

Rhode Island Jewish HERALD

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

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Prov. USY Wins the Whole Enchilada

by Ari Savitsky

Several months worth of quiet, determined preparation paid off in full for Providence United Synagogue Youth several weeks ago in Washington, D.C. The USY International Convention, which took place in D.C. this year from Dec. 23 to 27, is a time of frenzied celebration for over 1,300 Jewish teens from around North America. And Providence, especially its 11 attending delegates, had much to celebrate.

After winning New England

region's chapter of the year award last year at NERUSY (New England Regional USY) spring convention, Providence USYers cheered and made merry, then began mentally prepping themselves for the task ahead. By this October, you could find them at Youth Director Miriam Abram-Stark's house, putting the finishing touches on a portfolio of programs, letters, and pictures from the 2000-2001 year. By Dec. 23, though, the materials

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MEMBERS OF NEW ENGLAND Region United Synagogue Youth (NERUSY) show some spirit at the USY International Convention in Washington, D.C. Photo courtesy of USY

Eighty Jews, Eight-Hundred Opinions

RI's Largest Jewish Denominations Debate "Who's a Jew," Other Stumpers

by Jon Rubin
Herald Editor

Normally, controversial Jewish questions like "who's a Jew" are uttered only when one is safely surrounded by Jews of the same level of religious observance.

However, members of the three largest Jewish congregations in Rhode Island—Temple Beth El (Reform), Temple Emanu-El (Conservative) and Congregation Beth Shalom (Orthodox), all of Providence, gathered together for a large group study at Beth El on Jan. 6 to collectively tackle the questions of what makes us Jewish.

Even before the large debate unfolded, mini-debates sprung up at every table. Allan Sydney remarked, "The Torah is the common ground between the three movements," he continues, "it's the observance of the laws and rituals that separate people."

"There are four ways to worship G-d," Ida Millman responded, "Reform, Conservative, Orthodox and Reconstructionist. Why are there so many approaches? I think the question is why there aren't more. In any population, people will drift to the extreme."

The series is a follow-up of last year's interdenominational series "Many Voices... One



JEWS OF DIFFERENT backgrounds came together to talk Torah at the "Many Voices... One People" discussion at Temple Beth El in Providence. Herald photos by Jon Rubin.

People." Over 80 people showed up with their thinking caps on, and tables filled with members of each denomination scanned midrashim (explanatory literature) and pages of Talmud in search of some rabbinic perspectives of "right" and "wrong" ways of thinking.

At one table, Rabbi Blake of Beth El helped a group with a midrash which claimed that instead of waiting at the base of Mount Sinai for the Torah, the Jewish people were actually

waiting beneath it. Picture it: as a mighty hand held the entire mountain suspended over their heads, the cowering mass of Jews were then asked if they would accept the Torah; not surprisingly, they accepted. This interpretation, some said, indicates that our acceptance of Torah today means much more than the first time the "chosen people" received it from G-d, because now we have the choice to accept it.

(Continued on Page 11)

The Odd Couple

A Reform/Conservative Jew Learns a Few Orthodox Lessons

by Mark Adler

Before beginning a recent trip to Israel in a Jewish Federation Solidarity Mission I had to decide whether to share a room with a stranger or ante up the extra bucks for a single room. Having attained a list of eight Rhode Islanders on the mission, Rodger Pearlman, a business acquaintance, name came to mind. Having known Rodger through brief business dealings only, I was a little apprehensive not knowing his personal habits what it would be like sharing a room with him and his son.

I knew that Rodger was an Orthodox Jew and was a number of years younger than me, but I didn't know if he snored, partied all night, slept with the lights on, took extra long showers, or other important information you would like to have before making a decision to room with someone.

My brief conversation before the trip with Rodger didn't yield much information other than the fact that Rodger's teen-

age son Akiva, who is studying at a yeshiva in Jerusalem, would be sharing the room with us.

As the week unfolded my risk was rewarded with the opportunity to see how an Orthodox Jew lives his lifestyle in a modern world, what his philosophy on life is and how it differs from the Conservative upbringing of my youth and more recent Reform background.

Over the week many questions evolved. I'd never seen the type of tallis he wore, the rectangular type with a hole in the middle to put your head through. You wore this all the time but could it also be used for praying? Would you wear the traditional Tallis over the poncho style?

By answering an ad in the *Jerusalem Post*, Rodger was able to arrange Shabbat meals for anyone in our group who wanted to dine with a local family. Questions came up as to what would be appropriate to bring to dinner to an Orthodox house: Should we bring a bottle of wine

or would that be seen as exchanging a gift? Should we drop it off earlier in the day? Would it be kosher enough? Rodger told me about a wine certification that requires the vineyard to not harvest its grapes on the sabbatical year. He advised me that this rating would be acceptable to our Shabbat hosts.

Our Shabbat hosts were a middle-age couple, he from Lucerne, she from London, living in a small apartment in the Jewish quarter in the old city of Jerusalem. The guests included Rodger, Akiva, and I along with three yeshiva students from South Africa, London, and Israel. Before dinner we washed our hands, rinsing them under a quart container of water, similar to my Passover meal experiences.

Between courses we would sing songs from our prayer pamphlets, which had been distributed. Our hostess spoke to us in English with a British / Yiddish accent. Many Orthodox speak Yiddish in their homes.

(Continued on Page 5)



Israel Stops Weapons Shipment

A ship carrying weapons intended for the Palestinian Authority was captured in the Red Sea by Israel's Navy and Air Force. The boat's cargo included 50 tons of advanced weaponry including Katyusha rockets, rifles, mortar shells, mines and a variety of anti-tank missiles. Senior figures in the Palestinian Authority were involved in the smuggling. More news on page 4.

Above: IDF Chief of Staff General Shaul Mofaz, (left), shows Prime Minister Ariel Sharon Russian-made anti-tank Sagger missiles seized from the Karine A.

HAPPENINGS



Lifeline Visits Leisure Club

When the Temple Emanu-El Leisure Club met last Monday, they were visited by Maxine Richman, the director of the Lifeline program. Sponsored by Jewish Family Services, Lifeline is an emergency response system for seniors that protects them in case of an accident or health problem when they are at home by themselves. The Lifeline system has been in operation since 1986, and now has more than 700 subscribers in Rhode Island. For more information call 331-1244.

Herald photo by Seth Bromley

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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

Calendar: January 11 through January 17

- 13 The Miriam Hospital** will host a discussion and workshops on end of life issues from the Jewish perspective. The program will begin at 3 p.m. and will be moderated by Sturn Schechter, M.D. The panel includes Joan Teno, M.D., Rabbi Alvan Kaunfer and Rabbi Natan Schafer. Several workshops will also be conducted and refreshments will be served. Registration is required. For more information and to register, call 444-4800 or (800) 927-1230.
- The Zamir Chorale of Boston** will present its annual concert of Jewish music for children of all ages at Temple Emeth, 194 Grove St., Chestnut Hill, at 1 p.m. The hour-long performance will be both educational and entertaining. Tickets will be sold at the door only. Five dollars per person, \$3 for children age 12 and under. For more information, call (866) 926-4720.
- 15 The Perspectives Book Club** will meet at the Book Store Café in Wayland Square in Providence at 7:30 p.m. The club will be discussing *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*. For more information, call Nora at 331-4732 or visit the Perspectives Web site.
- 16 Healing and Joy in the Jewish Tradition** will be held at the Cranston Public Library. The workshop will be conducted by the Rhode Island Center for Jewish Healing, founded by Howard Brown. It will explore lesser-known Jewish teachings that emphasize joy and spiritual healing. The workshop will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. in the seminar room of the library, which is located at 140 Sockanosset Cross Road, Cranston. There will be a fee of \$20 and advance registration is required. Call 268-3833 or e-mail <hbrown@jamestownri.com> for registration information.

Feinstein Foundation to Offer \$10 Million in Scholarships

Alan Shawn Feinstein has arranged for more than 300 scholarships for high school students who represent the values of brotherhood, compassion and bettering the lives of others, regardless of race or religion.

Feinstein will hold a meeting explaining their availability on Jan. 14, at 5:30 p.m. at the William Hall Library, 1825 Broad St., Cranston — the conference side door. Don't be late. All high school students who share these values are welcome.

Adult Education at B'nai Israel

Have you ever felt there was "something missing" for you in synagogue? Ever gone through hard times and wished you could find a source of comfort that touched your soul? Ever wonder why Jews interested in spiritual practices such as meditation often end up looking to Eastern religions — "Jew-Bu's"?

These issues and more will be explored in "Healing and Joy in Jewish Tradition." The classes will show you a path to spiritual healing, make more accessible to you a joyful outlook on life, and help you to develop a loving, closer connection to G-d.

Howard Brown, founder of the Rhode Island Center for Jewish Healing, will conduct the classes. The Center conducts workshops and retreats and offers Individual work to people struggling with physical or emotional pain.

The classes will meet on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. and will start on Jan. 15 and continue until March 19. Please call Alison Lovegreen in the synagogue office, 762-3651, to reserve your space in the classes. Congregation B'nai Israel is located at 224 Prospect St., Woonsocket.



AT A CHANUKAH DINNER at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, students from the Alperin Schechter Day School dressed up like Chanukah candles and sang Chanukah songs.

Herald photo by Jon Rubin

Copies of the Herald are available at...

In Cranston

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

Providence and Vicinity

Barney's, East Avenue, Pawtucket
Coffee Exchange, Wickenden St.
College Hill Book Store, Thayer St.
Eastside Marketplace, Pitman St.
East Side Prescription Center
Rhoda's Judaica, Hope St.

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Rhode Island Jewish HERALD

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What's Brewing at JSCS?

R.I. Jewish Community Reacts to Heinous Terrorist Attack

By Jon Rubin

When the news of the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon was first reported, many in the Jewish community were shocked and saddened. The attack was a heinous crime against humanity and a violation of the principles of justice and peace that are central to the Jewish faith.

The Jewish community in Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts is united in its grief and its determination to stand against terrorism and for peace. We will continue to work for a world of justice and peace, and we will continue to support our government and our military in their efforts to bring the perpetrators of this attack to justice.

For more information, call 268-3833 or e-mail <hbrown@jamestownri.com> for registration information.

OPINION

U.S. & The Mid-East Peace Process: A New Role After September 11?

by Steven L. Spiegel

No country in the world has a greater interest in supporting America's war on terrorism than Israel, and yet relations between Jerusalem and Washington have deteriorated since Sept. 11. What's wrong? The problem lies in the politics of the international coalition the Bush administration is assembling in the war on terrorism, and Israel's fears — by no means limited to the outspoken Prime Minister Ariel Sharon — that she will be abandoned in the process.

On the one hand, the U.S. needs every ally it can get in fighting terrorism, and the Arab world is important in building that coalition. On the other hand, the Arab states insist on tying some of their cooperation to the Palestinians. Osama bin Laden may target America for its culture, society, and beliefs, its bases in Saudi Arabia, and sanctions against Iraq, but the Arab regimes, fearful of their street's opposition to any support of the United States, condition their full engagement in the coalition on progress in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. Even bin Laden has recently tried to justify his vile acts against the United States by using the Palestinian cause as an excuse.

U.S. policy is therefore caught in a terrible dilemma. The administration was moving toward reengagement in the Palestinian-Israeli arena before Sept. 11, but it had not actually reengaged. A presidential statement about support for a Palestinian state and apparent increased sympathy for the Pales-

tinian cause in the administration since the World Trade Center/Pentagon attacks give the appearance of caving into increased Arab pressure and of rewarding terrorism. Bin Laden can now say that he was the one who brought the United States to greater sympathy for the Palestinians.

On the other hand, many critics of the Bush policy act as if they see appeasement in any step or statement on the part of the administration intended to alleviate the violence and promote confidence building measures and negotiations. This attitude ignores the genuine dangers of an out-of-control Pales-

threat posed by the proliferation of nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons of mass destruction and the missiles or terrorists to deliver them. It is therefore as critical to address the Palestinian-Israeli conflict now as it was before Sept. 11, and the administration is right to do so.

But the Bush administration's policy in its first eight months was passive and even confused, making it more difficult to convince others that it is now acting in U.S. interests regardless of Arab pressures. This is ironic because it is probably doing less now to move the Palestinians and Israelis to negotiate and to end the violence than it would have done had the terrorist attacks never occurred.

Moreover, in the current crisis, it is more important than ever to ameliorate the Palestinian-Israeli

Palestinian-Israeli violence also deflects attention not only from the war on terrorism but also from the ever-increasing threat posed by the proliferation of nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons of mass destruction

conflict: the possibility of entrapping the Arab states and Israel in a regional war, the demographic problem which Israel faces from a growing Arab population between the Mediterranean and Jordan River, the increasing inability of the Israelis to control the Palestinians on the West Bank and Gaza (as recently suggested by the first Arab assassination of an Israeli minister in history), and the destruction of Palestinian society in the process of the Intifada.

Palestinian-Israeli violence also deflects attention not only from the war on terrorism but also from the ever-increasing

Israeli conflict. This is not due to Arab pressure but because in the current super-charged atmosphere triggered by the war on terrorism and U.S. actions in Afghanistan in particular, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict (like the Pakistani-Indian confrontation) threatens to create sufficient international instability that the U.S. campaign will be jeopardized.

Thus, the U.S. should be moving toward ameliorating Palestinian-Israeli relations. But it cannot appear that it takes a more sympathetic position toward the Palestinians than in the past in deference to Arab

(Continued on Page 15)

Israel Hasbara (Information) Committee Wants You

by Anthony David Marks

There is a growing worldwide vicious vilification program against both Israel and World Jewry from mostly Arab and Islamic sources. Israel's and World Jewry's response to attacks in the press, media and on university campuses has been minuscule and ineffective by comparison.

As Palestinians falter in their military objectives and fail to achieve an independent Palestinian state, Arab and Islamic sources can be expected to spread more slander against Israel and World Jewry. Generally, basic facts about Israel and Judaism are widely unknown, not only by detractors but also, regrettably, by many Israelis and Jews. Anti-Semites either deny facts that do not suit their purposes or simply distort them beyond all recognition.

Unless effectively countered, such hatred will spread further and 'falsehoods' will become 'truths,' and the more this occurs, the more difficult it will be to reverse the trend along the

general population. An 'intellectual offensive' must be mounted to better inform and explain facts. A program for the general public must include educational sessions, giving interviews to press and media, participating at panel discussions, especially at Diaspora universities and taking advantage of spontaneous private meetings.

Jewish communities throughout the world are blessed with a great number of highly talented and skilled persons in just about every field imaginable. They must be prevailed upon to involve themselves in some way in this most worthy of causes. There is considerable urgency in getting such an ambitious program underway. This is not the time for apathy or complacency. Involvement is needed now.

We need regional monitors, representatives and correspondents. Names of all such persons will be kept in strictest confidence, unless agreed otherwise. Finally, we wish to state

(Continued on Page 15)

Where is The Rhode Island Rabbinical Representation?

To the Editor:

Over the last few months, a picture has been appearing in the *Providence Journal*. The latest appearance was on Dec. 29, 2001, on page D5.

It is a picture of member of Rhode Island clergy who have gathered at the State House to pray and apply political pressure on the governor not to go ahead with budget cuts which would halt any increase in additional housing for the poor.

Unfortunately, there is no representative from the R.I. Board of Rabbis.

This is embarrassing to the Jewish community. I would hope that one rabbi in Rhode Island could find the time to become involved in this good cause in a public way in the future.

Stanley Freedman lives in Cranston, R.I.

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HERALD EDITOR
JONATHAN RUBIN
<Jonjherald@hotmail.com>

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT
SETH T. BROMLEY

MAILING ADDRESS:
Rhode Island Jewish Herald
Box 6063, Providence, R.I. 02940
TELEPHONE: (401) 724-0200

PLANT:
Herald Way, off Webster Street
Pawtucket, R.I. 02861

OFFICE:
1000A Waterman Avenue
East Providence, R.I. 02914

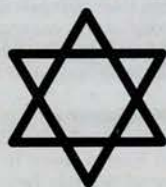
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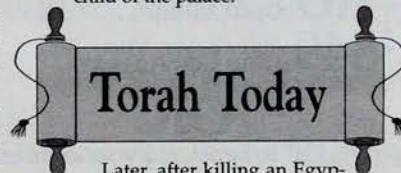
Stop The Village — I Want to Get Out

The author Howard Fast once wrote a science fiction story about human potential. An anthropologist who has developed a method of determining intelligence at a very early age leads a group of scientists in identifying brilliant infants from around the world who are then raised in an isolated community. The children become super-beings, because they have been brought up in an atmosphere free of hatred, fear, violence and all the other disadvantages we normally associate with being human.

Like many other utopian and dystopian imaginings, Fast's idealized community runs into troubles. But his urge to explore this territory, which many of his colleagues also roamed around in, came from the question we all wrestle with: what kind of village would it take to raise a generation that actually turns out better than we are? (This is, of course, the opposite of the notion most generations have that our children are somehow less cultured, less educated, less able to adapt than we are. And whose fault is that?)

Last week we read Shemot,

the first chapter of the book of Exodus. Although the Exodus referred to is of the children of Israel leaving Egypt, the first exit we learn of is the infant Moses being sent out of his mother's arms into the waters of the Nile to escape the decree of the Pharaoh that Hebrew males should be slaughtered. Found by Pharaoh's daughter, he is, ironically, given back to his mother to be brought up, although as a child of the palace.



Later, after killing an Egyptian who was beating a Hebrew, he goes out again, in fear of his life, leaving Egypt for Midian. He settles there, marries, and seems quite content to live out his life as a shepherd... until G-d speaks to him from the burning bush, exhorting Moses to save his people from the oppression of slavery.

He goes out as an infant, comes back almost immediately, exits again as an adult, returns to Egypt on his holy mission, and, eventually, leads his people out in the Exodus of

the title. And what are all the journeys for? From a human point of view, the traveling back and forth is all in pursuit of that perfect community; the Pharaoh's palace, Midian, the land of milk and honey. Someplace free of strife, where he can live a perfect life of peace and plenty.

It never happens, though. All along the way, at every stop on the journey, there is strife. And that is what we finally learn: the path to perfection is not on the ground. Troubles will always be there. Raising a generation better than we are is not dependent on leaving here for a more spiritually healthy community over there — it's dependent on creating that community wherever we are. It's a community of mind, heart and Torah. When we build that, no one will have to leave anywhere, ever.

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>.

JEWISH COMMUNITY

Israel News



IDF Intercepts PA Weapons Ship

Israel Defense Forces Navy and Air Force units captured a freighter in the Red Sea early this morning carrying 50 tons of weaponry and bound for Palestinian Authority controlled ter-



Some of the crates of weapons found aboard the Karin A.

ritory, *The Jerusalem Post* reported. The ship originated from a port in Iran and was loaded with weapons purchased there as well. Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz announced at a press conference.

The Karin A, a 4,000-ton freighter owned and captained by a PA naval policeman, was boarded by Israeli naval commandos without any altercations, about 500 nautical miles south of Israel in an operation code-named Noah's Ark. The ship was loaded with long-range Katyusha rockets, LAW anti-tank missiles, Sagger anti-tank missiles, long-range mortars, mines, and many explosives. At the time of the report, the captured vessel was en route to Eilat.

The seizure of the weapons prevented uncountable loss of life in Israel, Mofaz said. The spokesman added that the shipment was in clear violation of agreements with the PA and demonstrates that PA Chairman Yasser Arafat is not committed to fight terrorism.

In an interview from the jail where he is being held, the Palestinian captain admitted the weapons were intended for the Palestinians and that he got his smuggling instructions from a Palestinian Authority official, the Associated Press reported.

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon said the capture of the weapons showed that Palestinian leader Yasir Arafat is a "liar" who talks about peace while simultaneously buying weapons, and held Arafat personally responsible. "The Palestinian Authority has been focusing all its efforts on terrorism and preparing the operational infrastructure for the next waves of terror," Sharon added.

Israel Foils Hamas Plans to Make Rockets

Plans by the Palestinian terrorist group Hamas to make homemade Katyusha rockets were foiled recently when Israel's Shin Bet security agency

arrested a Hamas operative traveling to Saudi Arabia to organize funding for the project, *The Jerusalem Post* reported. Israeli border police discovered in the man's clothes documents detailing Hamas' manufacture of the rockets in Gaza, names of terrorists and plans to transfer know-how and funds to West Bank terror cells.

In recent months, Hamas has perpetrated a number of missile attacks on Israeli communities that Palestinian security officials were aware of, but did nothing to prevent. Israeli security officials believe the Palestinians are working to produce more rockets since Israeli intelligence and blockades are making it difficult for the Palestinians to carry out suicide bomb attacks. (See story at right)

300 Argentinean Youth Arrive in Israel

Approximately 300 Jewish students from Argentina, ages 18-26, arrived on a 10-day visit under the auspices of the Taglit organization and the Jewish Agency, *The Jerusalem Post* reported. They are scheduled to visit Jewish and Zionist sites and meet with local students. They will also participate in academic programs fair to learn about different available programs of study in Israel. An additional 200 students are expected to arrive next month.

Minister of Tourism Benny Elon said last week that the number of Jews who visited the country in 2001 rose by 3 percent in comparison to 2000.

Myths and Facts About Israel

Courtesy of JewishVirtualLibrary.org

Myth #38: Israel is militarily superior to its Arab neighbors in every area and has the means to maintain its qualitative edge without outside help.

Fact: Israel's qualitative military edge has declined as Arab and Muslim states acquire increasingly sophisticated conventional and unconventional arms. In fact, despite its pledges to the contrary, the United States is allowing Israel's qualitative edge to dissipate.

In some cases, U.S. arms transfers to the Arabs are the reason for this erosion.

Israel's standing army is smaller than those of Egypt, Iraq, Iran and Syria. Even with its reserves, Israel is outmanned by the first three.

In addition, Israel is likely to have to face a combination of enemies, as it has in each of its previous wars; together, virtually any combination of likely opponents would be superior in manpower, tanks and aircraft. During the 1990's, the Arab states and Iran imported more than \$180 billion worth of the most sophisticated weapons and military infrastructure available from both the Western and Eastern blocs.

They continue to spend approximately \$30 billion annually on their armed forces. Several of the world's largest arms-importing countries have been Arab nations in a state of war with Israel: Iraq, Syria, Saudi Arabia and Libya. While Israel spends approximately \$9 billion on defense, Saudi Arabia alone spends more than \$20 billion.

Beyond the security threat, this massive arms build-up also requires Israel to spend a sixth of its GNP on defense. Even this high level of spending is insufficient, however, to meet the Arab threat, as budgetary restrictions have forced Israel to make substantial cuts in its defense allocations. Arab arms sales have significantly raised the cost to Israel of maintaining its own defense, exacerbating the strain on Israel's economy.

Source: *Myths & Facts Online — A Guide to the Arab-Israeli Conflict*, edited by Mitchell G. Bard, at www.JewishVirtualLibrary.org

ISA Uncovers Hamas Missile Industry Plans

The Israeli Security Agency has recently arrested a member of the Hamas from the Gaza Strip command who was sent overseas to arrange funding for the Kassem missile project, and transfer of the funds to Judea and Samaria.

Documents were found on the emissary describing in great detail the development of the Kassem missile industry in the Gaza Strip, those behind these activities, financial costs and the intentions of the command in Gaza to transfer the accumulated knowledge and experience to Hamas operatives in Judea and Samaria.

The emissary, Osama Zohadi Hamed Karika, born in 1974, resident of Sejayeh Turkaman, was arrested on Dec. 18 at the Rafiah crossing. Under questioning, he admitted that during the month of August 2001 he was recruited by Nidal Fathi Rabah Farhat, a senior Hamas operative in the Gaza Strip. Farhat asked Karika to leave on a mission to Saudi Arabia in order to coordinate activities with members of the organization that he would meet there. Farhat directed Karika to say

that he intended to make a pilgrimage to Mecca.

In September of 2001, Karika departed for Saudi Arabia, where he met, by prior arrangement, a Hamas member and passed on the messages in return for which he received money earmarked for activities of terrorist cells in the field.

At the beginning of December 2001, Karika was again asked to go on a mission for Farhat. For the purpose of his departure, Karika was furnished with medical documents testifying that the trip was for medical treatment. During the course of the security check at the Rafiah border crossing, he raised suspicions and was arrested and handed over to the ISA for questioning.

Karika turned over to his investigators classified internal documents that he had been asked to convey.

Security sources stated that the activities of Nidal Farhat, and his intentions to copy the missile industry to Judea and Samaria, are known to the Palestinian security mechanisms, which have taken no action against him so far.

Shaloh House Announces January Events

Jan. 14 — 8 a.m. Shaloh House, 50 Ethyl Way, Stoughton, Mass. Rosh Chodesh breakfast featuring guest speaker, Julie Papernik, of the attorney general's office. Papernik will address consumer rights, credit/debt collection and credit identity theft. Free of charge.

Jan. 19 — 6:10 p.m. Shaloh House. Family Havdallah Service, with storyteller Yana Sherman from the Jewish Storytelling coalition! Bring the whole family. Free of charge.

Tuesdays — 6:30 p.m., Shaloh House. Talmud Study Class led by Rabbi Mendel Gurkow.

Mah Jongg Card Sale to benefit Shaloh House PTO. Standard cards at \$5, large print at \$7.

For information about all these events, call (781) 344-6334.

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Temple Emanu-El Hosts Anti-Slavery Speaker

During Saturday morning Shabbat services on Jan. 19, Temple Emanu-El will feature guest speaker Francis Bok, formerly a slave in the Sudan, and now an associate of the American Anti-Slavery Group.

Bok's visit coincides with the weekend of Martin Luther King's birthday, as well as the reading of Parashat Bo, the portion in which the Israelite's departure from Egypt takes place, following Moses' appeal to "Let my people go."

According to Rabbi Wayne Franklin, "Through [this presentation] we hope to call attention to the problem of slavery which still exists in the world, while most of us remain unaware of it." The program is open to the entire community, with services beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Bok is a 22-year-old native of Southern Sudan. At the age of 7, he was captured and enslaved during an Arab militia raid on the village of Nymlal (outside Aweil) on May 15, 1986. He saw adults and children brutalized and killed all around him. He was strapped to a donkey and taken north to Kirio.

For 10 years, he lived as the family slave to Giema Abdullah, forced to sleep with cattle, endure daily beatings, and eat terrible food. Always called "abed" (black slave), Bok was given an Arabic name — Dut Giema Abdullah — and forced to perform Islamic prayers.

In December of 1996, Bok escaped to the nearby town of Matari, where he was enslaved by local policemen for two months. But an Arab truck driver helped him escape and eventually reach Khartoum, the capital. There Bok was arrested

by security forces and jailed for seven months.

After being released, Bok escaped to Cairo. In 1999, the United Nations resettled him in North Dakota, and he became an associate of the American Anti-Slavery Group in Boston.

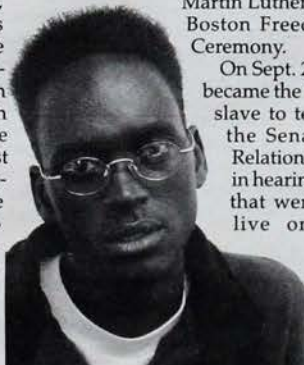
On May 23, 2000, Bok spoke out for the first time at a Capitol Hill ceremony with senators and congressmen, sharing his message: "We cannot rest until my people are free." On Sept. 18, 2000, Bok spoke alongside Coretta Scott King, widow of Martin Luther King, at the Boston Freedom Award Ceremony.

On Sept. 28, 2000, Bok became the first escaped slave to testify before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in hearings on Sudan that were broadcast live on C-SPAN. Later that day, Bok met with Secretary of State Madeline Albright and urged her to take

action against slavery. On Dec. 4, 2000, he headlined a panel discussion on slavery at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.

Bok has been featured in the *Boston Globe*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *New York Times* and other newspapers, and has appeared on numerous radio and television shows, including Black Entertainment Television. On April 28, 2001, he launched the Web site iAbolish.com while appearing on stage with the band Jane's Addiction before an audience of 40,000 people. He has also been selected as a torchbearer for the 2002 Winter Olympics.

For more information on this event, call Temple Emanu-El at 331-1616. Temple Emanu-El is located at 99 Taft Ave., Providence.



Francis Bok

The Miriam Hospital to Host End of Life Issues Forum on Jan. 13

The Miriam Hospital will host a Jewish medical ethics forum about end of life issues on Jan. 13 from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Sopkin Auditorium. "Living With Care and Dignity" will feature four breakout sessions and a panel discussion on the role of values in decision-making from medical and Jewish perspectives. The panel discussion will feature Joan Teno, MD, Rabbi Natan Schafer and Rabbi Alvan Kaunfer. The moderator is Steven Schechter, MD.

The breakout sessions are:

- Family Dynamics and Crisis Management — A reality-based workshop, featuring Frank Prosnitz and Erin Minor, LICSW

- Jewish Funeral Practices and How They Can Help End of Life, featuring Jill Sugarman, Michael Smith and Rabbi Kaunfer

- Legal Decisions at End of Life, featuring Susan Leach DeBlasio

- Hospice, Home Care, Nursing Home: What are My Options?, featuring Marcia Werber and Analee Wulffuhle

The Carlyn Summer Fund is sponsoring the event at The Miriam Hospital, a Lifespan partner. Other sponsors are the Jewish Seniors Agency, the Rhode Island Board of Rabbis and Home & Hospice Care of Rhode Island. Advanced registration is requested. Call 444-4800 or (800) 927-1230 for more information.

The Odd Couple

(Continued from Page 1)

On Shabbat, at the Inbal Hotel Rodger showed me the Shabbat elevator, one which stopped at every floor automatically so that the Orthodox Jew would not have to use any electrical switches. We were also obliged to use the manual front door of the hotel since the electric one was turned off.

A trip to the Kotel Shabbat morning posed an interesting dilemma. When I approached the security gate there was a long line of people awaiting the X-ray machine. People were shouting at the police. I asked someone what the problem was. He said the policeman decided it was the wrong thing to do to let people through the gate on Shabbat since the X-ray machine used electricity and a switch was required. This was despite the large sign in front of it, authorized by the chief rabbi of Israel, stating that it was permissible to use the machine on Shabbat. After a short time the machine was turned on and the line proceeded.

Rodger and Akiva invited me to join them at the Kotel (Western Wall) for Shabbat evening prayer. Being probably the only non-Orthodox Jew among an estimated 500 men at the Kotel my attire, a blue sports coat, red tie, and off white slacks was unique among the black coats, pants, jackets, hats and white shirts.

Rodger and Akiva were exceedingly helpful assisting me in following the Hebrew prayers in the siddur. With numerous groups of worshippers

praying at the same time it was hard to concentrate. Entire yeshivas would come to the Kotel in groups, pray, sing Shabbat nigunim, join hands, and dance. The three of us joined in the dancing of the yeshiva boys and their rabbis. The Breslev Hassidim were particularly loud and joyous in their celebration.

Providence is fortunate among American cities enjoying excellent relations between the different bodies of Judaism. This is not true in certain other American cities where a lack of respect between the different sects is prevalent.

Our Federation group of 450 Jews from all over the United States included people from all sects of Jewish life sharing a common concern for Israel. For a week we set our differences aside. My week sharing a room with Rodger and Akiva exposed me to the world of Orthodox Judaism, and I now have a deeper knowledge and respect for Rodger's lifestyle.

One of the many rabbinical quotes Rodger shared with me was one concerning the importance of Jewish unity. "Regarding Sukkot, the lulav represents Jews full of knowledge but few good deeds, the etrog represents Jews full of good deeds and learning, the myrtle leaves Jews full of good deeds and little learning, and the willow leaves Jews of few good deeds and little learning. In order to fulfill the mitzvah of shaking the lulav, you need all four types."

Mark Adler lives in Providence



Caricature Creation at JCC Camp

Laura Weil (left) and Rachel Zurier receive pointers on the fascinating art of drawing caricatures from Noa Teplow, artist and owner of Noa's Art. She presented the first "Everyone's An Artist" program of the Gertrude Solomon Education Fund during JCCRI's December vacation camp. Photo courtesy of the JCCRI



The Consulate General of Israel to New England presents:

The Sixth Young Jewish Leadership Diplomatic Seminar March 10-22, 2002

The objectives of this program are multifold, with its foremost goal being to enhance the relationship between young Jewish leaders from all over the world and the State of Israel.

The seminar offers in-depth exploration of the many facets of the Israeli agenda, including the peace process; national security; economy; culture and society; Jewish life in Israel and more.

The upcoming seminar scheduled for March 10-22, 2002 in Israel, will be open to participants from intermediate and small communities.

Applications are available on the website: www.israelemb.org/boston/update.html and must be submitted no later than January 10, 2002.

For more information please contact Anya Farber at (617) 535-0215.

JEWISH COMMUNITY

Italy as the Masters Saw It

Photography exhibit at JCCRI 401 Gallery this month

by Jon Rubin
Herald Editor

When Ron Rosenstock first went to Italy 10 years ago, he saw the winding rivers of Venice and the towering architecture, and thought, "I wonder if Leonardo saw this..."

With this in mind, Rosenstock's newest exhibit at Gallery 401 at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island,

light creeps up a column at a church in San Leolino in one picture; in another a pale semicircle of light glimmers like a shiny plate at the floor of an empty gallery.

Rosenstock traveled throughout Italy over the past few years without a set plan, and just followed his instincts. "I'd be walking down the street and I'd say, 'This is a good place to set up,'"

Rosenstock's keen sense of contrast; an unremarkable alleyway comes alive with jagged incisors of darkness; ethereal misty mornings and endless foggy landscapes creep off into infinity. "I do a lot of pre-dawn photography," he said at the Jan. 7 opening.

Although he was very pleased with his photographs of Italy, Rosenstock did feel there was one element he was unable to capture. "I would have liked to have pictures of the synagogues," he said. "but there is strictly no photography." "In Morocco," he said, "it was much easier."

Born in Monticello, New York, Rosenstock has work in permanent exhibits in New York, Cambridge, Ireland and Italy, and has published three collections of photographs, including his most recent — *Chiosiro, Photographs of Italy*. Rosenstock is currently a photo-tour leader, and brings tour groups of photographers to many international locations.

"There is a creative energy in Italy that I haven't felt in any other sort of place," Rosenstock said, "it has to do with the heart, not the head." He said that describing this feeling is impossible, and the only way to experience it is to see with your own eyes. Sometimes photographs can capture the moment, he said, but other times they are woefully inadequate. The artist's job, he said, is to infuse a photograph with awe that someone unfamiliar with the scene can feel.

"Photography doesn't represent what you see... it's an abstraction," he said. "The values that you see are the values that I've chosen... I have the same creative options as a painter does."

Technion Holocaust Study to Aid September 11 Insomniacs

After Sept. 11, requests for sleep medications increased some 30 percent in New York City, while 23 percent of Americans nationwide said they had been suffering from insomnia. But in fact, trauma survivors sleep better than they think they do, according to Dr. Peretz Lavie, head of the Sleep Laboratory at the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology.

In a report in the Dec. 20 *New England Journal of Medicine*, Lavie also advocates learning to leave traumatic memories behind, which he says is more effective than currently popular treatments based on reliving the trauma.

In a 1991 classic study of Holocaust survivors, Lavie found that better-adjusted survivors tended to remember fewer dreams than their less-well-adjusted peers. The dream recall rate for sleepers awoken during the rapid-eye-movement stage of sleep — commonly associated with dreaming — was 33.7 percent for survivors deemed well-adjusted and 50.5 percent for those deemed less well-adjusted. Among the control group it was 80 percent.

"Moving beyond the trauma is healthier than dwelling on it," says Lavie. Lavie's laboratory studies on traumatized patients who complained about sleep problems indicate that "people often confuse fear of going to sleep with inability to sleep, and also have misperceptions about the quality of their sleep," he explained.

When he monitored sleep patterns in areas of Israel under attack by Iraqi missiles during the Gulf War, Lavie found that on average, participants slept normally. But a telephone survey around the same time, based on participants' own descriptions, found a significant increase in sleep disturbances.

The 10 Commandments For a Better Night's Sleep

1. Do not spend too much time in bed. Limit the time spent in bed to sleeping. If you wake up, get out of bed. Go back to bed only when you are ready to sleep.

2. Do not try to force yourself to sleep. The more you try to fall asleep, the more your arousal level will increase, and falling asleep will become more difficult.

3. Remove the clock from your bedroom, a ticking or luminous clock face can easily prevent you from falling asleep.

4. Avoid physical activity in the late evening hours. Exercise should be completed at least two hours before going to bed.

5. Avoid drinking coffee or alcohol and smoking before going to bed.

6. Do not eat a heavy meal before going to bed.

7. Do not drink an excessive amount of any beverage before going to bed.

8. Go to sleep and wake up at regular hours.

9. Do not nap during the day.

10. Make sure that your sleep environment is a comfortable as possible with respect to temperature, noise, light, etc.

The Technion-Israel Institute of Technology is Israel's leading scientific and technological center for applied research and education. It commands a worldwide reputation for its pioneering work in computer science, biotechnology, water-resource management, materials engineering, aerospace and medicine. The majority of the founders and managers of Israel's high-tech companies are Technion graduates. The Technion's 19 faculties and 30 research centers and institutes in Haifa are home to 13,000 students and 700 faculty members.



RON ROSENSTOCK'S photographic exhibit, "Images of Italy," is currently on display at the JCCRI's Gallery 401.

Herald photo by Jon Rubin

"Images of Italy" tries to capture the feeling that the great art masters have been inspired by for centuries.

This superb exhibit runs until the end of January, and contains breathtaking scenes of Florence, Venice and other famous locations. Early morning sun-

Rosenstock traded photographs for access to private places, such as the preparation room inside a 9th century abbey.

"Italy is primarily architecture," he said, "that's why most of my Italy work is vertical." Numerous quiet but powerful scenes are heightened by



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Temple Sinai Seniors Host Gene Valicenti

The Temple Sinai Seniors will meet at 11:30 a.m. on January 18 for lunch and a discussion with local television reporter Gene Valicenti. Attendees should bring a brown bag lunch, dessert, coffee and tea will be provided. Guests are welcome and the program is free of charge. Valicenti will discuss the news media and his experiences visiting the site of the World Trade Center. Temple Sinai is located at 30 Hagen Ave., Cranston. For more information, call Baila at 461-6124.

BJE Bookmobile Requests Large Print Books

The Bookmobile, a program of the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island and the Jewish Seniors Agency, serves seniors at assisted living facilities, kosher meal sites and senior apartments.

Residents and participants borrow books, in both large and small print, and audio and videotapes from Bookmobile Librarian Barbara Dwares, who prepares brief book reviews and holiday programs related to the Jewish calendar year. The majority of the collection is of Jewish interest, featuring titles by Jewish authors, topics related to Israel, Yiddishkeit, and history and biography.

Bookmobile participants are voracious readers, and the program cannot keep up with requests for new books. If you have large-print books that are gathering dust, consider donating them to the Bookmobile at the BJE, 130 Sessions St., Providence. Call Ruth Page at 331-0956 for more information.

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Feinstein Offers \$100,000 School Challenge

The Alan Shawn Feinstein Foundation will match all donations made to Rhode Island schools from Feb. 1 to 28, up to a total of \$100,000, to start a special community outreach fund in their schools. This fund is to be used exclusively for projects enabling students to impact positively on their community and their lives of others.

Please notify your PTO or PTA and parents of this offer and to use it for fund-raising for this Outreach Fund at your school. Simply tell parents or other prospective contributors that any donation they make to this fund in February will get some Feinstein money added to it. This will bring you in donations!

The purpose of this fund is to encourage schools and students to make a positive difference in the lives of others, to build student self-esteem and 'caring power,' elevate the value of our schools and students to their communities and encourage more funding and other support for your school.

To share in our \$100,000, school principals need only send a typed letter — mailed to us on March 5 only — citing the total amount raised by their school for this fund during February from this challenge offer. Pledges do not count — only actual donations received in February from use of our offer should be reported.

A minimum of \$250 per school must be raised to qualify for our funds. Should the total of donations raised by all participating schools exceed \$100,000 our \$100,000 will be divided proportionately among them. Our money will be distributed in April.

Your fund must be labeled the Feinstein Community Outreach Fund and must not be commingled with any other funds. We expect to add more money to these funds in the future.

ORT Presents Hermelin Awards to Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, Murray Koppelman

American ORT presented its first "Ambassador David B. Hermelin Awards" to U.S. Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton and Murray Koppelman, president and CEO of Eastlake Securities, Inc., past president of American ORT and first vice president of World ORT, on Dec. 2, 2001 at the Hotel Pierre in New York City. The prestigious Ambassador David B. Hermelin Award will be presented annually to an individual who has made outstanding national accomplishments in government, business, humanities or the arts.

Malcolm Hoenlein, executive vice-chairman of the Conference of Presidents of major American Jewish Organizations was the keynote speaker. He said, "David Hermelin's memory and laughter will stay in our minds forever and motivate us to work towards everything that ORT stands for."

Doreen Hermelin, David's wife, presented the award to her



American ORT "Ambassador David B. Hermelin" Award recipients Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton and Murray Koppelman with his wife, Ellen, at the Inaugural Award dinner on Dec. 2, 2001 at The Hotel Pierre, New York City.

good friend Hillary Clinton for her effective advocacy on behalf of education and human rights. In her acceptance speech, Sen. Clinton praised ORT for changing with the times. "I am impressed by the flexibility and creativity of ORT. It is remarkable that an organization which started so long ago is still so relevant today."

Sen. Clinton also said, "The Twin Towers Scholarship Fund will prove essential in providing long-term assistance to so many who lost work." She be-

lieves that the fund should be supported because the terror attacks are so contrary to the memory of David who everyday was grateful for his blessings.

American ORT raises funds to support technical and technological training for more than 300,000 students in 60 countries around the world. ORT is the Jewish world's leader in technology education and the world's largest non-governmental education and training organization.

JWA Gives \$300,000 to Expand Online Women's Archive

Leading national and local foundations have recognized the work of the Jewish Women's Archive through a series of new grants totaling more than half a million dollars. The new funding will support an expansion of the organization's groundbreaking Virtual Archive, a new program that builds on JWA's already flourishing oral history project in Baltimore, and other projects.

The Revson Foundation, Steven Spielberg's Righteous Persons Foundation, The Aaron Straus and Lillie Straus Foundation, and the Jacob and Hilda Blaustein Foundation all awarded new grants to JWA in the last several weeks. In total, the foundations awarded more than \$500,000 to JWA for work stretching into 2004.

"The grants are a ringing endorsement of the importance of the Jewish Women's Archive's work to uncover, chronicle and transmit Jewish women's rich legacy," said JWA Executive Di-

rector Gail Twersky Reimer in announcing the grants. "The timing is especially meaningful. Our nation is in the midst of an economic downturn and there is no shortage of worthy causes, particularly since Sept. 11. So it is doubly affirming that these foundations regard our past and future work as worthy of such significant support."

"These grants will allow us to do vital work in expanding our innovative 'Virtual Archive,' which we believe is the Internet's finest resource on Jewish women's history," Reimer added. "We will be able to expand our work in Baltimore, where our Weaving Women's Words oral history project has already helped pull together the disparate strands of the women's Jewish community. Our Baltimore Women Who Dared project will focus on local women who have taken risks to fight for causes they believed in."

The grants are all multi-year awards:

- The Revson Foundation's grant of \$100,000 per year for three years will support the ongoing development of JWA's innovative Web site and the expansion of JWA's online "Virtual Archive" of digital materials on Jewish women in history.

- The Jacob and Hilda Blaustein Foundation grant will provide \$15,000 per year for two years to support JWA's work in Baltimore — continuing the existing Weaving Women's Words oral history project, and launching Women Who Dared in Baltimore.

- The Straus Foundation will also provide \$15,000 per year for two years, specifically in support of the Baltimore Women Who Dared project.

- A two-year grant of \$75,000 per year from the Righteous Persons Foundation will support an expansion of JWA's marketing and member outreach activities.

Sheila Decter to Battle American Jewish Congress Over Discrimination Claim

Lawyers for Sheila R. Decter filed a motion to move her wrongful termination claim from the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination to state court recently, in order to take advantage of the additional remedy of punitive damages offered in state court, and to assert additional claims. Sheila Decter, former New England Regional Executive of the American Jewish Congress, filed a wrongful termination claim in the MCAD on Dec. 27, 2001 against the American Jewish Congress, American Jewish Congress President Jack Rosen and American Jewish Congress National Executive Director Phil Baum. Decter cited several specified claims, including age and sex discrimination. She intends to pursue all of her claims in the Suffolk County Superior Court.

Decter, age 63, is a well-known, highly regarded professional in Boston's non-profit and Jewish communities. She alleges that since Rosen took office in 1998, the percentage of American Jewish Congress Regional Executive Directors over the age of 60 has been reduced from 42 percent to 13 percent, and that the percentage of female Regional Executive Directors has been reduced from 50 percent to zero. According to Decter, she was told that the organization desired "younger leadership," and, under Rosen, a Young Leadership Group and a young-oriented strategic plan were implemented.

"It is particularly disturbing to face discrimination and wrongful personnel practices from an organization that claims an 80-year record of supporting worker justice and fighting employment discrimination by others," said Decter.

Prior to termination, Decter served as the New England Regional Director for almost 23 years.

Max Eli Astrachan

Andrea and Bruce Astrachan announce the birth of their son, Max Eli Astrachan, on Dec. 25, 2001, weighing 6 lbs. 14 oz.

Paternal grandparents are Rabbi George J. and Rita Astrachan of Warwick, R.I. Maternal grandparents are Fortunato Mendes and the late Mary Armitage Mendes, M.D.

Max is named for his maternal grandmother and his paternal great-grandmother, Esther Astrachan.



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HEALTHWISE

Good News From Israel's Weizmann Institute

The New England Region of the American Committee for the Weizmann Institute of Science has reported on some significant news that has recently come from the Institute in Rehovot, Israel.

"In spite of the difficult times facing Israel, the Weizmann Institute of Science continues to improve the world with new scientific discoveries. Accomplishments from the research at the institute help fight world hunger, combat disease and preserve the environment," said regional director Deanne Stone.

From its inception, the Weizmann Institute of Science has sought to use science for the benefit of humanity — to share with other countries and people every bit of knowledge and information gained in its work. And Weizmann itself provides an exemplary model of how scientists from the four corners of the world and from all cultural backgrounds can peacefully work together, passionate in their commitment to solve the most serious problems facing humankind.

Recent Weizmann Institute's accomplishments include:

- An FDA approved drug for Multiple Sclerosis, now being tested for Glaucoma related blindness

- An MRI technique for early non-invasive breast cancer diagnosis

- Improved nutritional value of cultivated wheat in the fight against hunger

- A new technique which has helped restore neurological function and movement to individuals who suffer from spinal paralysis

- An experimental protein treatment which has halted the progression of type 1 diabetes and may be used to prevent people from developing the disease

The Weizmann Institute of Science is one of the world's foremost centers of scientific research and graduate study. Its 2,500 scientists, students, technicians and engineers pursue basic research in the quest for knowledge and to enhance the quality of human life. For more information, about any of the topics listed, other research, or to help support the work of the institute, call (508) 788-3500, or see the Web site at <www.weizmann-usa.org>.

Boosting Immunity is Key to Battling This Year's Cold & Flu Season

Never before have Americans been so in tune with the nation's antibiotics supply or more concerned about the impending cold and flu season. That's especially true of parents, says Dr. Alan Greene, a practicing pediatrician on the clinical faculty of Stanford University Medical Center and co-founder of the heavily trafficked Web site <drgreene.com>.

"I've seen a dramatic increase in office visits, letters and phone calls from parents asking how they can give their children 'an edge' to keep them healthy this fall," said Greene. "And contrary to what Americans are hearing in the media about 'preventive' antibiotics, the rules for battling cold and flu are more straightforward — do everything you can to keep yourself and your family healthy, and use physician-prescribed antibiotics only when medically necessary."

The reason? Antibiotics are more effective the less often they are used. Frequent introduction of antibiotics into the system allows organisms to develop a resistance to the antibiotic and form new, more harmful strains

or variations. While children may get better slightly faster after first taking antibiotics, they are likely to get sick more often and have longer, more stubborn infections that are caused by the more resistant organisms.

Even so, physicians often turn to antibiotics because of pressure from parents to "do something," according to Greene. Nearly 40 percent of the time children see their doctor, they leave with a prescription for antibiotics. More alarming is the fact that 60 percent of children who have the common cold are treated with antibiotics, even though antibiotics are not an effective course of treatment for colds.

Top Five Tips For Preventing Colds & Flu

Quandaries about antibiotics can be avoided by working with your child to keep him or her as healthy as possible before and during the cold and flu season. Here are five tips for reducing germ exposure and boosting your child's immunity.

1. **Build immunity with sleep and good nutrition.** Children who are healthy at the start of the cold season will be in a better position to fight germs to which they are exposed. Make sure your child is eating a balanced diet rich in probiotics and getting a good night's rest to strengthen their defense systems.

2. **Examine your daycare setting.** Using a daycare of six or fewer children dramatically decreases the germ exposure (and illness), especially in winter months. Also ensure that sleeping mats at your daycare are

washed once a week or more.

3. **Be vigilant about hand sanitizing.** Instituting good hand washing practices at home is extremely important, but also make sure your daycare is equally vigilant about hand washing at key moments — after nose wiping, after diapering, and before food preparation. Importantly, use good old soap and water — not antibacterial soap — for the best result and to avoid developing a resistance to treatments.

4. **Use paper towels instead of shared cloth towels.** Paper towels help reduce exposure to germs.

5. **Improve the air quality.** At home and at your daycare facility, the use of HEPA filters can remove 99.97 percent of pollen, dust, animal dander and even bacteria from the air. Plants can also be excellent air purifiers.

When Are Antibiotics Necessary?

The Centers for Disease Control and the Academy of Pediatrics have issued guidelines for when to use (and when not to use) antibiotics for the most common pediatric respiratory infections. The complete summary is available at <www.drgreene.com>; however, here are a few key points to remember:

- Antibiotics should not be given for treating the common cold.

- Antibiotics are generally not recommended for sinus infections unless accompanied by cough and nasal discharge for a period of 10 to 14 days without improvement.



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HEALTHWISE

The Right Surgeon and Asking Questions Leads to Successful Cosmetic Surgery

As you look in the mirror, are you starting to become aware of fine lines? Have you noticed a few less hairs on the top of your head? Are you starting to see that your skin doesn't look as smooth as it did in your 20s and early 30s? Have you wondered what, if anything you can do to turn back the hands of time? Fortunately, by visiting your dermatologist's office, you can learn about the latest advances in cosmetic surgery which will help you look and feel years younger.

"Over the least decade, dermatologists have been the pioneers in safe and effective renewal of the skin," said dermatologist Harold J. Brody, M.D., Clinical Professor of Dermatology, Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, Georgia. "Advances in lasers to remove unwanted hair; injectable fillers to improve scarring; and chemicals peels to treat aging skin are just a few examples of the advances developed by dermatologists."

Why should you choose a dermatologist of a cosmetic procedure? Dermatologists are surgeons who have received extensive education and training and have safely performed thousands of cosmetic surgery procedures. One such cosmetic procedure, tumescent liposuction, was developed and refined by dermatologists. This procedure,

which doesn't require the use of general anesthesia, is currently the standard of care for the removal of fat that is irresponsible to diet or exercise.

While considering whether or not to have cosmetic surgery may not be a decision you make overnight, choosing a qualified dermatologist to perform the procedure is very important. Deciding if a doctor is right for you, the American Academy of Dermatology recommends that patients ask the following questions:

1. What are the doctor's credentials? Is he/she a board-certified dermatologist or other appropriately trained surgeon?
2. How many of these cosmetic surgery procedures has the physician performed?
3. What results can be expected? How long is the recuperation period? Ask to see before and after photos of previous patients.
4. That are the risks?
5. Where is the cosmetic surgery usually performed?
6. What is the cost?

According to Dr. Brody, "The consumer should know that for patient safety, a well-informed patient and a skilled dermatologist are always the best prescription for a successful outcome."

For more information, contact the American Academy of Dermatology at (888) 462-DERM or visit our Web site at <www.aad.org>.

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. These results were evident in the level of the body's own insulin production and in a decreased

need for insulin injections. The researchers were able to trace the mechanism of this improvement to changes in the patients' immune lymphocytes called T-cells. In contrast, patients receiving the placebo showed a significant decline in their natural insulin production and a persistent rise in the need for insulin injections. No significant side effects as a result of injecting DiaPep277 were found.

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.

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Make Me a Match

by Seth Bromley
Editorial Assistant

For many of us who are single, the act of meeting people can be one of life's more trying experiences.

You thought that job interview with the big law firm was nerve-wracking? Try arriving for a blind date and not knowing who (or what) is on the other side of the door.

Have a stressful time dodging the nuts on Rte. 95 during your morning commute? Try navigating the minefield of scoundrels and weirdos that lurk in nightclubs and singles bars.

Upset that the snazzy clothes you ordered over the Internet are the wrong size and aren't the right color? Imagine your reaction when you meet your online sweetheart and discover he or she isn't the right size, and might not be the right gender.

One man believes he may have found a way out of these harrowing predicaments. Local psychologist Donald Kieffer is the creator of the matchmaking service Matchquest, and its Jewish counterpart, Menschquest. His new approach to helping singles was inspired after years of his own experiences listening to therapy patients who were fed up with the dating scene and his own personal journey through the single life.

Kieffer's method is nothing complicated: people who sign up to Matchquest fill out a questionnaire and answer questions about themselves and what they are looking for in a potential mate. The answers provide a basis of discussion, and people then sit down with Kieffer and talk about their dating histories, and what kind of things matter to them in a relationship. Kieffer, who has a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of South Dakota, calls these "compatibility factors," and said he also makes sure to find out people's "incompatibility factors." "What do you *not* want to repeat," he asks. When the interview is over, he takes his own photos of clients and sends them on their way. Then it is up to Kieffer to find a match among the other participants in the service.

Kieffer said that today's society has increased the difficulties involved in finding a mate. "I was single until I was 30, living in Boston," he said, adding that the "big city" atmosphere makes it hard to form and cultivate relationships, especially

for people with busy professional lives.

There was an additional complicating factor, said Kieffer. "I was interested in meeting a Jewish woman; that narrows the field." As a young therapist, he found himself identifying with many of the laments his patients

Even after Kieffer married and moved to Providence, he continued to think about the problems of lonely singles. He observed profound improvement in his patients when they did eventually meet a match. "All the therapy sessions in the world can not achieve the joy and relief people feel when they find a mate," he said. He decided to try applying his own knowledge to create a solution that could speed up the process.

Kieffer has had Matchquest up and running for four months, and has a Web site at www.matchquest.com, with the Jewish mate-finder now accepting applicants as well. He had not intended to create a Jewish dating service until he realized the high level of demand, and dearth of other resources in the area. He said he keeps in mind the idea of the traditional duty of the shadchan, or matchmaker, in the Jewish community. "The shadchan was

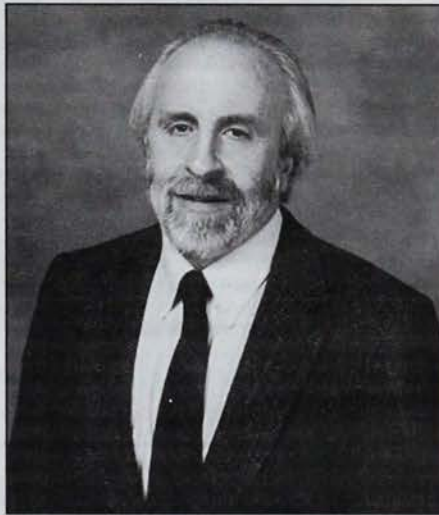
usually someone who knew everyone in the village," said Kieffer, adding that his involvement in the Providence Jewish community has made him

many friends and acquaintances, some of whom are now looking forward to putting Menschquest to the test.

For Kieffer, the key was to have "a comfortable, efficient, ethical process" for people. Since he is the only person involved, clients won't have to interact with several different people as they might at a large dating service, and there is no chance of a client's file getting "passed around." Also, Kieffer said, "I try not to waste people's time," meaning that he won't just take someone's money and match them up with whoever comes along. He is committed to finding a compatible match. He also offers a "debriefing" session to people who have been matched up, to find out what each person's impressions were.

Kieffer acknowledges that "there is no matchmaking science... There are so many factors in whether two people are compatible, and many are very elusive." Kieffer hopes to use his insight, background, and understanding from experience as a therapist for both singles and couples to help the process along as best he can. Kieffer said he tends to offer the same words of wisdom to anyone skittish about the process, or dating in general: "Dating is an adventure; after all, what do you have to lose?"

Anyone interested in Matchquest or Menschquest can contact Dr. Kieffer by calling 729-8700.



Donald Kieffer

voiced when talking about the trials and tribulations of meeting someone. "I could see that you had to have a lot of nerve and motivation," he said. "You can't just sit around and wait."

Temple Sinai Goes Kippah Crazy

by Seth Bromley
Editorial Assistant

Last weekend, Temple Sinai Hebrew School held a special family workshop for fifth graders and their parents. The families were there to make their own kippot, while learning about the role of the kippah in Judaism and its history.

Educational director Leonore Sones invited everyone into the sanctuary, and asked them all to don kippot as they entered. She led a short prayer service, then gave way to Sinai Hebrew School teachers Marlo Zoglio and Robert Allen.

Zoglio talked about the origin of the tradition of covering one's head in reverence to G-d, and when and where it began.

Allen talked about his decision to wear a kippah at all times and what the kippah meant to him. "It reminds Jews of their Jewishness," he said. Allen said that when he traveled to Israel, he wore a kippah every day because, "It felt so good to be a Jew there." When he returned the United States, Allen said he realized there was no reason he should stop wearing one just because he wasn't in Israel.

Afterwards, the families all adjourned to the social hall, where the children were issued a plain white kippah, and got to pick out the designs and patterns they wanted to use. Their parents and teachers then helped the students draw and color their own designs, with Mr. Allen providing the expertise for Hebrew lettering.



Above

Students used markers and stencils to create their own unique kippah designs, with a little help from their parents.

Left

Temple Sinai Hebrew School teacher Robert Allen helped with the lettering for students who wanted to put their Hebrew names on their kippah.

Herald photos by Seth Bromley

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Prov. USY Wins

(Continued from Page 1)

were long since sent in, and the anxiety had set in big time.

In Washington, Providence USYers took solace in the fact that, 1,200 miles from home, familiar faces abounded. In addition to a strong chapter delegation, Providence was represented by NERUSY staff, Youth commission members, guests of honor, and USY's outgoing international president, Eitan Hersh. Eitan, to the particular delight of those hailing from 'lil Rhody, emceed much of the convention with his signature presence and wit.

Having the "Prez" as a neighbor was, however, only the first cause for celebration. On the final night of the convention, Providence USY sat together during the last general session. Upon each of the hundreds of chairs in the cavernous ballroom lay a printout recognizing each of the chapters nominated for chapter of the year. The tension was palpable, and young Providencians held one another close as the proceedings commenced. Soon, each of the nominated chapters were recognized, and as I rose to stand with 14 other chapter presidents from around the con-

tinient, I felt my heart skip a beat.

Fittingly, it was none other than Eitan Hersh who would open the envelope seconds later, and its contents were news to him, albeit good news indeed. As Eitan announced "Providence, Rhode Island" through the microphone, the delegates, myself included, rushed onstage, hooting and hollering, to claim their long-sought prize. Phone calls immediately went out to Miriam, and to last year's advisor, Jonathan. We danced, cameras whirled, and Eitan beamed from the dais. Admittedly, it was difficult to settle down.

The rest of convention was, of course, a blur, with one bittersweet note — Eitan, our hometown hero, stepped down after his year of faithful and visionary service to USY. The bus ride back from D.C. with the rest of NERUSY the next day allowed for some reflection. Grins flashed from all corners of the 50-person sleeper as the feeling of victory refused to vacate... we had won!

Ari Savitsky is a co-president of the Providence USY Chapter and lives in Providence.

Shabbat of a Lifetime

Most high school students spend their eagerly awaited winter break vacationing with their families in warm, sunny locations, catching the season's newest movie releases, or just relaxing at home, spending time with friends. This was not the case for the nearly 200 teenagers hailing from public high schools around the nation, who chose to spend their winter vacation in a hotel in East Windsor, N.J., learning Torah and rediscovering their Jewish identity at the Orthodox Union's annual National Conference of Synagogue Youth Yarchei Kallah.

The 200 students, representing each of the 12 NCSY regions, were treated to a weekend that included a combination of classes, lectures, small group sessions, activities and free time for socializing. Most of those who attended the program arrived with a desire to learn Torah, better understand the reasons behind Judaism's ritual practices and to get a better grasp of where Judaism stands on issues such as tolerance and multiculturalism. Even for the students who live in areas with vibrant Jewish communities, the Earache Kallah weekend provided many of the teens with their first taste of the true beauty and spirituality of Shabbat and the observances of the religion.

This year, at the opening program, a video was presented remembering the victims of the attacks on America and it was explained that all of the Torah learning would be dedicated to the victims of terrorism in Israel and to those who perished in the tragedies of Sept. 11. NCSY Educational Director Rabbi Daniel Schonbuch explained, "The mission of NCSY is to emphasize the importance of living a Torah-mediated life in a secular world.

With everything that our country has been through this past year, we wanted to make it clear that while Torah learning and prayer are fundamental to our religion, it is crucial to employ them within the context of our larger surroundings."

NCSY National Director Rabbi Dovid Kaminetsky recounted, "After the Friday night prayer service I was told that one girl had been crying, so I went over to ask her if she was okay. She replied, 'I'm more than okay; I'm overwhelmed with joy. This is the first time I've ever experienced Shabbat and I just feel so happy.' Another girl told me that after last year's Yarchei Kallah she asked her family if she could make a Shabbat dinner on the first Friday night back. Her parents not only agreed to let her do it, they asked if they could join her. She explained that since then, her family now eats every Friday night dinner together. These are very special teenagers who are looking to take one small step at a time, in the pursuit of furthering their Jewish education."

As a special presentation, 14 NCSYers read stories sent by Kids for Kids (a foundation that provides financial and emotional services to children who have survived terrorist attacks in Israel), authored by Israeli children, detailing their experiences during the past year's attacks.

Eighty Jews, Eight-Hundred Opinions

(Continued from Page 1)

"We have a huge responsibility... We have the power to accept or reject the Torah," said Rabbi Levine of Beth Shalom. "G-d is counting on us."

The lighthearted discussion was largely absent of heated debate, and lay-people took polite jabs at each other while rabbis "nominated" other rabbis of other congregations to field questions.

Does majority rule overrule a halachic interpretation? And who gets to interpret it, anyway? Opinions shot around the table, those with Torah background often bringing in other stories to shed additional light. Chumashim (the five books of Moses) were cracked open to scrutinize quoted passages, and some people found many instances when the revered rabbis of the Torah passed off irrelevant passage to support their argu-



RABBI ALVAN KAUNFER of Temple Emanu-El, left, chats with Dr. Gustav Schlessinger, right, and his wife Ina.

Herald photos by Jon Rubin

other man gave his high opinion of Jewish law in a single sentence: "Torah was given to man to elevate him from animals."

Dr. Gustav Schlessinger caused the audience to rumble

His viewpoint was quickly challenged by Elisheva Perlman, also from Beth Shalom, who said, "We are all struggling with Torah... You must accept each person at their own level... this is something we are all entitled to.

"A person can do teshuva (repentance) anytime," she said.

The pilot event, which was coordinated by Jon Land and Katherine Haspel of Temple Beth El's adult enrichment committee, received both praise and criticism. One member from Beth El enjoyed the explanations given by some of the rabbis, but felt a little unprepared for the text study. "It takes a certain level of expertise or leadership to read this," he said.

Some suggested more direct involvement with rabbis from the three denominations. "It has such potential," one woman said as the event wrapped up.

Parts two and three in the series will meet on Feb. 3 at Temple Emanu-El, and the May 4 session will likely take place at Beth Shalom.



DISCUSSION MODERATORS Katherine Haspel and Jon Land.

ments, hoping their opponent won't notice. And more than a few times, they got away with it.

About twenty minutes into the discussion, one member who had been quiet during the discussion leaned over to a woman from Beth Shalom and asked, "Is this how talmudic study works?" "Yes," she answered, "but it's much more intense... like eight hours a day."

Strong emotions came out when participants took to the microphone. Evidence from both sides was offered over whether Jews should allow multiple interpretations of certain Jewish laws. One person said that Judaism's ethical guidelines must be adhered to but that the requirement for certain Jewish rituals, like "wearing a kippa and sideburns," should be open to interpretation.

Others disagreed, saying that many of the seemingly minor rituals are just as important, and sometimes more important, than some of the larger and universally known laws. An-

when he said, "As long as you accept the laws that are in 'black and white,' you are a Jew." People who refuse to acknowledge the central laws of the Torah, he contended, are simply not Jewish.

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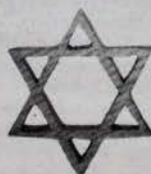
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How Hitler Could Have Won World War II

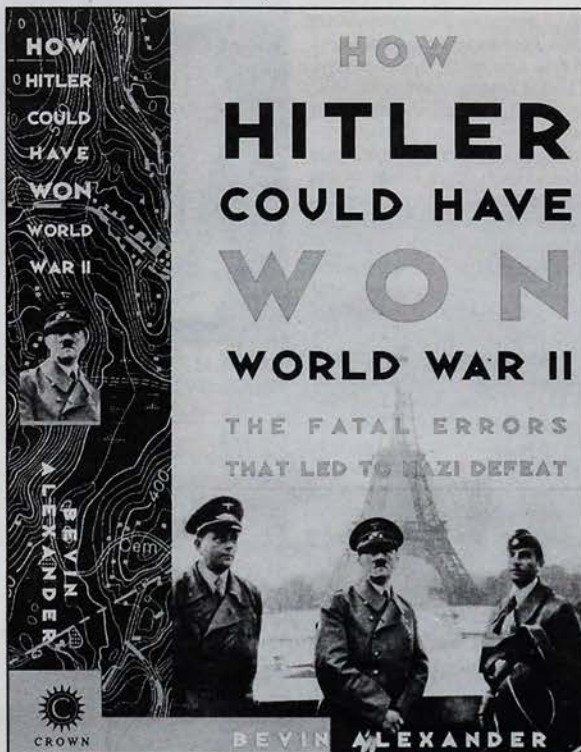
Historian Bevin Alexander Explains

"Bevin Alexander, an experienced military historian who writes with clarity and alarm, here presents a new and insightful interpretation of Hitler's lost opportunities to win World War II. In the process Alexander gives us a concise history of the war in Europe." — Martin Blumenson, author of *The Patton Papers* and *Patton: The Man Behind the Legend*.

Just how close did Hitler come to taking over the world? Acclaimed military historian Bevin Alexander, in his latest book, *How Hitler Could Have Won World War II*, probes beyond the apparent historical facts of World War II to interpret the driving forces behind Hitler's demise. This "counter-factual" study explores in depth the critical intersection between Hitler's personality and his military strategy. Alexander's eye-opening narrative shows how a few crucial changes in Hitler's approach could have ensured a Nazi victory — suggesting an ultimate alternative scenario that is chilling in its plausibility.

This book opens with the decisive moment on May 10, 1940, when German tanks were massed near the borders of eastern Belgium and Luxembourg, set to invade both of these countries. Only a few weeks later the Nazi military would also shatter France's army and throw Britain off the continent. According to Alexander, Hitler was at the apex of his power in the mid-1940s and had total victory within his grasp. However, for reasons owing as much to character as to strategy, Hitler made decisions that turned out to be disastrous for him.

Although World War II is a particularly compelling subject for historians and buffs, there has been no book that zeroes in so astutely on the vulnerabilities that proved to be Hitler's undo-



ing. Alexander demonstrates that no interpretation of history would be complete without considering the question "What if?" This is a fast-paced and lucid narrative that shows how Hitler's choices steered him away from claiming victory and domination over three continents. No one who reads this thrilling and articulate account will ever look back at World War II in the same way.

"Speculation is the handmaiden of a historian's search for a story of the past... Bevin Alexander has compiled his 'What if's' into a fascinating, plausible and, in retrospect, alarming scenario of what might have been if only Hitler

had been a bit more rational, a bit better at grand strategy." — General F.J. Kroesen, Former Commander-In-Chief, U.S. Army-Europe, and Commander, NATO Central Army Group.

Bevin Alexander is the author of five books of military history, including *Lost Victories*, which was named by the Civil War Book Review as one of the 17 books that has most transformed Civil War scholarship. His battle studies of the Korean War, written during his decorated service as a combat historian, are restored at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. He lives in Brems Bluff, Va., and teaches history at Longwood College.

Kennedy Library to Host Czech Pianist Radoslav Kvapil

Radoslav Kvapil, considered by many international critics to be the foremost contemporary Czech pianist, will introduce and play selections written by four composers who were victims of the Holocaust and interned at the Terezin concentration camp in Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia at the John F. Kennedy Library on Jan. 29 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

The concert will be featured as part of the Kennedy Library and Foundation's new series of public programs on civil rights and human rights. Kvapil, a founding leader of the Terezin

Music foundation, which seeks to preserve and promote the music of Terezin composers, will also perform works by the Czech composers Dvorák, Janáček and Smetana. Kennedy Library Foundation CEO John Shattuck, a former U.S. ambassador to the Czech Republic, and his wife, Ellen Hume, are honorary co-chairs of the Terezin Foundation.

The concert is free, but due to limited theater seating, tickets are required. To obtain a ticket, call the John F. Kennedy Library at (617) 929-1247 by Jan. 18. If still available, a ticket will

be mailed to you one week prior to the concert. Tickets will not be available at the door.

Kvapil has specialized in the performance of the Czech repertoire worldwide. His knowledge and understanding of these works remain unrivaled. In 1967 to 1969, Kvapil recorded Antonín Dvorák's complete piano works (Supraphon) for the first time in history. During the same period, he recorded the complete piano works of Leos Janáček (Panton). This was followed by a recording of the complete piano works by J.H. Vorešek (Supraphon) in 1975. A second complete recording of L. Janáček's piano works followed in 1989 (Adda/Paris), and in 1990, the first two volumes of Bohuslav Martinů's complete piano works were released (Adda/Paris).

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

Perishable Theatre Boasts Rhodes Scholar

The Rhodes Scholarship Trust announced that Rhode Island native and Perishable Theatre staff member Rachel Walshe has been named as one of the 32 American men and women chosen as Rhodes Scholars. Chosen from more than 900 applicants, Walshe is a URI honors graduate, actress and for the past year has been employed as Perishable Theatre's office manager. Rhodes Scholarships provide two to three years of study at the University of Oxford in England.

Rachel Walshe of Warwick received her B.A. in philosophy in 2000 from the University of Rhode Island, where she graduated with highest honors and the President's Award for excellence in philosophy. She was active as a community volunteer and founded an organization opposed to the death penalty. Walshe has been involved with Perishable Theatre for their 2001-2002 season and was previously a production intern with Trinity Repertory Company. Rachel intends to read for the B.A. in English at Oxford in September of 2002.

In addition to being the first Rhodes Scholar from the University of Rhode Island, Walshe is the first person associated with Providence's Perishable Theatre to receive such a prestigious honor. "We at Perishable theatre are extremely proud and pleased that Rachel has finally

received the recognition she so deserves," comments Perishable Theatre Artistic Director Mark J. Lerman, "Her commitment to our theatre has been outstanding — truly above and beyond the call of duty."

The Rhodes Scholarship program is a competitive, multi-staged process of nominations, essays and interviews. First, candidates must be endorsed by their college or university. Committees of Selection in each of the 50 states then nominate candidates who are interviewed by District Selection Committees in eight regions of the United States.

Applicants are chosen on the basis of high academic achievement, integrity of character, a spirit of unselfishness, respect for others, potential for leadership, and physical vigor. With the elections announced recently, 2,950 Americans have won Rhodes Scholarships since the first selection in 1903, representing 304 colleges and universities.

The value of the Rhodes Scholarship varies depending on the academic field, the degree (B.A., master's or doctoral), and the Oxford college chosen. The Rhodes Trust pays all college and university fees, provides a stipend to cover necessary expenses while in residence in Oxford as well as during vacations, and transportation to and from England.

Rhode Island Philharmonic Presents Concerts

Conductor Francisco Noya leads the Rhode Island Philharmonic Pops in a concert entitled "Saturday Night at the Movies," an evening of fabulous Hollywood hits, on Jan. 19, 8 p.m. at VMA Arts & Cultural Center in Providence. This Pops Concert features the full orchestra and Broadway vocalists Jan Horvath and Sal Viviano as they perform hits from Hollywood's Golden Age right up through "My Heart Will Go On" from "Titanic." Highlights of this concert include music from the films "2001: A Space Odyssey," "Platoon," "Apocalypse Now," "Star Wars" and "Dr. Zhivago." Song titles include such favorites as "Top Hat, White Tie and Tails," "Over the Rainbow," "Blues in the Night," "I Got Rhythm" and "Singing in the Rain" as well as a medley from popular Disney films.

The Rhode Island Philharmonic, under the baton of Music Director Larry Rachleff, will present the first Classical Series concert of the new year on Jan. 12 at 8 p.m. at VMA Arts & Cultural Center in Providence. Soprano Nancy Gustafson joins the orchestra as soloist for Richard Strauss's Four Last Songs. Grieg's Holberg Suite and Elgar's Enigma Variations, op. 36 complete the program. This Classical Series concert is sponsored by Merrill Lynch.

The Rhode Island Philharmonic will present the third concert in the popular Happy White Family Series entitled "Tchaikovsky Discovers America" on Jan. 13 at 3 p.m. at

VMA Arts & Cultural Center in Providence. This extremely popular series, sponsored by the John Hazen White family and dedicated to Mrs. White who is known to her friends and family as Happy White, consists of four concerts devoted to the musical entertainment and enrichment of audiences of all ages in the Rhode Island and southeastern Massachusetts area. This concert will last approximately one hour without an intermission. Beginning at 2 p.m. RISD students will entertain in the lobby before the concert. NBC10 and Lite105 are the media sponsors for the Happy White Family Series.

Tchaikovsky Discovers America tells of the great composer's arrival in New York City for the grand opening of Carnegie Hall in 1891 and his famous train trip to Niagara Falls where he met his future wife. This poignant story of the Old World meeting the New is a tale of contrast, courage and classical music. The orchestra will play more than 25 excerpts of the composer's music, including selections from "The Nutcracker," "Swan Lake," "Sleeping Beauty" and the 1812 Overture with action provided by Classical Kids actors Gary Krawford as Tchaikovsky and Susan Cuthbert as Jenny.

For tickets to these events, call the Philharmonic box office at 831-3123 or visit <www.ri-philharmonic.org> Tickets may be available through Ticketmaster at 331-2211.

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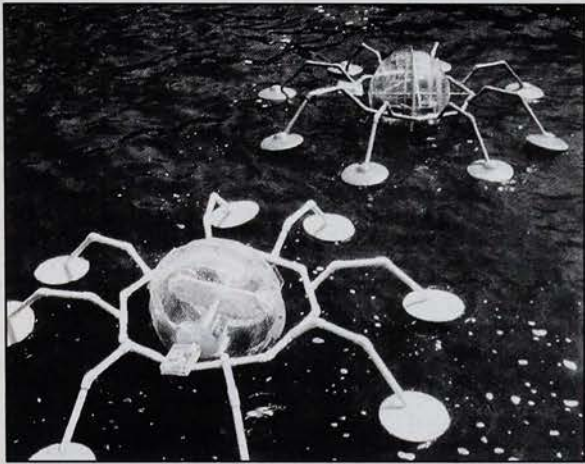


New Art Forms at RIC

Rhode Island College will present a new exhibit by Remo Campopiano, with an opening reception to be held in the Bannister Gallery on Jan. 17 at 7 p.m.

Campopiano was among the early adapters of the changes in media and telecommunications afforded by the Internet. A de-

"WaterSpiders," a collaboration with 10- to 14-year-old members of the Robotic Arts Club; "Providence Star," a proposal for a solar powered environmental piece; and "Video Studio for Insects," in which natural processes and the behaviors of insects are interactively broadcast on the Internet.



Remo Campopiano and the Robotic Arts Club. *WaterSpiders*, 2001. Metal, plastic, electromechanical components, approximately 6' diameter.

cade ago he founded Artnetweb in Soho, N.Y., pioneering new art forms on the Web. He later collaborated on projects like PORT — Navigating Digital Culture at the MIT List Visual Arts Center in 1997, helping to both create and document the history of this new medium.

Through a variety of formal approaches, Campopiano's projects often involve nature and technology in interactive relationships. This exhibit highlights his latest projects:

Campopiano studied at the University of Massachusetts (Dartmouth) and the Cranbrook Academy of Art and is the recipient of a national Endowment for the Arts Fellowship, among numerous other distinctions.

Find out more about Remo Campopiano at <www.remo.net>.

An artist's talk will be held Jan. 24 at 4 p.m., Alger 116.

For more information, visit <www.ric.edu/bannister>.

Release the Artist Within You

On Jan. 24 at 3 p.m. Epoch Assisted Living on Blackstone Boulevard will be hosting art classes with instructor Theresa Curtis. This event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

Epoch is located at 353 Blackstone Boulevard in Providence, R.I., next to Laurelmead.

For more information, call Kathleen Finnegan, activities director at 273-6565.



AS220 Studio Holds Big Bash

On Jan. 12 from 2 to 4 p.m., AS220 Broad Street Studio will hold a first anniversary extravaganza.

Come celebrate the successes of our first year in business in our studio at 790 Broad Street.

Student poets and actors, Broad Street Studio Orchestra and Hip Hop 220 will serve as entertainment along with a student photo exhibit and a 20' x 40' community mural.

For more information, call 831-9327.

Bert Gallery Presents 'Ten Days in Russia'

As the cold winter winds swirl around us, Kathy Hodge's exhibit of "Ten days in Russia" takes us to a foreign land during a warmer season. From Feb. 5 through March 9, Hodge's oils, watercolors and drawings are on exhibit at the Bert Gallery, located at 540 South Water St. A special Gallery Night Providence reception will be held Feb. 21 from 6 to 8 p.m. Gallery hours are Tuesday to Friday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday noon to 4 p.m.

Rhode Island painter Kathy Hodge is a keen observer of the world, and this latest series of paintings demonstrates her maturation. "Ten days in Russia" covers a journey by train from St. Petersburg, Russia in the summer of 1999. Images abound of famous historical sites such as St. Basil's Cathedral, The Church of the Assumption and the Kazan Cathedral in St. Petersburg. Frequently portrayed icons, that have captivated visitors throughout time, are transformed into jewel-tone renderings under the artist's watchful eye.

In this exhibit, Hodge's carefully drawn charcoals executed upon her return from Russia are paired with the studio-painted oils she completed in the last two years. The oils juxtapose ominous architecture against swirling colorful skies and ground. Hodge tames the monuments of Moscow and St. Petersburg in her paintings, making them recede into the context of the Russian people and their history.

Says Hodge of her work, "The paintings in this series do not attempt to describe Russia, a country I cannot possibly claim to understand in the 10 days I spent there. They come from sorting through a flood of impressions: arduous travel, fatigue, impossibly rich imagery, stark monumentality, patience, troubles and beauty."

For more information, contact Catherine Bert at 751-2628.



'Annie Get Your Gun' Coming to PPAC

The 2001/2002 Citizens Bank Broadway Series continues at the Providence Performing Arts Center when the fresh new production of "Annie Get Your Gun" opens for a limited engagement Jan. 29 through Feb. 3. Songwriter Irving Berlin, along with authors Herbert and Dorothy Fields, have fashioned the lively show business life of sharpshooter Annie Oakley into magnificent entertainment that has become an American classic.

"Annie Get Your Gun" is a barrel full of wild-west fun; performance times at PPAC are Jan. 29 at 7 p.m., Jan. 30 and 31 at 7:30 p.m.; Feb. 1 at 8 p.m., Feb. 2 at 2 and 8 p.m., and Feb. 3 at 2 and 7 p.m. Ticket prices range from \$31 to \$48 and are now available through the box office — call 421-ARTS, Ticketmaster, and online at <ppacri.org>. Discounted admission is available to groups of 20 or more by contacting Group Sales Representative Donna Sammartino at

421-2997, ext. 3121, or at <groupsales@ppacri.org>.

The late Irving Berlin, who prolific hand penned more than a thousand hit songs during his long career, contributes a legendary score of musical favorites, including "There's No Business Like Show Business," "Doin' What Comes Natur'ly," "Anything You Can Do," "The Girl that I Marry," and "I Got the Sun in the Morning."

The brother/sister team of Herbert and Dorothy Fields has written a book chock full of witticisms detailing sharpshooting hillbilly Annie Oakley in her quest to win the heart of a fellow

marksman Frank Butler. The outspoken Annie eventually grows to realize that she "Can't Get a Man with a Gun."

"Annie Get Your Gun" is a time-tested classic that the whole family will love. Don't miss this rousing story of the gun-toting markswoman who took the world by storm. "Annie Get Your Gun," sponsored by Citizens Bank at PPAC, is presented by Troika Entertainment, which is celebrating more than 20 years of producing musical theater throughout North America, Europe, and Asia. More information is available at <ppacri.org>.



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OBITUARIES

JAY HOFFMAN

NORTH PROVIDENCE — Jay Hoffman, 49, of Briarwood Drive, the owner of Hoffman Animal Hospital, died Jan. 1 at our lady of Fatima Hospital.

He was the husband of Georgette (Racine) Hoffman. Born in Boston, a son of the late Seymour and Barbara (Strauss) Hoffman, he had lived in North Providence for 14 years.

He worked at Hoffman Animal Hospital for many years, becoming its manager in 1987, and its owner in 1997.

He donated an annual scholarship fund to the Rhode Island Veterinary Association and provided free veterinary care for those in need through the Volunteer Services for Animals Seymour Hoffman Memorial Fund.

He was a graduate of the University of Nevada at Las Vegas.

Besides his wife, he leaves a son, Jacob Hoffman of North Providence, and two sisters, Kim Hoffman of Las Vegas and Jill Sinigaglia of Woodbury, N.Y.

The funeral service was held Jan. 4 in the Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Swan Point Cemetery, Providence. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Volunteer Services for Animals, 27 Dryden Lane, Providence, R.I. 02904. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel.

ROWENA OSTROVSKY

FALL RIVER — Rowena Ostrovsky, 78, of the Fall River Jewish Home, 538 Robeson St., a retired bookkeeper, died Jan. 6 at home.

Born in Fall River, a daughter of the late David and Sadie (Silk) Ostrovsky, she was a lifelong resident of the city.

She was a bookkeeper for many years before retiring.

She was a member of Adas Israel Synagogue, a board member of its Sisterhood, and a life member of Hadassah and the Jewish War Veterans Ladies Auxiliary 168, where she had served as junior vice president.

She was a member of the Fall River Jewish Home, the National Museum of American History, and the Fall River Senior Friendship Club.

She leaves several cousins. She was the sister of the late Maurice and Meyer Ostrovsky, and companion of the late Norman Brettschneider.

A graveside service was held Jan. 8 in Hebrew Cemetery, McMahon Road. In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be made to Adas Israel Synagogue or the Fall River Jewish Home. Arrangements were made by Shalom Memorial Chapel, 1100 New London Ave., Cranston, R.I.

SOL M. WHITE

WEST BOYNTON BEACH, Fla. — Sol M. White, 83, of Falls Road, formerly of Pawtucket and Springfield, Mass., a men's clothing store owner and an activist in Jewish causes, died Jan. 1 at home.

He was the husband of Claire S. (Samdperil) White. Born in Springfield, a son of the late Raymond and Eva (Grubman) White, he had lived in Springfield before moving to Pawtucket in 1960. He moved to Florida 20 years ago.

He had owned a men's clothing store in Springfield and while in Rhode Island, was involved in the textile and real-estate business. He retired 23 years ago.

He was an active member of Temple Emanuel, where he received the man of the year award in 1972. In 1973, he was chairman of the 25th anniversary celebration of Israel for the Jewish Federation of Rhode Is-

land. He was active with the Jewish Federation and the Jewish Community Center.

Besides his wife, he leaves a daughter, Patricia R. Cohen of Providence; a son, Richard T. White of Norwood, Mass.; and three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. He was the brother of the late Mark and Ruth White.

The funeral was held Jan. 6 in Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to Reiser Children's Fund for Hearing Diagnosis and Treatment, c/o Women & Infants Hospital, 101 Dudley St., Providence, R.I. 02905 or Hospice & Homecare By the Sea, 1531 West Palmetto Park Road,

Boca Raton, FL 33486-3395. The family was assisted with the funeral arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel.

LILLIAN L. ZEXTER

PROVIDENCE — Lillian L. (Barnett) Zexter, 96, of North Main Street, a former employee of Rochester Clothes, died Jan. 4 at Miriam Hospital.

She was the wife of the late Abram M. Zexter. Born in Chicago, a daughter of the late David and Rachel Barnett, she had lived in Chicago and New York before moving to Providence in 1928.

She worked with her husband for many years in their family business, Rochester Clothes. She also worked at

Lord & Taylor in New York City. She was a volunteer at Martin Luther King School, and a former member and a volunteer in the library at Temple Beth-El.

She leaves two sons, Robert H. Zexter of Swansea and D. Ronald Zexter of Los Angeles, and five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Pearl Epstein, Minnie Seide, Molly Green, Rose Marcus, and William, Albert and Morris Barnett.

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

Hospitals Seek 'Ambassadors' to Make Patients Feel Welcome

Rhode Island Hospital, The Miriam Hospital and Hasbro Children's Hospital are seeking volunteers for the Hospital Ambassador Program. Ambassadors meet visitors as they arrive, provide directions, escort visitors to their destinations and provide wheelchairs to those who need them.

The hospitals are looking for volunteers with good interpersonal skills who enjoy helping others. Training will be provided for volunteers, who are asked to contribute at least four to five hours per week to the program. For more information, call 793-2512 and ask for Arlene Orcutt.

U.S. Giving Israel Additional Funds to Fight Terrorism

The United States is set to provide Israel with an additional \$28 million to purchase anti-terrorism equipment such as robots that are used to safely detonate suspected bombs, *The Jerusalem Post* reported.

The large number of Palestinian bombings carried out in the past 17 months has depleted the Israeli arsenal of bomb-fighting robots. The additional funds provided by the United States will be used to buy more robots as well as sophisticated X-ray devices for examining trucks and other large containers. According to the terms of the allotment, Israel must spend the entire sum in the United States.

ADL Says U.S. Based Anti-Semites Are Feeding Sept. 11 Rumor Mill

Jews and Israel are being blamed in some Muslim and Arab countries and media for the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. The Anti-Defamation League (ADL), which tracks hate groups and exposes extremism, has confirmed that some of these rumors are being fueled by U.S.-based extremists and anti-Semites.

"Anti-Semites in the U.S. have always exploited current events to make the case for blaming America's troubles on Jews and Israel," said Abraham H. Foxman, ADL national director. "The September 11 terrorist attacks, however, have created a new dynamic where rhetoric of anti-Semites in this country is being picked up and recycled in some segments of the Muslim and Arab world to advance hateful myths and conspiracy theories about Israel and Jews."

ADL has documented instances where haters in the U.S. have seen their rhetoric published in the Arab world. Some hate groups have also found an audience in American Muslim newspapers and e-mail lists. In several instances, Muslim newspapers and Web sites have reprinted articles found on Internet sites operated by hate groups. The Internet continues to play a prominent role in disseminating hate literature.

Are You Dealing With Family Grief?

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The Lesson of the Wall

by Beth Pollack
jewishworldreview.com

From my second week here it already haunted me. I had some time off from my studies one day at the beginning of my year in Israel, so I hailed a cab, and rode through the streets of the holy city of Jerusalem. I found myself in a matter of minutes at the Western Wall, and I hurried to join the usual eclectic mix of Wall-goers who were praying there.

I was standing just footsteps from where the patriarch Abraham almost sacrificed his son Isaac, and merely strides from where Jacob dreamt of the famous ladder with angels ascending and descending its heavenly rungs, when suddenly the low rumble of Muslim prayers from the Al Aqsa Mosque atop the Temple Mount jarred me awake into an unsettling reality.

The Western Wall is an apt metaphor for the reality facing us today: Jews and Muslims cry out to G-d in a discordant mix of emotion, while common ground is elusive and those of us on the Jewish side keep one eye out for airborne rocks.

I left that day feeling very unsettled, and even more depressed. Yet time went on, and like many Americans who have "braved the journey" up to our land in the past 15 months of the intifada, the horrifying visions of American media coverage on the Middle East slowly lost their hold on my consciousness and heart as I began to realize how distorted those images really were.

No, thank G-d, I am not dodging stones and snipers on my way to the falafel stand down my street, and I don't have to check the fruit in my local grocery store for explosive materials, as prime-time news might want you to think. I spend Shabbat at in a variety of locations, from bustling cit-

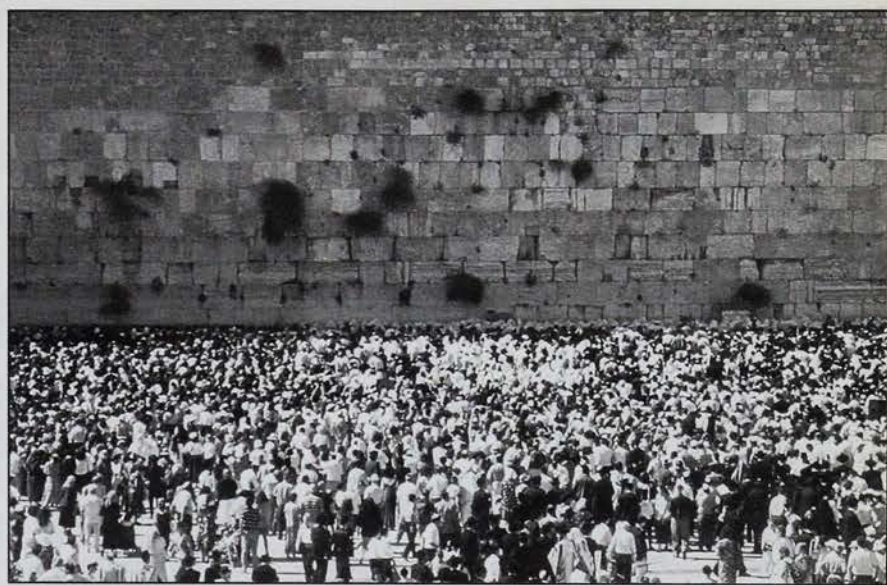
ies like Petah Tikvah to small communities like Nof Ayalon. My school takes us on tiyulim, tours, involving everything from mountain climbing in the Galil, to a walk through the valley of Mevaseret.

I have ridden donkeys, kayaked, dressed in Bedouin clothing to eat in a Bedouin tent, traveled to places mentioned in the Tanach while simultaneously reading the actual stories of what occurred there, and seen the remnants from vessels during the Temple period that were discovered under our tour guide's house.

Where else but in Israel can you visit the site where the oldest recorded writing of a Torah verse was found in an ancient grave, and then look up to see construction workers building a building right next to it? Everything in Jerusalem is holy, even the office buildings.

Still, this is not to sugarcoat the situation. I had friends who experienced the horror of the bombings that ripped through the center of town on a Saturday night just a few weeks ago. Friends of mine who are enrolled at certain schools near places such as Gilo have heard the sounds of helicopters and bombings many times, and friends of mine who take buses spend a significant amount of time with their heads turned over their shoulders.

But you know what? Life goes on, and it goes on pretty darn well despite all of this. After all, how could it not, when we are living in a place where our rabbis tell us the air makes us wise, and where tradition states that we gain reward in the next world for every four cubits that we walk? So despite the attacks, on a day-to-day basis things appear to be very normal. That is, except for the strange scenario that happens



every day at our beloved Western Wall. One Shabbos, I prayed at Yeshivat HaKotel, known for the best view in the Old City, and I could simultaneously see droves of Jews davening the morning service at the Western Wall and Arabs walking around the Temple Mount. All that separated them was a wall, yet they were worlds apart.

Friends of mine who take buses spend a significant amount of time with their heads turned over their shoulders.

Weeks later I arrived at the Western Wall at the start of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan. Every item in my suitcase was checked as I went through security. And as I en-

tered the Temple area, hoards of fully armed police and soldiers in riot gear commanded my attention as they prepared for any possible violence due to the start of Ramadan. The next morning, it started raining outside (a much-needed blessing in Israel right now) and in sadness I went to the window of the apartment where I was staying to glance out at our beautiful Western Wall.

What I saw right there, finally put all of my sadness and confusion to rest at long last: Hordes of Jews were heading toward the Western Wall in a bright sea of umbrellas to pray despite both the rain and the possible violence that the beginning of Ramadan could engender. They continuously pushed forward toward the Wall in determined droves as the torrents of rain beat down on them. And it was then that it all became clear.

Yes, the intifada has violently jarred us awake from our quiet slumber of peace. Still, let the

Arabs throw at us what they may, let them barrage us with their screams and prayers just yards away from our holiest place on earth, but when it really comes down to it, nothing can or will keep us from our land and our beliefs. We are a people who have braved the rain before, and who are not afraid to brave it again. And although we may be a little weather-beaten after all this time, we are certainly far from beaten.

And it was then, as the sea of umbrellas became blurry in my view, that I knew that despite all that has happened in the past 15 months, despite all the terror that we have endured, Am Yisrael, the Jewish Nation, will prevail. Come rain or shine, we will pull through.

Beth Pollack, of Skokie, Ill., is a graduate of the Ida Crown Jewish Academy and is spending this year at Michlelet Mevaseret Yerushalayim. She will be attending the University of Pennsylvania next year.

Special Olympics Rhode Island Announces Date for Celebrity Carnival

Special Olympics Rhode Island's 24th annual Sports Celebrity Carnival is back again! This year's spectacular event will be held on Feb. 8 at the Rhode Island Convention Center, from 5 to 9 p.m. General admission is \$5 per person.

Come and meet today's hottest sports stars along with local television and radio personalities. More than 8,000 sports fans are expected to join Master of Ceremonies John "Coach" Colletto of Sportsradio 790 "The Score," for a night of autographs, pictures, games and family fun, all for the benefit of Special Olympics Rhode Island. Special Olympics Rhode Island is a year-round program of quality sports training and competition for more than 2,250 children and adults with mental retardation. For more information, call Special Olympics Rhode Island at 823-7411 or visit our Web site at <www.specialolympicsri.org>.

Playwright Paula Caplan Live at Writers' Circle

The Writers' Circle playwright development workshop on Jan. 20, features playwright Paula Caplan, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Sarah Doyle House, 26 Benevolent St. in Providence. The program is free and open to the public. Writers in need of help may bring their works to read. Caplan and attending writers will provide editorial assistance.

For more information or to reserve a chair, call 461-6691.

The RISD Museum Presents 'Videos in Person'

Wednesdays, Jan. 16, March 6, April 3, April 17

The RISD Museum will present for the first time a series of programs featuring prominent video artists speaking about their work. Starting with a presentation by Ann Hamilton on Jan. 16 at 6:30 p.m., the department of contemporary art at the museum will host four artists introducing screening, and discussing their video works.

The series, titled "Video in Person," will also include: Vito Acconci, March 6; Kristin Lucas, April 3; and Paul Pfeiffer, April 17. Hamilton represented the United States in the 1999 Venice Biennale. Acconci is widely recognized for his groundbreaking work when the medium was still relatively new in the early 1970s. Pfeiffer is currently the subject of a solo exhibition at the Whitney Museum of American Art. Lucas's work has been exhibited at Museum of Modern Art in New York among other museums.

The series draws attention to the increasing importance of video work as a medium. "We're doing this program to feature video work with the same prominence that museums usually present paintings, sculpture, and other contemporary art forms," explained Judith Tannenbaum, curator of contemporary art.

All talks are free and open to the public, and sponsored by the museum's department of contemporary art. The Vito Acconci talk is co-sponsored by the RISD graduate studies and fine arts departments. Call 454-6348 for more information.



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