resident, is a certified herbalist, nutrition consultant and exercise specialist.

American Heart Association Announces New Findings on Strokes

Aspirin appears to reduce stroke severity

Individuals who had taken at least one aspirin in the week before suffering an ischemic stroke had milder strokes than people who had not taken aspirin, according to a report in the December issue of *Stroke: Journal of the American Heart Association*.

The study compared stroke severity of aspirin users and non-users with data from the Trial of Org 10172 in Acute Stroke Treatment, a multicenter, randomized, placebo-controlled, double blind clinical trial in which patients were admitted from 1990 to 1996.

Among patients whose strokes were caused by a blockage of blood flow in the brain (ischemic stroke), researchers compared stroke severity between those who had been taking aspirin and those who had not.

Of 1,275 patients in the study, 509 (almost 40 percent) reported aspirin use during the week before their stroke. Researchers found more strokes among the aspirin users, but their severity was significantly lower than strokes among non-users.

Several different mechanisms factor in aspirin's protective effect, say the researchers, including its antiplatelet effect, which may improve blood circulation in brain; its antioxidant properties, which may reduce oxidative tissue damage, or some other possible anti-inflammatory, neuroprotective effect, which at this time is still under investigation.

"Aspirin has a rich pharmacology, some of which is still being elucidated," says primary researcher Janet L. Wilterdink, M.D., of the department of neurology at Brown Medical School in Providence, R.I. "I believe that a combination of all these mechanisms has the potential to play a significant role in aspirin's beneficial effect."

The TOAST investigators included Janet L. Wilterdink, M.D.; Birgitte Bendixen, M.D.; Harold P. Adams, Jr., M.D.; Robert F. Woolson, Ph.D.; William R. Clarke, Ph.D.; and Michael D. Hansen, MS. The work was funded in part by the National Institutes of Health.

Balance Problems Identified as Biggest Obstacle to Stroke Survivors

Recovery of motor skills, particularly balance, is the most important determinant of a stroke survivor's ability to perform the daily activities of living, confirms a study in the November issue of *Stroke: Journal of the American Heart Association*.

This information could improve the choice of rehabilitation strategies for stroke survivors.

Researchers at the Gerontology and Geriatric Research Centre at the University of Sherbrooke, in Sherbrooke, Canada, performed two standardized tests of 100 stroke survivors between the ages of 59 and 70.

The researchers wanted to determine the degree to which motor, cognitive and perceptual factors — together and separately — restrict a patient's ability to perform various tasks.

Although many studies have examined the individual impact of these factors on stroke survivors' ability to perform normal life activities, few have rated the relative and simultaneous impact.

The scientists used two systems to measure and analyze

(Continued on Page 9)

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HEALTHWISE

Israeli Scientists Block The Progression of Type I Diabetes

A team of researchers led by Professor Irun Cohen of the Weizmann Institute of Science has developed a unique approach for halting the progression of Type I (juvenile or insulin-dependent) diabetes.

Cohen and Dr. Dana Elias (then a postdoctoral fellow at the institute) discovered that injecting mice with a small peptide fragment known as p277 prevents the progression of Type

I diabetes. Based on the results of his research, Peptor, a biopharmaceutical company from Rehovot, Israel, developed DiaPep277, an experimental drug designed to prevent or treat Type I diabetes.

A recent clinical study performed by researchers at Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical School and Peptor Ltd. proved that DiaPep277 is successful in arresting the progression of Type I diabetes in newly diagnosed patients. The research findings are published in the Nov. 24 issue of *The Lancet*.

The study was of 35 patients newly diagnosed with Type I diabetes. Eighteen patients received injections of DiaPep277

at the beginning of the study, at one month, and at six months; 17 patients received three injections of an inert substance (placebo). Patients in the treatment group (those receiving DiaPep277) showed a halt or delay in the attack upon, or destruction of, their pancreatic insulin-producing cells by the immune system.

Diabetes is a chronic disease associated with elevated blood sugar levels, in which the body does not produce or properly use insulin—a hormone needed to convert sugar, starches and other foods into energy. Recent data show that between 120 and 140 million people suffer with diabetes worldwide.

The Village Raises More Than \$17,000 For Alzheimer's Care and Research

Village Retirement Communities, located in Greenville, R.I., with locations in Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Connecticut, announced recently that its three Rhode Island properties raised more than \$17,000 collectively toward Memory Walk 2001. Memory Walk, the Alzheimer's Association's only national fundraiser, is held annually at designated sites throughout the nation. Proceeds fund local Alzheimer's care and national research.

Village at Waterman Lake resident Ray Bonenfant, through the generosity of area professionals and the Greenville, R.I. community, individually raised more than \$8,600 for the Rhode Island Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, making him that year's top individual fund-raiser. This was Bonenfant's eighth consecutive year to earn such honors and he was recognized at the Alzheimer's Presidents Luncheon in November. In order to meet and exceed its Memory Walk goals, each of the three communities hosted a variety of fund-raising events throughout the year including yard sales, car washes, fashion shows and penny socials.

The Village is thankful to residents, staff, family, friends, and members of the community who participated in this year's successful Memory Walk.

American Heart Association

(Continued from Page 8)

"functional autonomy" in stroke survivors, the ability to function independently and perform normal living activities. The functional Autonomy Measurement System, or Systeme de mesure de l'Autonomie Fonctionnelle, and the Assessment of Motor and Process Skills, are tests that incorporate a multi-tiered approach to gauging physical and cognitive impairment.

SMAF determines functional autonomy of patients in 29 "activities of daily living" on a five-point scale, while AMPS is used to assess the quality of motor and process skills during typical daily activities.

There was no difference in the ability to function in normal daily activities between those

who had suffered a right-or-left stroke, nor was there any statistically significant difference between men and women participants, according to the study.

Using the SMAF test, the scientists found that four factors explained 93 percent of differences in variations in patient impairment. AMPS was able to determine 64 percent of variance in functional autonomy.

"These results indicate that the motor factor related to balance made the most impact in the quality of performance of daily living and domestic activities. This information could improve the choice of rehabilitation interventions for stroke patients," according to the researchers.

JFS Home Care Provides Extra Compassion

During these days of uncertainty, as our nation wages war against terrorism in the wake of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, people of all ages are affected. Many elderly, however, experience particular stress as painful memories of past conflicts and anxieties are brought to the surface. Jewish Family Service provides services on many levels that help our clients deal with the emotions that are felt.

Many of Jewish Family Service's elderly Home Care clients feel the impact of the events particularly, as they are remembering other wars and difficult times which have affected their lives. Memories of the poverty during the Great Depression, the horrors of the Holocaust, the pain of loved ones injured or killed while serving in a far-off war may haunt the elderly as they read today's headlines. The anxiety and grief may be experienced anew.

This is a time when the calm reassurance of routine and consistent caring are very important. Now, more than ever, the agency's policy of assigning the same Certified Nursing Assistants to each client whenever possible, is crucial. The CNAs

not only provide marketing and meal preparation, assist with personal care and run essential errands, they provide companionship as they go about their duties, listening to the clients concerns and reminiscences and sharing comforting conversation. Their presence means more than hygiene and nutrition; they provide a human connection.

The Jewish Family Service Registered Nurses, who monitor clients health and medical conditions, also observe the clients emotional well-being and can refer them to professional counseling when appropriate. Jewish Family Services clinical social workers are available to provide counseling services when unresolved feelings interfere with daily life.

In addition to Home Care Service and Counseling, Jewish Family Service provides the JFS Kosher Mealsite in Cranston, Lifeline/RI personal emergency response system, outreach for the elderly and for their families, Kosher Meals on Wheels in the Cranston and Warwick areas and information and referrals.

For information and assessments, call JFS Home Care at 331-1244, ext. 29 and 32.

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Serious Talks Held by U.S. and Israeli Officials

American and Israeli security officials held an in-depth and wide-ranging series of discussions in Tel Aviv over two days in mid-November, clarifying issues related to strategic cooperation between the two allies. The semi-annual Joint Political Military Group meeting was held alongside the annual session of the Joint Security Assistance Planning Group.

The talks reportedly featured exchanges on the missile defense capabilities of both states, including options for closer cooperation between each nation's ongoing programs. Israel presented its analysis of the IDF's need to maintain a qualitative military edge relative to existing and potential regional adversaries.

As the JPMG was the largest U.S.-Israel bilateral security gathering since Sept. 11, considerable attention was also devoted to intelligence-sharing mechanisms and planning for joint counter terrorist activities. Future joint military exercises were also outlined. The JSAP dialogue reviewed the implementation of Israel's annual U.S. security assistance budget — currently \$2 billion — which is used for modernization of the IDF.

The U.S. delegation of approximately 20 diplomats, Pentagon officials and military officers was led by Lincoln Bloomfield, assistant secretary of state for political-military affairs. Also in attendance were U.S. military leaders from the Joint Staff and the European Command, which oversees American military ties with Israel, and the Defense Security Cooperation Agency.

The Israeli team was headed

by Defense Ministry Director General Amos Yaron, and included a number of other senior members of the Israeli security establishment from the Ministry of Defense, IDF and Foreign Ministry, including Deputy Chief of General Staff Major General Moshe Ya'alon, head of the Planning Branch, Major General Giora Eiland, and Major General Yitzhak Ben-Israel, head of military research and development. Bloomfield also met with Defense Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer, who briefed the U.S. diplomat on the security situation in Israel and emphasized the failure of Yasir Arafat to take necessary steps to end the violence.

The U.S. team visited several IDF facilities as part of their trip, including the headquarters of the Northern Command and the Palmachim air base, which is home to the first deployed battery of the Arrow missile interceptor weapon system. U.S. officials, furthermore, joined their Israeli counterparts for a tour in helicopter flight to get an overhead view of key security sites and terrain in Israel.

Although the JPMG and JSAP meetings are held at regular intervals, they still represent only a small portion of the ongoing bilateral interactions that take place between the U.S. Defense Department and American military forces, and the Israeli Ministry of Defense and IDF on a daily, weekly and monthly basis. This relationship has taken on even more significance as Israel offers to quietly lend its resources to the U.S. war on terrorism.

Courtesy of Near East Report.

Books and Gifts Galore at the JCC Bookfair

Sarah Rosenfeld, below right, cracks a book from the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island's annual bookfair, which will be running in the lobby of the JCC until Dec. 17. The bookfair has books for children and adults as well as toys and games and locally made crafts.

Children's Hanukkah sweatshirts, hand-painted by JCC Children's Director Charli Lurie, are currently on sale at the JCCRI to benefit Kidspace / Pre-Teen Connection afterschool programs.

Photos by Jon Rubin and the JCC



Confessions

(Continued from Page 3)

And, like all good fundamentalists, we don't just disapprove; we react — by attempting to shelter ourselves and our children as best we can from things like the commercialization of sexuality and the idealization of materialism. We even go so far — hey, fundamentalists aren't passive sorts — as to support legislation that is consonant with our beliefs.

Holy War! True to the fundamentalist credo, we Haredim embrace holy war. But while some others see their jihads or crusades as involving violence and the vanquishing of others,

our battle is exclusively with what our tradition teaches is the evil that lurks within our hearts. Swords and bombs and germs and such are generally ineffectual in that struggle, and so we opt instead for more useful stratagems like studying ethical works and engaging in deep introspection.

Spreading the Word. Like other fundamentalists, we Haredim try to spread the faith — but only to other Jews who may lack traditional Jewish educations. We don't evangelize to members of other faiths, nor do we see them as unsaved. In-

deed, we consider a Christian or Muslim who observes certain basic moral precepts to fully merit a share in the World-to-Come.

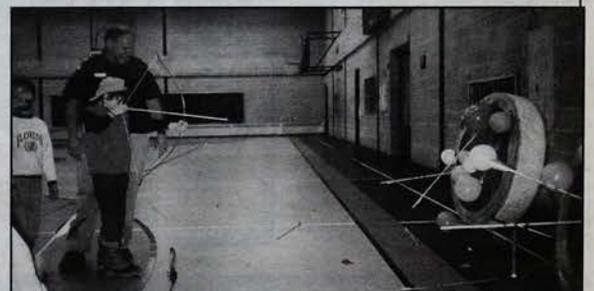
So as a plethora of pundits proclaim that the Western World's battle today is against all religious fundamentalism, the citizenry might do well to reflect on what some of the world's loudest fundamentalists themselves seem to regard as a pernicious threat: their Jewish counterparts.

Am Ehad Resources. Rabbi Avi Shafran is director of Public Affairs for Agudath Israel of America.

Prospective Cub Scouts Learn How to Fight Like Maccabees

by Seth Bromley
Editorial Assistant

Last Sunday, while many of us were preparing for Chanukah celebrations, a few young men were preparing for war — sort of. The Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island hosted a program called "How to be a Maccabee." The program, sponsored by the Cub Scouts, offered practice and instruction for a group of young boys in the sport of archery. While the boys took target practice in the gymnasium, their parents met downstairs with Boy Scouts of America representatives to discuss the formation of a Cub Scout pack for the Jewish community.



The boys learned the basics of using a bow and arrow from instructors Peter Koerner and Peter Reid, and tried shooting at balloons attached to archery targets. Among those who participated were Ilan Levine, Eliyahu

Simcha Raskin, Joshua Kaufman, Daniel Katz, Yosef and Yair Strachman and Shai Forstadt.

According to spokesman Ian Lilien, the Cub Scouts program teaches values and life skills to boys in grades one through five. Upon joining, children take part in activities such as nature hikes, archery, sports and crafts. In the process, they learn about responsibility, physical fitness, their community, and earn merit badges and pins for achievements in academics, sports or other skills.

Lilien said that he hopes the pack, which will be based at Ceongregation Beth Shalom in Providence, will get started right away. For more information or to get involved, call Ian Lilien at 351-8700, ext. 312.



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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Young Judaea Launches September 11 Response Camper Fund

Tuition scholarships will be available for sessions at Young Judaea summer camps in New York State, Texas, Wisconsin and North Carolina for any child ages 8 to 16 whose family has been directly affected by the Sept. 11 disaster. Whether they have been impacted by death, displacement, job loss or psychological suffering, all are welcome.

Young Judaea, the Zionist Youth Movement sponsored by Hadassah, established the tuition scholarship fund in response to the trauma experienced by so many children and adults following the Sept. 11 attack on America. "Creating this fund and offering this kind of tender care to children whose emotional wells have been

drained is a mitzvah," comments Renee Albert, chair, Young Judaea Fundraising. "We want to take care of these children whose lives would be comforted with a positive camping experience."

"We know that these camps are so nurturing and loving that even children who have gone through this disaster will find at least some happiness here this summer," noted Judy Cherokee, Young Judaea Camps Chair.

Camp Schedules

Camp Judaea (Hendersonville, N.C.) — Third- through eighth-grade children, June 16 to July 11, July 15 to Aug. 11.

Camp Young Judaea Sprout Lake (Verbank, N.Y.) — Third- through eighth-grade children,

June 24 through July 17 and July 27 through Aug. 14.

Camp Young Judaea Texas (Wimberley, Texas) — Third- through eighth-grade children, June 16 through July 9 and July 14 through Aug. 6.

Camp Young Judaea Midwest (Waupaca, WI) — Third through eighth-grade children, June 17 through July 10 and July 16 through Aug. 8.

Camp Tel Yehudah (Barryville, N.Y.) — Ninth- through 12th-grade children, June 24 to July 17 and July 22 through Aug. 14.

For further information, call Judy Shereck at (212) 303-4591, Renee Albert at (9212) 303-4515; or e-mail <jshereck@hadassah.org>.

JFS Home Care Coordinates Care When Family Cannot

When a 90-year-old woman called Jewish Family Service's Home Care to come see her brother, the situation had been looking bleak. She was unable to care for him herself, and was planning an out-of-state move to a setting where her own needs could be met. Another sister already lived out-of-state. Mr. R. had recently been hospitalized for a stroke and needed assistance if he was to be able to return to his longtime home. He clearly required help on many levels, which his two elderly sisters were not able to provide from such a long distance.

"During our assessment, we saw that he was passive and unfocused, having difficulty advocating for and expressing himself," said Jewish Family Service R.N. Linda Amore. Even prior to his hospitalization, he had not been physically able to keep his apartment clean.

Jewish Family Service Home

Care Coordinator Vicky Briggs, R.N., says, "His sister was relieved that we could not only provide services, but step into the role of coordinating his care and helping him work with the medical establishment, things the family might have done if they were able."

The Certified Nursing Assistant from Jewish Family Service initially gave a thorough cleaning to Mr. R.'s apartment, including the refrigerator, in order to make it a healthy environment for him upon his return from the hospital. Home Care also arranged for him to receive Meals on Wheels, so that he would have balanced nutrition provided on days when his CNA would not be there to cook for him. Mr. R. was pleased to be able to remain in his apartment, and was doing well with the help of his CNA. She transported him to medical appointments, assisted him with per-

sonal hygiene, kept his home tidy, made sure his cupboards were stocked and prepared nutritious foods for him to eat.

Unfortunately, Mr. R. experienced another health problem. The CNA and Jewish Family Service nurses were concerned about his worsening cough. The CNA helped him to visit his doctor and provided much support as he underwent testing. The diagnosis was lung cancer, and surgery was necessary. Without his CNA, it is doubtful that Mr. R. would have been able to handle the preparations for his hospitalization.

Mr. R. is currently in a rehabilitation facility and is hoping to be released soon to finish recuperating in his own apartment with the help of Home Care from Jewish Family Service.

For information and assessments, call JFS Home Care at 331-1244, ext. 29 and 32.

Jay Feinberg — Giving the Gift of Life

Ten years ago, Jay Feinberg was told that he had a "lethal disease called leukemia" and that without a bone marrow transplant, he would die. In searching for a match, he learned that people with similar cultural and ethnic backgrounds make the best matches. Jews, however, are greatly under-represented in bone marrow registries, and are disadvantaged once again by the chaotic displacements of the Holocaust which severed family trees.

He founded the Gift of Life Foundation, an organization which tries to get Jewish people, in the name of pikuach nefesh ("to save a life") to add themselves to an international bone marrow registry. Testing involves either a blood sample or the touch of a cotton swab in a person's mouth.

Feinberg found his match, but only after 60,000 people registered. "Every action counts... one person can make a difference in this world," he said.

For more information about the Gift of Life Marrow Foundation, call (800) 9 MARROW or visit www.hlamatch.org



JAY FEINBERG spoke at the BJE/RI's Mitzvah Heroes Conference Without Walls on Dec. 2. *Herald photo by Jon Rubin*

Lifeline/RI Seeks Volunteers

Lifeline/RI, the personal emergency response system administered by Jewish Family Service, is looking for several volunteers to help with routine maintenance on the devices in subscribers' homes.

Volunteers are provided with training and supervision. It is important that they feel comfortable going into people's homes and relating to people of all ages who may have serious physical challenges. Volunteers are given a list of clients whose Lifeline/RI units are due for maintenance. They may complete the work on their own schedule within a week or so. Lifeline/RI serves clients throughout Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts, so volunteers can choose the geographic area that is convenient for them.

"Volunteers are integral to maintaining the program," says Lifeline/RI Coordinator Maxine Richman. "We are incredibly grateful for their belief in the program and for their help."

The 15-year-old Lifeline/RI Program is designed to help its clients remain independently at home by providing immediate access to emergency help and reassurance. A personal emergency response system which enables the user to summon help immediately, Lifeline/RI is on call 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. A simple push of a button, worn or carried by the user, activates the system, instantaneously giving the professionals in the response center the user's medical history, any special instructions for emergencies, and a list of relatives, neighbors and local medical services. The person needing help can communicate through a speaker on the device, which is connected through the telephone. The appropriate help can then be summoned.

Call Lifeline/RI at Jewish Family Service at 331-1244, ext. 19 for more information or to volunteer.

If you have an event you would like featured on our Jewish Community Page, please send it to the Rhode Island Jewish Herald, P.O. Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 0294, fax to 726-5820 or e-mail rijewishherald@hotmail.com

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Am-David and JERI Visit West Bay Manor

Temple Am-David and Jewish Seniors Agency's JERI program brought ruach (spirit) to West Bay Manor in Warwick. Temple Am-David's spiritual leader Cantor Rick Perlman had the children daven the afternoon prayers and performed songs for the residents. Through the association between Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island's Director Susan Adler and Cantor Perlman the importance was recognized for the children of Temple Am-David to perform this mitzvah of visiting the residents. The children had "adopted" West Bay Manor and will continue to bring a smile to everyone's face. Volunteers can call Susan Adler at 621-5374. *Photo courtesy of JERI*



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Bresler's Klezmer-Hassidic Ensemble to Play Lupu's

Fishel Bresler's Klezmer-Hassidic Ensemble appears Dec. 24 at 8:30 p.m. at Lupu's Heartbreak Hotel, 329 Westminster St., downtown Providence. Admission is \$6 and includes a Nosh Pit for free bagels and cream cheese. This has become a tradition — on Dec. 24, Rich Lupu sets up tables and chairs and turns his Rock & Roll Club into a lively, hemishe Klezmer Coffee House... with plenty of room besides for long winding chains of those moved to dance. This is the Bresler group is seventh annual appearance at this very successful event. This year Fishel Bresler, Shelley Katsh and Bob Moses will also be joined by special guest artist Beth Cohen.

The group's rich music expresses the many moods of the Jewish soul, from spiritual yearning to powerful joy. Hassidic nigunim (melodies) have grown out of the mystical movement created two centuries ago in the Carpathian Mountains by the great Baal Shem Tov.

Klezmer music is the laughing, crying, wailing, heartfelt instrumental music of Eastern European Jewish life. Having developed over many centuries, it incorporates influences from synagogue chant and from Romanian, Hungarian, Slavic and Middle Eastern music, whose elements were slowly absorbed, changed and worked into a mix which expressed the rhythms and emotions of Jewish life.

The Ensemble has performed as a regular feature of several area concert series and has become known over nearly two decades for its passionate yet sensitive playing. As Fishel says, "This spiritual music — you have to play it from your *kishkes* (innards) and from your heart." The band makes humor and high spirits an integral part of every presentation, and draws in audiences of all types and all ages.

Fishel (Michael) Bresler (clarinet, flute, mandolin) has studied klezmer clarinet and

mandolin with the contemporary master Andy Statman over the course of more than a decade. He has also played bluegrass, classical and country-rock music, as well as performing as vaudevillian and storyteller. Besides playing concerts, weddings and the like, he currently does therapeutic music with multiply-handicapped children, participates in artist-in-residence school programs and teaches music.

Shelley Katsh, MSW, (keyboards) is a Certified Music



Fishel Bresler's Klezmer-Hassidic Ensemble

Therapist and social worker, currently on the staff of Jewish Family Service. She has played and sung with the famed Zamir Chorale, co-authored the book, *The Music Within You*, and is the musical director of the Jewish Theater Ensemble, as well as Temple Emanu-El's theater productions.

Bob Moses (drums) has been described by jazz critic Nat Hentoff as "one of the grander imaginations in America's true classical music." Moses has played with Charles Mingus, Rahsaan Roland Kirk, Eric Dolphy, Gary Burton & Larry Coryell, among others, in the course of a colorful 35-year career. He is currently on the faculty of the New England Conservatory of Music.

Beth Cohen (violin) performs in her own group, Ziyia, and with the Klezmer Conservatory Band of Boston among others and is one of the foremost interpreters of traditional Turkish and Greek music of the Northeast. She has spent extensive time in the Mediterranean researching and studying these musics.

For directions or questions, call 273-9814.

Festival Ballet Providence Presents 'King Arthur'

As part of its "Dance Me a Story" Family Series, Festival Ballet Providence announces the Rhode Island premiere of "King Arthur and the Knights of the Square Tables." Performances are Jan. 27 and Feb. 3 at 1:30 and 4 p.m. at the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts, Rhode Island College. Tickets are \$15 and are available by calling Festival Ballet Providence at 353-1129. Group discounts are also available and the performances are great for birthday parties.

This original work, created by Festival Ballet Providence

Artistic Director Mihailo Djuric, former Ballet West principal dancer Christine Jacques Simes, and New Hampshire Theatre Project Artistic Director Genevieve Aichele, combines theater, dance, music and clowning. The story follows young Valerie, who while reading a book given to her by her uncle, is dreamily sent back to the court of King Arthur. Valerie and her two best friends find themselves faced with dueling knights, soldiers, arguing ambassadors, a snide sorceress and tap-dancing dragons. Together

they defeat the menacing monsters and save all the kingdoms.

King Arthur and the Knights of the Square Tables is set to a wonderfully, quirky score by Danny Elfman, whose film music has provided scores for "Edward Scissorhands," "Beetlejuice," "Dick Tracy," "Batman" and "Men in Black." The Rhode Island premiere will feature the Festival Ballet Providence Company and Junior Company and children of the Festival Ballet Providence Center for Dance Education and the All Children's Theatre.



Add Some Drama to Your Life With Acting Classes

Perishable Theatre has announced that they have divided their wide range of acting and theater courses into three different levels, beginning, intermediate and advanced, in order to cater to a wide range of experience levels. Taught by leading area professionals, the Theatre Arts School classes are now available for all levels of adults and teens, from those just starting out to more experienced professional actors. The Winter Session of classes starts the week of Jan. 14, 2002, and is now accepting enrollment. Perishable also announced that Theatre Arts School Class Gift Certificates good towards any course are now available by phone for the holidays. For details and to receive a free course schedule, all 331-2695, ext. 102 or download it for free from Perishable's Web site at <www.perishable.org>.

For those students who are just starting out, the very popular Introduction to Acting course with Fred Sullivan, Jr. of Trinity Rep is the first step. The course will meet Mondays at 7 p.m. (This course fills up fast, so early registration is encouraged.) For those who have taken Sullivan's introductory course, the next recommended class is Scene Study taught by Trinity Rep Conservatory graduate Kate Lester, which also meets Mondays at 7 p.m. For actors new to scene study as well as for those who have taken it before, this class is geared towards the discovery and development of the imaginative and technical skills essential to the actor's craft, and to the building of specific work-

ing methods for approaching roles and scenes.

Students of all levels would benefit from Barry Press's popular ImproWriting course, which meets Wednesdays at 7 p.m. for seven weeks. ImproWriting celebrates the idea that everyone has a story to tell and takes as its basic premise that if you can talk, you can write. Press has been a professional actor/director/teacher for more than 25 years



and is currently artistic director of the local arts-in-education program, Living Literature. Press has taught at Princeton, University of Rhode Island, Holy Cross, Trinity Rep Conservatory, and Rhode Island College.

For more intermediate students (especially those who have taken Intro to Acting and Scene Study), Perishable will be bringing back their successful Acting and Auditioning for Film & TV with Carolyn Pickman, meeting for six weeks on Tuesdays. This is the only class of its kind in the Rhode Island area. Using actual scripts from television commercials and feature films, actors will

learn how to perform for the camera. Instructor Carolyn Pickman is president of Boston's Collinge/Pickman Casting and was the location casting director of "A Civil Action" with John Travolta, and "In Dreams," "Good Will Hunting," and "Amistad" directed by Steven Spielberg. New for intermediate and advanced students is "Wilde About Comedy" which explores the challenges of comedic acting — timing, physicality, language, and improvisation. The objective of this course taught is to transform those challenges into tools you can use. This eight-week course meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m. with RIC faculty member Wendy Overly.

The final course aimed at the more advanced student is Sullivan's Advanced Scene Study With Showcase. Final scenes will be showcased in a public performance at the end of a six-week intensive rehearsal process. Instructor Sullivan is a 17-season member of the Trinity Rep resident acting company and can be seen in their current production of "A Christmas Carol."

Especially for teen actors, Perishable has will be offering two courses for the winter semester. A teen version of Acting and Auditioning for Film & TV will be taught by Carolyn Pickman, president of Boston's Collinge/Pickman Casting.

For a free brochure, call 331-2695, ext. 102 or visit <www.perishable.org> and download it from Perishable Theatre's Web site.

Happy Hanukkah

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Treasures From Private Collections at URI

On Display December 6 to January 15

Have you wondered about the collecting habits of professors and other arts professionals on the campus of the University of Rhode Island? An opportunity to consider sometimes serious, sometimes fanciful treasures comes your way this season with a special exhibition drawn from eclectic visual culture collections.

Collections originate naturally for those active in the arts. Sometimes, as one would expect, connoisseurship or discernment of high quality — the distinguishing "treasure" aspect brought to bear on traditional western and non-western art — remains a stimulus for collecting. At other times, familiar, even mundane objects in accumulated form may yield a meaning through formal presentation that belie their functional origins from the world of material culture. They become curious artifacts when "collected," seen together in a grouping. Alternatively, indi-

vidual quirkiness is also a stimulant to collecting. Mechanical banks or snow globes, for example, are treasures that disclose a range of revealing content, yet acquisition of these objects generates competition among collectors for their more traditional intrinsic cultural value.

Treasures from Private Collections will contain a mixture of several types of collecting motivations, but it will fundamentally reveal the self-defining/self-reflective notion of amassing a collection. Collections, after all, characterize our personalities as well as our professional personas.

Corridor Gallery hours are daily, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. All programs of the galleries are open to the public without charge and all are handicapped accessible. Corridor Gallery is located in the Fine Arts Center Galleries, University of Rhode Island. Call 874-2775 for more information.

Full Scholarships Available to Interlochen Arts Camp

The top high school musicians around the country are invited to apply for an Emerson Scholars Award to the world-famous Interlochen Arts Camp in northern Michigan. One student from each state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico will receive a full scholarship for the 2002 Interlochen Arts Camps.

The scholarships are funded through a grant from St. Louis-based Emerson.

The Emerson Scholars Award is a \$4,944 scholarship, which provides full tuition, private lessons, and room and board for the eight-week summer program. The 75th camp season dates are June 16 to Aug. 12, 2002.

Applicants must be in grades nine through 12 and be proficient on strings, winds, percussion instruments or harp. They must submit a taped solo performance with piano accompaniment with their application.

Applications must be postmarked by Feb. 15, 2002, and winners will be announced by April 15, 2002. Winners will be determined solely on merit.

For more information, or to obtain an application, write the Emerson Scholars Program, Interlochen Center for the Arts, P.O. box 199, Interlochen, MI, 49643. Call (231) 276-7472, or visit Interlochen online at <www.interlochen.org>.

ACT Announces February Vacation Camp!

Beat the winter blahs! Join Keith Munslow and Elizabeth Keiser for a week of ACTion packed adventure with theater games and skills! Vacation Camp will be held during the week of February 18 to 22 and runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. Elizabeth will lead the 8- to 10-year-olds in exploring comedy and stand-up as they work on their amazing one-act presentation! Keith works the 11- to 14-year-olds into a theatrical frenzy as they work with music and magic to produce their own musical one-act extravaganza (no singing experience necessary)!

Call 435-5300 or check us out at <www.ACTinRI.org> to register your child! ACT quickly — space is limited! All Children's Theatre is inclusive of all children regardless of intellectual and physical capabilities.

Cranston Public Library Holds Teen Event

By now, you have probably read the *Lord of the Rings*. You may even be a raving Tolkien fan. Why not continue to enjoy the adventure? Join our teen discussion of the next installment of the tale, *The Two Towers* on Dec. 27 from 2 to 4 p.m. at 140 Sockanosset Cross Road, Cranston. Middle and high school students are invited to eat pizza, chat about the book, and will be eligible for drawings of *Lord of the Rings* theme prizes.

Call 943-9080 for more information.

Jew vs. Jew Wins National Jewish Book Award

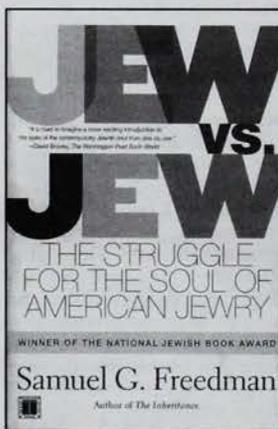
A chronicle of the deep, even terminal divisions wracking millions of American Jews, *Jew vs. Jew: The Struggle for the Soul of American Jewry* by Samuel G. Freedman (Touchstone Books; A Simon & Schuster Trade Paperback; September 5, 2001; ISBN: 0-684-85945-9; \$14) has been the most acclaimed and most discussed book about American Jewry in the past year. Upon receiving the National Jewish Book Award for non-fiction last March, *Jew vs. Jew* was described as a "thoughtful and beautifully written assessment of the precarious situation of Jewish identity in America today."

Freedman journeys from the suburbs of the United States to the foot of the Western Wall, and through the past 40 years to chronicle the civil war that divides American Jews. It is a struggle that pits secularist against believer, gender against gender, liberal against conservative, and traditional against modernist. It is a struggle that has torn asunder families, communities and congregations. And beneath each specific confrontation lies the same fundamental questions: What is the definition of Jewish identity? Who decides what is authentic and legitimate Judaism? And what is the Jewish compact with America?

Events over the past year have only made *Jew vs. Jew* more timely. Joseph Lieberman became the first Jew to run for vice president on a major party ticket, coming within a few thousand votes of election. His candidacy demonstrated both the tremendous acceptance of Jews in American public life and the controversy within American Jewry over the

growing visibility and influence of Orthodox Jews such as Lieberman.

Meanwhile, the outbreak of the Palestinian intifada and the resulting collapse of the Oslo peace process have pointed up the growing disengagement of American Jewry from Israel, traditionally one of the great unifying forces. Unlike the Middle East was in 1967 and



1973, the recent violence has failed to mobilize the mainstream of American Jewry behind Israel.

There is no more pressing and volatile a topic in Jewish life today than the tremendous friction within the tribe. Named among the best books of the year by *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Chicago Tribune* and *Jerusalem Post*, *Jew vs. Jew* is the first book to illuminate it in human, personal terms, using the kinds of stories that Jews have always looked to for insight and guidance. Freedman describes, among other episodes:

- The last summer at a Labor Zionist camp in the Catskill Mountains of New York that has become defunct, paradoxically, because Zionism has succeeded in creating the Jewish state of Israel.

- Orthodox and Reform Jews in a Cleveland suburb who are fighting about the proposed construction of several synagogues.

- The Florida Jew so opposed to the peace process that he tried to bomb a synagogue where Shimon Peres was speaking.

- Reform Jews from Long Island who relocated to get away from Orthodox Jews, whom they accused of "flaunting" their religion.

In *Jew vs. Jew*, Samuel Freedman tells the story of the struggle for the soul of American Jewry with fairness and compassion, as he considers the most divisive issues afflicting that community. The news he bears — that the American Jewish community is breaking apart — will be received with urgency not only by Jews, but by everyone concerned with the dialogue between religion and a pluralistic society.

"...the most important book about American Jewry in a decade." — Marvin Schick, *New York Jewish Week*

Samuel G. Freedman is a professor of journalism at Columbia University and a regular contributor to *The New York Times*, *New York Magazine*, *Salon*, and *USA Today*. In March 2001 he won the National Book Award for *Jew vs. Jew*. He is also the author of *The Inheritance*, a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, *Small Victories*, a National Book Award finalist, and *Upon This Rock*. He lives in New York City.



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OBITUARIES

NORMAN BOMZER
CRANSTON — Norman Bomzer, 78, of Poplar Drive, a retired jewelry manufacturing company owner, died Dec. 10 at the Miriam Hospital, Providence. He was the husband of Harriet (Harris) Bomzer.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., a son of the late Sam and Freida Bomzer, he had lived in Cranston for 54 years.

He was the owner of Cabot Manufacturing Company in Cranston for 15 years, retiring 18 years ago. He was a World War II Marine veteran, serving in the Pacific Theater. He was a past vice president, president and board member of Temple Torat Yisrael and a past president of Crestwood Country Club.

Besides his wife he leaves a son, Jeffrey Bomzer of Cranston; a brother, Irving Bomzer of Delray Beach, Fla.; and five grandchildren. He was the father of the late Aline Miller and brother of the late Rose Schwartz.

Funeral services were held Dec. 11 in Shalom Memorial Chapel, 1100 New London Avenue, Cranston. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be made to Hospice Care of Rhode Island or your favorite charity. Arrangements were made by Shalom Memorial Chapel.

JESSE X. COUSINS

NEW BEDFORD, Mass. — Jesse X. Cousins, died Dec. 8 at his home. He was the husband of the late Louise (Fink) Cousins, a teacher in New York City who died in 1991. He was born on the Lower East Side of New York City in 1901.

He was a well-known executive and entrepreneur. In 1957 he and three associates founded the Itek Corporation, a high-tech company specializing in advanced optical systems. Itek was a central contributor to the then highly classified Corona project. Later he co-founded DASA Corporation, an innovative telecommunications company where he remained until

his retirement in the late 1970s.

He has long been associated with the air and space industries. During World War II, he was controller and treasurer of the General Aircraft Corporation in Astoria, and worked with the Steinway family in converting from making pianos to making glider aircraft for the war. Post-war, Cousins served as vice president and treasurer of the Chase Aircraft Company, Trenton, N.J. Chase developed the C-122 and C-123 cargo aircraft, used extensively in both Korea and Vietnam. In the early 1950s, after the Kaiser Corporation bought the Chase Aircraft Company, he managed the aircraft business at the Willow Run plant in Dearborn, Mich.

He is survived by his daughter, Crystal Cousins Campbell of Dartmouth, Mass.; two grandchildren, Sean Hamilton Lloyd, of New Bedford, Mass., and Jennie Crystal Miller, of Shelburne, Vt.; three step-grandchildren, Geraldine Campbell, Linda Campbell Seek, and David Campbell and nine great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Dec. 11 at Tifereth Israel of New Bedford. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Boston Symphony, Boston, Mass., or to ArtWorks!, Partners for the Arts & Community, Inc., in New Bedford, Mass. 02740. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

DORA DARACHINSKY

FALL RIVER — Dora Darachinsky, of Robeson Street, died Dec. 9 at the Fall River Jewish Home.

A life-long Fall River resident, she was a daughter of the late Morris and Fannie (Epstein) Darachinsky.

She was a member of Congregation Adas Israel and its Sisterhood and the Sister of Temple Beth El, Hadassah and ORT.

She was the sister of the late Sarah, Nathan and Bella Darachinsky and Elizabeth Glickman. She leaves many

cousins and a niece, Marsha Reiser of Annandale, Va.

Funeral services were held Dec. 10 at Congregation Adas Israel, Robeson St., Fall River. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

ANNE B. MUSEN

PROVIDENCE — Anne B. Musen, 81, of Squantum Drive, an accomplished bridge player, died Dec. 3 at the Philip Hultlar Hospice Center in Providence.

She was the wife of the late Stanley L. Musen. Born in Dayton, Ohio, a daughter of the late Samuel and Sarah (Silver) Brodsky, she had lived in Warwick for 17 years and previously lived in Cranston.

She was a graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design. A member of the American Contract Bridge League, she earned the rank of bronze life master. She also enjoyed painting, building dollhouses and playing mahjong.

She leaves two sons, Michael Musen of Newton, Mass., and Steven Musen of Warwick, and three grandsons. She was the sister of the late Richard Brodsky.

The funeral was held Dec. 5 in Shalom Memorial Chapel, 1100 New London Ave., Cranston. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be made to the VNA of Care New England, 51 Health Lane, Warwick, R.I. 02886 or the charity of your choice. Arrangements were made by Shalom Memorial Chapel.

FLORENCE RESNICK

WORCESTER, Mass. — Florence (Sicker) Resnick, 65, of 5 Suburban Road, Worcester died on Dec. 5 in the Hospice Residence in Worcester. She was the wife of Leon A. Resnick.

She was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., daughter of Jacob and Fannie (Azroff) Sicker and lived in Providence from 1948 through 1968, and then in Holden, Mass., for six years, before moving to Worcester 26 years ago.

Since 1977, she had been employed at Clark University as administrative assistant in the communications office, the psychology department and most recently in the department of

foreign languages. She served as secretary and technical assistant to the Heinz Werner Institute, administrative coordinator of the CECIL Program in Luxembourg and the chairperson of the United Way Campaign. In 1996 she was awarded The Excellence in Service Award for her outstanding service to Clark University.

She was a member and very active volunteer of Temple Emanuel and was a life member of its Sisterhood. She was a past president and life member of Worcester Chapter of Hadassah.

She is survived by her husband of 43 years, Leon A. Resnick; a son, Jeffrey Resnick of New York City; a daughter, Sharon Resnick, and a grandson, Raymond Resnick, of Herndon, Va. She is the sister of the late Rose Ehrenberg, Mildred Ackerman, and Murray Sicker.

Funeral services were held Dec. 6 in Temple Emanuel, Worcester, Mass. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick, R.I. The arrangements were made by Perlman Funeral Home, 1026 Main St., Worcester, Mass.

HANNAH SALMANSON

PROVIDENCE — Hannah (Kushner) Salmanson, 87, of Blackstone Boulevard, died Dec. 4 at Miriam Hospital.

She was the wife of Charles Salmanson. Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Jacob and Dora (Alpert) Kushner, she was a lifelong resident of the city.

A member of Temple Emanuel, she was a member of Kulanu and a former member of the bowling league. She was a life member of Hadassah, the Women's Association of Miriam Hospital, and a member of the Woman's Association at the former Jewish Home for the Aged.

She was a member of the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, and active in the Women's Division of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island.

She was a member of Crestwood Country Club and Boca Teeca Country Club in Boca Raton, Fla.

Besides her husband, she leaves a son, Jerrold A. Salmanson of Providence; a daughter, Deborah Salmanson Roberts of Potomac, Md.; a sis-

ter, Esta Katz of Providence; and two grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Samuel and Phillip Kushner.

A funeral service was held Dec. 6 in Temple Emanu-El, 99 Taft Ave., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Joslin Diabetes Center, 1 Joslin Place, Boston, Mass. 02215. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

MILLICENT SCHENKER

NEW BEDFORD — Millicent Schenker, 96, of Rotch Street died Dec. 6. She was the wife of the late Herman Schenker.

Born in England, a daughter of the late Cantor Boris and Glicka Alper, she came to New Bedford when she was 17.

She was a member of the Tifereth Israel Congregation and its sisterhood, the Jewish Convalescent Home of New Bedford, the Council of Jewish Women and the Hebrew Ladies Helping Hand.

She was a life member of Hadassah and the Brandeis Club. When her late father was the cantor at Tifereth Israel Congregation, she was very active in its choir.

She is survived by a daughter, Susan Portnoy of New Bedford; four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Joseph Alper and Engie Chernick.

Funeral services were held Dec. 9 in Tifereth Israel Synagogue, New Bedford, Mass. Burial was in Plainville Cemetery, New Bedford. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in her memory to the Millicent and Herman Schenker Endowment Fund, c/o Tifereth Israel Congregation, 140 Brownell Ave., New Bedford, Mass. 02740 or your favorite charity. Arrangements were by Shalom Memorial Chapel, 1100 New London Ave., Cranston, R.I.

NATHAN SIMON

NEWPORT — Nathan Simon, 70, of Festival Field, a retired new-car sales manager died Dec. 5 at Rhode Island Hospital, Providence.

Born in West Warwick, a son
(Continued on Page 15)

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FEATURE

Light vs. Darkness; Good vs. Evil

(Continued from Page 3)

government that ruled them subjected them to a bitter and harsh life. The Assyrian-Greeks, a Hellenistic government, worshipped the body and several man-made idols. They attempted to make the Jews under them desecrate their holy religion by converting and serving these foreign deities.

Jerusalem's Jews lived as a dominated people for a long time, but when the Assyrian-Greeks brought idols into the Jews' Holy Temple, totally defiling it, the Hebrews had had enough. Led by Judah Maccabee and his heroic brothers, a tiny band of poorly trained Jewish soldiers miraculously defeated the Assyrian-Greek Army and threw off their dictatorship. The Maccabees reclaimed Israel for the Jewish people. It was a true miracle from the Heavens, but it wasn't over yet.

After the Hebrews demolished the Assyrian-Greek idols and re-sanctified the Temple, they went to light their Menorah to honor their G-d. There was one vial of oil remaining with just enough oil to last for one day. In another miracle, the oil lasted for eight days. So began the Holiday of Chanukah, the festival of Lights.

Jews will celebrate Chanukah this year beginning at nightfall on December 9. On this festive commemoration, Jews worldwide eat latkes, play dreidel, and light candles for eight nights. Chabad-Lubavitch rabbis from all over the world light giant menorahs in city and town halls malls, and such places as the Kremlin and the Eiffel Tower to revel in the complete, joyous miracle that is Chanukah, the triumph of the few over the many, the victory of good against evil and the triumph of light over darkness.

Jews use Chanukah to light

up both the physical and psychological aspects of life. The sun sets around this time of year between 4 p.m. and 5 p.m., so lighting Chanukah candles illuminates the black night. In addition, many Jewish groups and organizations take menorahs and light candles at nursing homes, assisted-living centers, retirement communities, hospitals and other shut-ins who would otherwise be unable to participate in the merriment of Chanukah.

The main purposes for why a Jew is created are: to love his fellow as himself; to do as many Mitzvahs as possible, and to bring the maximum amount of satisfaction to all compatriot Jews. And lighting Chanukah candles—both at a person's own home and going out of the way to bring the radiance of the Festival of Lights to Jews who are less able to celebrate the joyous holiday—is one of the aspects that make Judaism such a great religion.

Chanukah in particular and the month of December in general have been very hard for me and many loved ones. Four people close to me passed away during four of the last eight Chanukahs—including my revered father, Ray Eichenbaum, my Uncle David, my best friend's father and dear family friend Gert Diwinsky. But despite those tragedies, I look into the glow of my candles and it as if my departed are with me again, lighting the way for me from heaven, just as they always did down on earth.

There is an old poem that goes: "rage, rage, rage against the dying of the light," and that is what I try to do with my Chanukah candles. I try to transfer the positive energy I've learned, both from my Dad and all who came before and taught me, into beneficial light for all good and

democratic people everywhere.

Just as in Classical Jerusalem, the tyranny and doom will not be able to overcome the powers of illumination and good in today's society. Hijackers may seize planes and decimate buildings, and those are tremendous calamities, but they will not succeed. Osama bin Laden and the scores of others before him will fail in their quest to snuff out the blazing light of America and all democracy-minded nations this holiday season. Good will once again beat evil because of the indomitable will of the American people and miracles that will occur once more—just as they did in the past. And the latest Chanukah will be just as sweet for every Jewish man, woman, girl and boy as the original Festival of Lights back in old Jerusalem.

Happy Chanukah to All!
Cary Eichenbaum lives in Providence.

Obituaries

(Continued from Page 14)

of the late Louis and Annie (Miller) Simon, he had lived in Newport since 1977 and was a lifelong resident of Rhode Island.

He was the new-car sales manager for the former Boye Chevrolet in Middletown for 10 years, previously working for Simon Auto Sales, Warwick, for 11 years. He retired in 1976.

An Army veteran, he served during the Korean War. He was a former member of Congregation Shaare Zedek, Providence.

Growing up, he enjoyed fishing. He leaves two nieces and a nephew.

A graveside service will be held Dec. 7 in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to your favorite charity. The family was assisted with the arrangements by the Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

The J Connection Offers Christmas Eve Events

The J Connection "J Ball Party" will take place on Dec. 24 at two locations: For the 20s and 30s group—Sophia's, 1270 Boylston St., Boston near Fenway Park and for the 35+ group—Veronique Ballroom, 20 Chapel St., Brookline. Both events will start at 8 p.m. with a DJ dancing, live music, salsa/meringue lessons, hors d'oeuvres, street and lot parking. All guests receive 2002 TJC membership (\$59 value) and have a chance to win a Club Getaway Trip.

A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the United Jewish Relief Fund.

The cost is \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. For more information on tickets go to <www.thejconnection.com> or call (617) 312-5410.

For more information, go to <www.thejconnection.com> or call (617) 312-5410.

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A Gift for Chanukah

(Continued from Page 3)

miracle, an event that defies the natural order and disobeys the law of cause and effect take place, if not for the will of G-d? Within that thought lies the seed of transcendence, the potential for healing and a promise of new possibilities. Let the chanukkah (the Chanukah menorah) respond to your heartfelt needs and permit changes to occur for joyous living. It is said that miracles are not necessarily supernatural happenings. All of life is a miracle. Every person we know—our friends and our family—is truly miraculous, but the light of Chanukah allows us to see our miracles more clearly.

There are some that feel that we should not endorse the military victory of the Maccabees; they say only the miracle of the oil properly confirms G-d's glory. But if we understand that the Selucid Greeks are merely metaphors for the real enemy that lurks in our souls, who defile our inner Temple, we then fight for a more noble cause.

Chanukah takes place at a time when the days are shortest and darkness prevails over light, when the sap rests in the

roots, and animals sleep for the winter. Now the soul is at the nadir of its annual cycle and our intuition, our feminine, receptive attribute is at its peak. Perhaps this is why the female motif of Chanukah, with its tales of Jewish heroines and the triumph of brave women performing work while the candles glow only at night, is so prevalent. Only in a setting like this can the true gift of Chanukah come alive.

At this particular Chanukah, when the dark clouds of September 11 loom overhead, we need as much light as we can get. If every one of us would light one candle on each of the eight nights perhaps we can pave the way for a bright new future.

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

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3 Synagogues, 4 Hours, 900 Jews

(Continued from Page 1)

and old had vigorous dreidel spin-offs in the corners of the room, and young couples got to relax, mingle and share the many trials and tribulations of parenting.

Cantor Brian Mayer sang a short melody in the main sanctuary to test the sound system. Soon, when the Chanukah concert began, he would be joined by the Temple Emanu-El Choir, the Kol Kesem Youth Choir, and the Choral Club. Shelley Katsh would lead Kol Klezmer to fill out the musical venue that evening. The entire building tingled with anticipation.

Lighting Time - Temple Beth-El

At 5:40 p.m., as people continued to roll in, I dashed over to Temple Beth-El to catch the menorah candle-lighting. Here, hundreds of Jews young and old waited with anticipation for the candle-lighting. Faces

beautiful, flower-like Chanukiah at the front of the temple, whose shiny metal leaves gently cupped the bases of the many candles. The mass of Jewish humanity was so close I could hear the breathing of people all around me, and frosty winter breath exuded in puffs from people's mouths. Children climbed atop their parents' shoulders so they could see as Cantor Judith Seplowin, Rabbi Leslie Gutterman and Rabbi Jonathon Blake made their way next to the menorah.

In the voice that has made her famous around the East Side, Seplowin led the hundreds gathered there in the prayers for the lighting of the candles, and the Shehechiyanu prayer in celebrating this great day. For a few moments, the hundreds of voices became one, and it no longer seemed to be as cold outdoors.

Rabbi Jonathon Blake lit the



CANTOR JUDITH SELOWIN, left, of Temple Beth and Rabbi Leslie Gutterman lead congregants in the Hanukkah blessings in front of the temple in Providence. Herald photos by Jon Rubin



SO MUCH FOOD, so little time. Hands and heads move in to snag some food before it's all gone at Ohawe Sholam.

perked up at the sight of good friends and spirits were soaring as more and more people filed in. Bill Harley, the Grammy-nominated singer, songwriter and story teller, was setting up in the next room, and the kitchen staff got to breathe a sigh of relief as the final batches of desserts were done.

When the signal came, everyone filed outside and gathered in a dense huddle around the

shamash candle, and gave a short description of the holiday's origins as a festival celebrating our religious freedom. Blake then gave the "short-short reason" behind the meaning of Hanukkah. "Bad people tried to kill us, and we won. Let's eat!" Seplowin then sang as many Hanukkah songs as she could before teeth started chattering, including some creative and comical new verses to

"I have a little dreidel" where the short-lived dreidel was made out of sand or even air.

Hanukkah Shindig - Congregation Ohawe Sholam

It was 6:15 p.m. The Beth-El crowd began to move towards the food and warmth inside the temple, and I took the Boulevard at 40 miles per hour to Ohawe Sholam on East Avenue in Pawtucket. The synagogue's rabbi, Rabbi Nosson Schuman, had organized something very special for the Orthodox community - he brought all of the local Orthodox places of worship, including Congregations Beth Sholom and Mishkan Tefilah, The Chabad House of Providence, the Providence Hebrew Day School and the New England Rabbinical College, under one synagogue roof for a large and spirited Chanukah bash.

Recalling the unity the Orthodox community felt in the wake of the September 11 terrorist attack, Schuman said that "people came up to me and said 'Why can't we get together for a happy occasion?'" Schuman made some calls and put the whole event in motion. Volunteers like Rita Pliskin jumped aboard to help with the cooking



JOSHUA (right) and Benjamin Rosenfeld fill up their sand menorah at Temple Emanu-El.

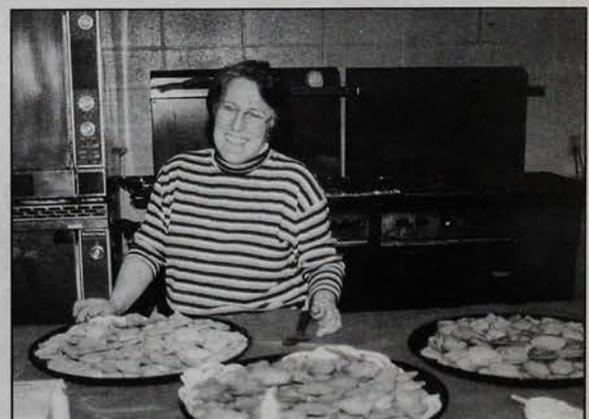
of the latkes and Chanukah cookies, and musicians galore brought their instruments to kick the excitement up a notch. Schuman addressed the room of more than 150 in saying, "Tonight, we can dance together, sing together, open our hearts to one another... that's how you really express love."

Rabbi Mitchell Levine of Beth Sholom and Rabbi Yosef Lipson of the New England Rabbinical College gave divrei torot about some new Chanukah insights. While adults got some new perspectives on the many ways of viewing and valuing this particular holiday, the foyer of the shul became the "holding area" for many hungry and excited children. When the rabbis finished, everybody filed to the back of the room and chowed down.

Musician extraordinaire Michael Bresler had spent hours

prepping the sound system for the evening's performances; Schuman, a recent guitar devotee, played guitar with his guitar teacher Norman Rosenfield, including a new variation on the Chanukah traditional "Maoz Tzur." Violinists, a three-man (OK, two men and a boy) rock band, and other musical permutations followed, and a few members of the audience decided to grab a mike and belt out some of their favorite Yiddish tunes. People got up and danced in circles when the tempo fit their tapping feet, and the synagogue was aglow in munching children, laughing adults and the sounds of great Jewish music.

Have any Chanukah stories, pictures or memories from this year? Send them to rijewishherald@hotmail.com.



RITA PLISKIN and some batches of cookies fresh from the oven, at Ohawe Sholam in Pawtucket.



A LITTLE GIRL takes a brief pause from eating her latke at Ohawe Sholam.