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Rhode Island Jewish HERALD

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

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Jewish Books

Page 11

VOLUME LXXII, NUMBER 18

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The Kosher Magnet

Bed and Breakfast Draws Jews to Newport

by Jon Rubin
Herald Editor

Traditionally, planning a trip to Newport to visit the Touro Synagogue has always come with a catch: After you had your fill of the beautiful synagogue

and the richness of American Orthodox Jewish history, and hopefully attended a Shabbat service, you inevitably ended up on the other end of the religious spectrum — in a hotel where pork chops and shrimp

cocktails were the norm in the restaurant menu.

Eugene Twersky saw an opportunity here and jumped on it. He purchased an inn a few minutes from Touro synagogue in 1999, and, with the support of religious authorities in both Newport and Providence, established the Admiral Weaver Inn, the only kosher bed and breakfast in Rhode Island approved by the Vaad Hakashruth.

The descendent of great Ukrainian rabbis and Jewish educators, Twersky had been toying with the idea of having a kosher bed and breakfast for some time. He began his education in business management when he helped his brother maintain a resort in the Catskills for Russian and Polish Jews. Although he owns some property in Providence, he considers this to be his first venture into real estate.

(Continued on Page 5)



(LEFT TO RIGHT) Innkeeper Mary Ellen Newbury, Rabbi Mordechai Eskovitz of Touro Synagogue and Proprietor Eugene Twersky.

Herald photos by Jon Rubin

The Dilemmas of Dying

The Miriam Hospital Hosts Forum on End of Life Issues

by Seth Bromley
Editorial Assistant

Advances in medicine made during the last century have not only changed the way we live, but have irrevocably changed the way we die. This fact has made necessary a comprehensive examination of issues relating to the end of life, and the role of Judaism therein.

Miriam Hospital in Providence recently hosted a forum entitled "Living With Care and Dignity: Coping With End of Life Issues From a Jewish Perspective," which featured a panel of speakers including Dr. Joan M. Teno, medical director of Home and Hospice Care of Rhode Island, Rabbi Natan Schafer, of Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island and Rabbi Alvan Kaunfer, president of the Rhode Island Board of Rabbis. The discussion was moderated by Dr. Steven Shechter. The event, which also included several workshops held after the panel discussion, was sponsored by The Miriam Hospital, the Jewish Seniors Agency, the Rhode Island Board of Rabbis and Home and Hospice Care of Rhode Island.

Dr. Teno began by outlining some of the reasons for increased focus on end-of-life issues. In 1900, the leading causes of death were influenza, tuberculosis and diphtheria, while today's leading killers are can-

cer, heart disease and stroke. Teno said that back then, most illnesses were acute and short-lived, meaning that once you

no hope of eventual recovery.

As a result, "today we are faced with dilemmas we never had before," said Rabbi Schafer.



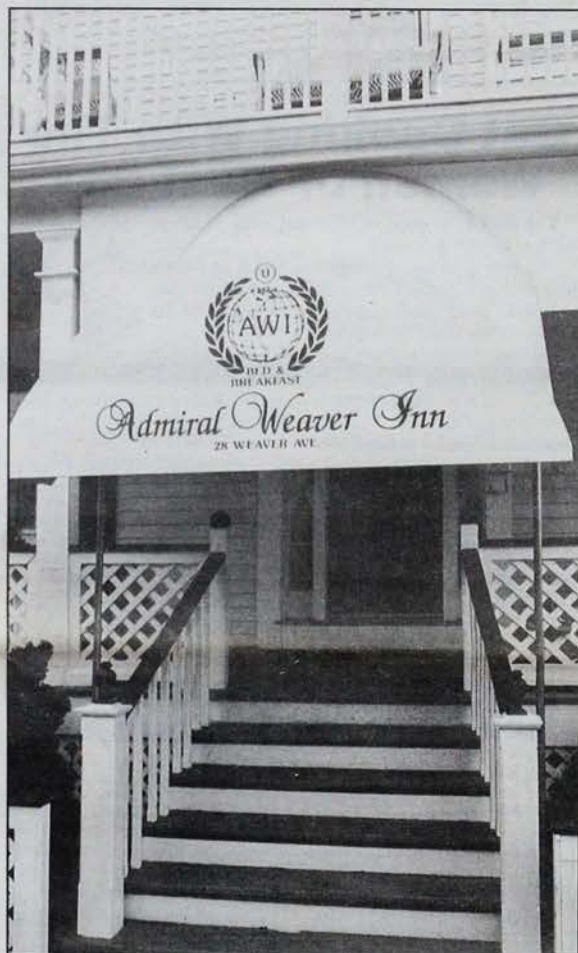
(Left to right) Rabbi Natan Schafer, of Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island, Rabbi Alvan Kaunfer, president of the R.I. Board of Rabbis, and Dr. Joan Teno, medical director of Home and Hospice Care of Rhode Island, answer questions from the audience during a discussion on end-of-life issues in Miriam Hospital's Sopkin Auditorium.

Herald photo by Seth Bromley

contracted one, you either died or recovered within a relatively short period of time. Since modern medicine has succeeded in wiping out most of these deadly infectious diseases, Teno said, "Today we are dying with chronic, progressive illnesses." This means that people's deaths take longer, their ability to function normally gradually deteriorates, and they have little or

Teno explained patients often have a multitude of options for treatment and care, and must sometimes make difficult decisions that balance their chances of survival, their comfort level and their ability to remain functional. It is up to each patient to develop a long-term care plan, and to discuss and negotiate the plan with doctors and family.

(Continued on Page 4)



NEWPORT'S ADMIRAL WEAVER INN, built in 1845, last year became Rhode Island's only OU certified kosher bed and breakfast.

U.S.: Palestinian Involvement in Arms Smuggling of 'Deep Concern'

The United States expressed "deep concern" over Palestinian involvement in the illegal arms smuggling operation aboard the Karin A ship two weeks ago, *The Jerusalem Post* reported. State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said Palestinian captain Omar Acawis's confession, admitting that he took orders from a weapons agent in the Palestinian Authority, was credible. "The quantity and the quality of the shipments are of serious concern. I think we find the fact that there are Palestinians involved in shipping these weapons deeply troubling," Boucher said. United States Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld endorsed the seizure of the ship as a necessary act of self-defense on Tuesday, saying, "[The Israelis] clearly had very good intelligence that those weapons were going to be used against them. And they intercepted the ship by preempting that ship from landing and unloading those weapons to be used against Israel."

Israel Asks EU to Label Hizbullah, PFLP Terror Organizations

Israel has asked the European Union to add Hizbullah and Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) to its list of terrorist organizations, *Ha'aretz* reported. The EU's most recent list of terrorist groups, published last month, included the military wing of the Hamas and Islamic Jihad, but then Hizbullah was withdrawn from the list at the last minute, following pressure from France.

More briefs on page 10.

HAPPENINGS

Perspectives Goes Clay Crazy!

Are you dying to get back to those Playdough years? Guess what — you're not alone! We're all going to meet at Clay Ground in East Greenwich on Jan. 22 to have tons o' fun with clay. If you need directions, give 'em a call at 884-4888. Cost is \$4 for entry and then we pay by item. So meet us at 6 p.m. for hands on fun... hands down! To RSVP and for more information contact Nora at 331-4732.

Zamir Concert Rescheduled

Due to snow, the children's concert by the Zamir Chorale of Boston has been rescheduled to Jan. 20 at 1 p.m. at Temple Emeth, 194 Grove Street, Chestnut Hill, Mass. Tickets will be sold at the door only. \$5 Adults, \$3 Children age 12 and under. For more information, please call 866-926-4720.

Get Cooking With The Women of West Bay

The Jewish Women of West Bay will be offering two cooking classes.

The first is on Jan. 23, from 7 to 8:45 p.m. Learn how to make Apple Crisp and learn how to garnish with fruits and vegetables in honor of Tu B'Shevat, the holiday of trees.

Second, hamentashen baking! Learn to bake hamentashen and take some home for your family and friends on Feb. 20 at 7 p.m. Both events will be at Chabad of West Bay, 3871 Post Road, Warwick. Donation for each is \$5. To R.S.V.P., call Shoshanah Laufer at 886-7875.

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

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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 18 through January 24

- 18 The Temple Sinai Seniors** will meet at 11:30 a.m. for lunch and a discussion with television reporter Gene Valicenti. Bring a brown bag lunch. Coffee, tea, and dessert will be provided. Temple Sinai is located at 30 Hagen Ave., Cranston. Call Baila at 461-6124 for more information.
- The Providence Performing Arts Center** presents "Stomp" through Jan. 20. An international percussion sensation, "Stomp" is a movement of bodies, objects, sounds and abstract ideas. PPAC is located at 220 Weybosset St., Providence. For information, call 421-ARTS or visit <www.ppacri.org>.
- 19 Temple Emanu-El** will host guest speaker Francis Bok during its morning Shabbat service. Bok is a 22-year-old native of Sudan who lived as a slave for 10 years before escaping and coming to the United States, where he is now an associate of the American Anti-Slavery Group. Temple Emanu-El is located at 99 Taft Ave., Providence. Call 331-1616 for information.
- Shaloh House** hosts a family Havdallah service, featuring storyteller Yana Sherman from the Jewish Storytelling Coalition. The program is free of charge. Shaloh House is located at 50 Ethyl Way, Stoughton, Mass. Call (781) 344-6334 for information.
- The Rhode Island Philharmonic** will perform "Saturday Night at the Movies," an evening of music composed for and made popular by the movies. The performance takes place at 8 p.m. in the VMA Arts cultural Center, Avenue of the Arts, Providence. For information, call 831-3123 or visit <www.ri-philharmonic.org>.
- 21 Striar Jewish Community Center** presents Bubblemania, with children's entertainer Casey Carle. This imaginative and energetic show is appropriate for children age 3 and 70. Tickets are \$4 for children, \$6 for adults in advance. Striar Jewish Community Center is located at 445 Central St., Stoughton, Mass. For reservations and information, call Nina Shatz at (781) 341-2016, ext. 295 or e-mail <nshatz@jccgb.org>.
- 23 Camp Gan Israel** holds an open house at 9:30 a.m. at the home of Ellen Khaisin. Located in Warwick, Gan Israel is a Jewish summer camp for children aged 3 through 13. For information, call Ellen Khaisin at 946-8552.

Center for Jewish Culture Presents Talk by Ruth Gruber

The Center for Jewish Culture at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth presents a talk by noted author and journalist Ruth Gruber on Feb. 6 at 7 p.m. in the Library Browsing Area. Parking is available in Lot 13.

Born in Brooklyn, Gruber earned a doctorate at the age of 20, was foreign correspondent in Israel for the *New York Herald Tribune*, an explorer in the Soviet Arctic, and a researcher in Alaska. Her books include *Exodus 1947: The Ship That Launched the Nation*, *Haven: The Unknown Story of 1,000 World War II Refugees*, and *Raquel: A Woman of Israel*.

For more information about the free program, contact Lew Dars at (508) 999-8050 or Cynthia Yoken at (508) 994-4212.

Martin Luther King Day Service at Agudas Achim

Congregation Agudas Achim of Attleboro invites the public to attend a special service in honor of Martin Luther King Day on Jan. 18 at 7:30 p.m. The program, led by Rabbi Elyse Wechterman and members of the congregation's Adult Education Committee, will include readings by Martin Luther King, Jr., and others involved in the Civil Rights Movement. In addition, members of the Adult Education Committee will discuss the relationship between portions of the Book of Exodus and the struggle of African Americans in the United States for equal rights.

Congregation Agudas Achim is located at 901 N. Main Street, Attleboro, Mass. For more information, call (508) 222-2243.

Awesome Science Stuff at JCCRI

A brand new class, the Jr. Scientists Club, will be held as part of the afterschool enrichment program at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island on Jan. 29 to March 19.

Children in grades one and two will enjoy units on insects, magnetism, and sound. In addition they will be observing, caring for, and hatching butterflies, just in time for spring! The grades three and four group will also learn about insects, but will use live mealworms to do some behavioral experiments. They will also learn about electricity and air in additional study units.

Teachers Nicole Herschenhou and Ilana Schachter, students at Brown University, are passionate about science and they are anxious to share their enthusiasm and provide learning opportunities for the children.

For more information, or to register, call Charli Lurie, director of Children, Youth and Camp, 861-8800, ext. 147.

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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

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

R.I. Jewish Community Reacts to Heinous Terrorist Attack

What's Brewing at ASD? Book Page



OPINION

R.I. Rabbis Did Our Part

Letter to the Editor:

I would like to respond to the letter of Mr. Stanley Freedman of Cranston ("Where is the Rhode Island Rabbinical Representation?") that appeared in the January 10th issue of the *Jewish Herald*. He complains that there was no representation of the Rhode Island Board of Rabbis at the State House during the recent prayer vigils protesting the Governors cuts in housing.

As a matter of fact, both Rabbi Alan Flam and I were at a vigil, and I was even asked to read a Biblical passage, while Rabbi Flam was interviewed by a journalist. Unfortunately the *Journal* chose not to quote Rabbi Flam or show us in the photo.

In addition, I was asked to be one of the speakers at last week's protest rally on behalf of affordable housing at the State House. Again, I was not in the *Journal*, but I understand a brief clip on Channel 10 showed some of the Jewish community who were there. In addition, Rabbi Flam serves as our representative on the Steering Committee, and he has written an article on the housing issue which appeared in the January *Jewish Voice of Rhode Island*.

The Jewish community strongly supports the issue of affordable housing, and a joint letter from the Jewish Federation, the CRC, and the R.I. Board of Rabbis went to the Governor urging him to restore the cuts to the Neighborhood Housing Plan, as well as to pursue the bond issue for housing revenue.

It is indeed important that the Jewish community be visible on this issue. Unfortunately we cannot control the selectivity of the media.

Rabbi Alvan Kaunfer is President of the Rhode Island Board of Rabbis

Throwing Out the Burka With the Bath Water

by Jennifer M. Paquette
jewishworldreview.com

Walking past a newsstand today, I was struck by the image of an Afghani woman pulling aside her burka, the veil she'd worn during the Taliban's reign of terror. I'm sure this picture will appeal greatly to a Western audience, already convinced that covering women is synonymous with repression.

But is it?

People here would love to believe that Islam is evil, and that veiling women is just one more proof. Yet the Taliban are true Muslims only in the sense that the Nazis were true Christians; neither group represents their religion at its best. It's certainly true that Islam calls for women to dress modestly; so does Christianity, so does Juda-

ism, though each of these religions interprets that call slightly differently.

In Judaism, many married women voluntarily cover their

(Continued on Page 9)

Seized Ship is Terror Wake-up Call

by Yossi Klein Halevi

The Israeli operation that seized a ship filled with more than 50 tons of Iranian arms reportedly bound for Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority highlights Iran's central role in international terrorism. And combined with recent Iranian threats to Israel's existence, the weapons ship mocks the hope of those American officials who call for including the fundamentalist Muslim regime in the anti-terrorist coalition.

The weapons on board the Karine-A vessel — which the Palestinian Authority denies were headed its way — included Katyusha rockets intended for use against Israeli towns and more than 1.5 tons of explosives, which Israeli military intelligence agencies sus-

pect may have been earmarked for car bombings or suicide attacks. And the revelation by the captain of the Karine-A of Hezbollah involvement in transferring the weapons onto the vessel at least suggests that the Lebanese terrorist group served as an intermediary between the Palestinians and the Iranians.

The emergence of a Palestinian-Iranian-Hezbollah connection transforms Palestinian terrorism from a local to a global terrorist threat. Iran's terrorist mischief becomes even more frightening in the context of its nuclear program. Though Iran has insisted its nuclear development is intended for peaceful means, at least one Iranian leader is actively contemplating nuclear war against Israel.

On Dec. 14, Hashemi Rafsanjani, former Iranian president and currently chairman of the government's powerful guidance council, told a Tehran University audience that the vast Muslim world could easily survive nuclear war, while tiny Israel would be destroyed.

"The founding of the state of Israel is the worst event in all of history," he said. "If the day comes when the world of Islam is equipped with weapons similar to those that Israel possesses ... nothing will remain after one atom bomb is dropped on Israel."

That day could be approaching. According to Israel's defense minister, Binyamin Ben-Eliezer, Iran is about three years

(Continued on Page 8)

Bravo to Jewish TV Broadcasts

Letter to the Editor:

It has occurred to me to mention the many shows on WGBH Channels 2 and 44, which have given so many Jewish viewers so much pleasure.

Just for the month of December, we have seen, "Heritage: Civilization and the Jews," "Chanukah at Bubbe's," "A Taste of Chanukah," "Chanukah songs," "The New Jewish Cuisine," just to mention a few.

We are very lucky to have these channels in our midst. This is not to say other shows of the past have not been of great interest also. "Hester Street," "Klezmania," "Yiddish American Theatre," and "A Laugh, A Tear, A Mitzvah" come to mind.

Thanks again, Channels 2 and 44.

Barbara Spraragen lives in East Greenwich

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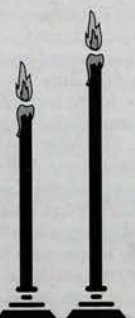
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Candlelighting
January 18, 2002
4:25 p.m.



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What Difference Do I Make?

Why, in last week's portion of Vaera, does G-d insist on sending Moses to Pharaoh, even though Moses protests more than once that he will be ineffective because he has a speech impediment? Wouldn't it have been easier to send a practiced orator?

Why does Torah stop to enumerate the children of Israel who are to be released from bondage: Reuben and Hanoch and Pallu, Hezron, Carmi, Simeon, Jemuel, Jamin, Shaul, Gershon, Kohath, Merari, and on and on? Isn't it apparent who the slaves are? They didn't need drivers' licenses or Social Security cards to be identified. It was pretty obvious by where they lived, what they wore, and the jobs they punched in for each day.

Why, for that matter, does G-d put such effort into delivering them from the hands of the Egyptians, a task that requires many travails and deaths before it is accomplished? Even the children of Israel, once they are wandering in the desert, stop to complain that maybe it was bet-

ter in Egypt. At least they got room and board and steady work.

You might as well ask why Martin Luther King, Jr. made such a fuss about civil rights. Or why Gandhi put up with the pummeling that civil disobedience brought down on him. Or why any worthwhile movement encourages its followers to give up what they have for a life of vilification, torture and worse.

Torah Today

You'll find the answer all throughout Torah, in the very reason for its existence. You'll find it in the frequency with which Torah enumerates the descendants of Abraham in great detail. Each of us is important. Everyone of us. Important. Not a revolutionary thought today, but you owe its seeming ordinariness to the effect Torah has had on the world. There was a time when each of us was not very important.

Moses was told to get over his embarrassment about speaking and just do it. Pharaoh was told to give up his exalted view of himself and let other people be valued. The children of Israel were told that living as pack animals, although dependable, is worse than living as humans, with all the insecurity that may bring.

And the great leaders who have wrought advances in human rights since then have all known the same thing: that when we allow ourselves to let anyone, for any reason, be treated as though he has no contribution to make, we stand in the way of G-d's view of the world: each of us is important. Even you. Especially you. "If I am not for myself, who shall be for me?" Now... go be important.

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.rabbiwarwick.com>.

JEWISH COMMUNITY



Birthdays are Special at the JCCRI

When Frank Koslov's daughter called to say she wanted to do something for her dad's special birthday, the Senior Adult department got right to work. Plans were made to bring in a special cake. With balloons and the sound of Frank Sinatra's voice filling up the social hall, everyone, including Frank's daughter and grandson were excited to wish Frank a Happy Birthday.

Left: Frank Koslov blows out the candles on his birthday cake at his party at the JCCRI.

Bottom: Franks' friends got into the spirit at his party.

Photos courtesy of JCCRI



The Dilemmas of Dying

(Continued from Page 1)

This decision-making process is where Jewish values play an important role, not only for the patient, but for the patient's family and physicians as well. "This is an extremely complex area of Jewish law," said Rabbi Schafer. "Each case is different," he added, and said that anyone who is looking for a definitive halachic ruling on a particular situation should consult an authority on end-of-life issues.

"To be an authority in this area, you must know all the religious law... and you must also

know all the medical issues," Schafer went on to describe the framework for Jewish ethics in this realm. "Every moment of life has infinite value," he said. "Any act that causes the death of another person is forbidden."

Rabbi Kaunfer commented, "The Jewish perspective may not coincide with American values." Specifically, he referred to the "American idea" that "my body is mine to do with as I please." Kaunfer stated, "The Jewish perspective is that we are given life as a gift from G-d, to protect and care for." Therefore, the rabbis agreed, it is forbidden to take any action that intentionally ends your life prematurely, and it is forbidden for others to assist you, even if it is done out of compassion.

According to Schafer, however, passive euthanasia may be permitted. Passive euthanasia is what happens when certain life-prolonging treatment or measures are withheld in order to let nature take its course. In fact,

if a person's death is irreversible and imminent, if there is no hope of recovery or of relief from pain, if further treatment would only prolong the inevitable, it may be wrong to intervene. "It is forbidden to do things to extend the agony of death," said Schafer.

Relief from pain, said both rabbis, is also a preeminent concern, especially at the final stage of life. If it is necessary to administer medication to relieve a dying person's pain, it should be done even if there is a risk that the patient's death will be hastened, according to Kaunfer. To purposefully give a lethal dose, however, is not acceptable. All three speakers admitted that there are large gray areas in this kind of decision making, and asserted that each case should be examined individually. The guiding principles, however, are clear. Schafer stated, "To prolong life is a mitzvah, to prolong death is not."

Upbeat 'Massa U'Mattan' to play Striar JCC Feb. 9

When the Israeli musical ensemble Massa U'Mattan takes the stage at Striar Jewish Community Center at 8 p.m. on Feb. 9, the concert will be a homecoming of sorts for 28-year-old Mattan Klein. The Jerusalem-born jazz flutist graduated from the Berklee College of Music in 1998, and he has fond memories of "Beantown" from his undergraduate days.

"I like coming back to Boston," the award-winning composer and performer explains in lightly-accented English. "It's a fun city and there's a lot of fun stuff to do. The city brings back a lot of memories for me."

The upcoming gig in Stoughton puts Striar JCC on a par with venues like the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and Boston's First Night Celebration at which Massa U'Mattan has recently performed.

The trio of 20-something performers also includes Jaffa-born vocalist Magda Fishman, and pianist Ofir Kaner of Tel Aviv. Fishman was a trumpeter in the Israeli Defense Forces Orchestra and its first full-time singer soloist. After completing her military service, she entered the Manhattan School of Music and went on to perform the principal role in the international musical theatre production of "The Picture of Dorian Gray," at the Prague State Opera. Her talent as a musical theatre vocalist adds beautifully varied textures to the trio's repertoire.

Massa U'Mattan will perform at Striar JCC on Saturday, February 9, at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$12 in advance; add \$3 at the door. To purchase tickets or for more information, please contact Gershon Levine, <glevine@jccgb.org>.



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Chabad of West Bay Announces Programs

On Jan. 23, Camp Gan Israel will hold an open house event for parents to learn more about the camp and its programs. The session will take place from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the home of Ellen Knaiss. For information and reservations, call Knaiss at 946-8552.

On Jan. 28, the Chabad CHAI Center will sponsor the program "Relationships: Mars and Venus, the Jewish View," presented by Rabbi Ari Laine. Both single and married men and women are invited to the lecture, which will teach tools to enhance relationships and communication skills, and how to make a marriage thrive. The program begins at 7:30 p.m., at Chabad of West Bay, 3871 Post Road, Warwick. A \$5 donation is requested. For more information or to reserve a spot, call 886-7875.

On Feb. 17 at 10:30 a.m., the "Mommy, Daddy and Me Purim Special" program will be held for children aged 2 to 5. Activities include hamantash baking, and mask and grogger making. Refreshments will be available. The cost will be \$2.50 per child, registration is required. For information and reservations contact Shoshannah Laufer at 886-7875.

On Feb. 26, Chabad of West Bay will hold the Family Purim Feast, a family celebration for all Rhode Island Jews, at the Hampton Inn Hotel and Suites, 1200 Post Road, Warwick. Megillah reading will begin at 4:45 p.m., and will be followed by a buffet dinner, live music and dancing, and children's entertainment. Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$9 for children, or \$50 per family. Table sponsorships are also available. R.S.V.P. by Feb. 18 by calling 886-7875.

JEWISH COMMUNITY

The Kosher Magnet

(Continued from Page 1)

The inn is just as historic as the city in which it resides. It was built in 1863 by the wealthy landowner Admiral Joseph B. Weaver as a summer home for his spinster sister. One feels enveloped in quiet elegance by the Victorian architecture, wicker furniture, and brass furnishings. The den, complete with fireplace and big comfy chairs, made me want to kick off my shoes and forget the dreary winter weather with a hot cup of tea. Twersky wanted to fuse the period architecture with modern conveniences, so he added TVs, personal refrigerators and even a Jacuzzi. He even brought the place online (www.kosherbedandbreakfast.com).

For those who have never been in a kosher hotel or bed and breakfast before, the Admiral can be an exciting place to be, because it actually feels ko-

sher. The kitchen has two refrigerators, two stoves, and two microwaves, one for meat items and one for milk. Every doorpost has a mezuzah. Shabbat candlesticks and a menorah rest on the mantelpiece above the fire, and during Shabbat not a radio, television or growling vacuum cleaner can be heard anywhere in the house.

The only thing more comforting than the Admiral itself might be its grandmotherly innkeeper, Mary Ellen Newbury, a sweet and charming Rhode Island native. Newbury, who is not Jewish, spent a great deal of time with the rabbi beforehand studying the laws of kashrut and continues to meet with him on a monthly basis. "I spend a lot of time at the library," she says, and her study is evident in the way she effortlessly tosses Jewish lingo around. For ex-

amples, when she says, "People can use our kitchen on Shabbos," you can almost hear the bubbe in her voice.

Twersky estimates that 75 percent of his boarders come from New York, with a smattering from Massachusetts, Providence and Israel. Because many of Touro's visitors are very religious, and because many of his relatives in New England are also very observant, Twersky decided to make his bed and breakfast kosher by Orthodox standards. For this project, he teamed up with the rabbi at Touro, Rabbi Mordechai Eskovitz, who led the kashrut supervision of the Admiral as it underwent its transformation.

Outside of regularly maintaining the kosher status of the establishment, Eskovitz also has an active working relationship with the inn. When bar and bat mitzvahs are held at Touro, he refers the family to the inn. Many of the guests are Shomer Shabbos and do not use electricity on Shabbat, and Eskovitz makes a visit to the inn before every Shabbat to see if he can assist people in any way. The inn is walking distance from Touro.

The Admiral is always starting to have effect on the Jewish community in Newport. "It's actually been very good for synagogue attendance," Eskovitz said. Because of the Admiral, large religious families can now visit Newport and have a place to stay. A family of 18, comprising four generations, will be coming to town



THE INN'S KITCHEN contains everything you would expect to find in a traditional kosher house. Pictured is an ornate hand-washing basin which is used before meals.



THE ROOMS were cozy and seemed a good place to relax after a long day of sightseeing. Herald photo by Jon Rubin

Why Are Jews So Afraid of Evangelical Christians?

(Gil Mann has a regular column on Jewish.com in which he answers questions about Judaism, such as the following):

Dear Gil:

Some time ago, I read an article in our local Jewish paper celebrating a Supreme Court ruling that a township of nearly 100 percent Christians could not include a fish in their seal because it could be interpreted as a Christian symbol.

As I read, I had to ask myself if we Jews are too paranoid of fundamentalist Christians. I realize that they are out to proselytize us. But why are we tolerant of Buddhists, Hindus and Hare Krishnas influencing our communities but single out Evangelical Christians to reject?

On the issue of this township wanting to use a fish in their symbol. One side of me felt that Americans need to be sensitive to minority religions (including Judaism). But then I thought about Israel. Don't we proudly wave a flag with a Magen David on it? There are over 20 percent non-Jews in Israel. We have a Star of David on our flag — Why do we have a different standard for a tiny township consisting almost entirely of Christians?

I spent this past Shabbat with a small group of Evangelical Christians. They did not try to force me to convert. In fact, they showed a genuine interest in my religion and culture. They were full of questions ranging from the meaning of Shabbat candles to questions about the

effects of the Holocaust on modern Judaism. We had a great time and they left with a much better understanding of Judaism. It struck me that these people were so secure in their identity and expression of worship that they had a genuine interest in my different way. I found myself wishing we Jews could be so secure in our identity.

What can we do to be more secure in who we are so we can be comfortable around Christians and understand them?

Shalom,
V

Dear V:

I am with you...I wish Jews were more secure with (and knowledgeable about) Judaism. That is the antidote to proselytizing... more about that in a moment.

Before that, though, I'd like to address your other two points which really are two different issues. Your question about the city putting a Christian symbol of a fish in their flag or emblem is not a matter of Jewish paranoia.

Members of other religions fight this sort of thing too because it is a violation of the U.S. Constitution. Unlike Israel, "the Jewish State" where Judaism is the official religion, America is built on the concept of the separation of church and state. No religious symbol is appropriate on any government institution,

place or symbol...as the Supreme Court affirmed.

As to your other point about Jews singling out Evangelical Christians, I don't think this is true. Jewish community leadership in my view, is opposed to any religion, including the ones you cite, when they attempt to convert Jews.

There are two main reasons. There is a theological argument that Judaism brings something unique to the world. There is also a practical argument: we are not a billion strong! With just a few million of us we cannot afford to lose Jews.

Now, if you are referring to just learning and being influenced from other religions, that is another matter, that I endorse, regardless of the religion. Your Shabbat dinner is good example. I too enjoy this kind of interaction with Christians (and others)

(Continued on Page 10)

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Israeli Myths and Facts

MYTH #39 "Israel can withdraw from the West Bank with little more difficulty than was the case in Sinai."

FACT: Several pages of Israel's peace treaty with Egypt are devoted to security arrangements. For example, Article III of the treaty's annex concerns the areas where reconnaissance flights are permitted, and Article V allows the establishment of early-warning systems in specific zones.

The security guarantees, which were required to give Israel the confidence to withdraw, were only possible because the Sinai was demilitarized. They provide Israel a large buffer-zone of more than 100 miles. Today, the Egyptian border is 60 miles from Tel Aviv and 70 from Jerusalem, the nearest major Israeli cities. The Sinai remains sparsely populated desert, with a population of less than 250,000.

The situation in the territories is entirely different. More than two million Arabs live in the West Bank, many in crowded cities and refugee camps. Most of them are located close to Israeli cities such as Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. It is important for Israel that the West Bank not fall into the hands of hostile neighbors. The infiltration in recent years of terrorists from

the Palestinian Authority who have committed horrific acts such as suicide bombings illustrate the danger.

Despite the threat, since Oslo Israel has withdrawn from much of the West Bank and Prime Minister Ehud Barak offered at Camp David in September 2000 to give up more than 90 percent of it in return for a final settlement with the Palestinians. The Palestinians rejected the offer.

"Israel will not, and cannot, however, go back to the pre-1967 borders as demanded by the Palestinians. The agreements Israel has signed with the Palestinians, and the treaty with Jordan, contain many specific provisions designed to minimize the security risks to Israel.

It is impossible to defend Jerusalem unless you hold the high ground....An aircraft that takes off from an airport in Amman is going to be over Jerusalem in two-and-a-half minutes, so it's utterly impossible for me to defend the whole country unless I hold that land."

— Lieutenant General (Ret.) Thomas Kelly, director of operations for the Joint Chiefs of Staff during the Gulf War.

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

JNF Phone-A-Thon to Assist Israeli Communities

Jewish National Fund will hold its annual Green Sunday phone-a-thon in Brookline, Mass., on Feb. 10. Green Sunday, a million-dollar fund-raising campaign conducted in communities across the United States, involves hundreds of volunteers from synagogues, youth groups and the community. It is an event that brings members of the communities together with a common goal — to help Israel. These volunteers engage in telephone solicitation of thousands of donors to raise funds for Israel.

"Many American Jews feel helpless as they watch agonizing images on television of the recent terrorist attacks on America and the ongoing unrest in Israel, which are situations painfully beyond their control," said Jeffrey Davis, JNF's regional president. "Through the Green Sunday phone-a-thon, we hope to send a message to the members of our community that they are not powerless to help Israel. By volunteering on Green Sunday or contributing to JNF, they can do their part to help the land of Israel in its time of need," adds Jay Shapiro, Green Sunday chair.

JNF volunteers will be calling households in the New En-

gland area, to let them know how they can help Israel, particularly regarding the current water shortage. "JNF's annual Green Sunday phone-a-thon is a critical tool to raise money for the land of Israel. The funds raised through the phone-a-thon enable JNF to continue its work towards alleviating the water shortage in Israel," explains Jay Pabian, JNF regional executive vice-president. "By speaking with donors and updating them on JNF's miraculous efforts, we hope to call them to action. JNF's work allows Israel to make the most of its scarce water resources, and the generosity of our donors and our sponsors is what makes this possible."

Over the past century, many different issues have arisen in Israel, and JNF has continually evolved to address Israel's most pressing needs. As JNF celebrates its 100th anniversary, the organization is proud of its many accomplishments in the areas of reforestation and providing Israel with healthy green space; building infrastructure for Israel's growing population; building access roads for security; providing employment for waves of new immigrants; educating children in the United

States and Israel about Zionism and the environment; and improving the quality of life for all Israelis through the building of parks and recreation areas.

In recent years, JNF has shifted its focus towards the water shortage since the severity of the situation has increased significantly. Today, JNF is a major force in water resource development in Israel. The organization is committed to a \$250 million water initiative to extend the life of Israel's existing water resources that includes building 100 new reservoirs, research projects and restoring polluted rivers all over Israel.

"JNF, with the help of its loyal supporters, has been able to increase Israel's water supply by over 6 percent, but so much more remains to be done," explains JNF President Ronald S. Lauder. "The well-being of Israel depends upon the generosity of American Jews who make a personal commitment and encourage others to also give to JNF, because JNF is our link to the people and the land of Israel."

To volunteer for the Green Sunday phone-a-thon or to contribute to JNF, contact Sharon Freedman at (617) 423-0999 or <srfreedman@jnf.org>.

BBC Gets 'Dishonest Reporting' Award for Slanted Israel Coverage

HonestReporting.com, the pro-Israel media watch group, has granted its ignoble Dishonest Reporting "Award" 2001 to BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation), for demonstrating consistent anti-Israel bias.

BBC's journalistic record is

perhaps summed up best by one of its own employees, Fayad Abu Shamala, the BBC correspondent in Gaza for the past 10 years. Speaking at a Hamas rally on May 6, 2001, he declared: "Journalists and media organizations [are] waging

the campaign shoulder-to-shoulder together with the Palestinian people."

In the face of this blatant violation of journalistic ethics, BBC mustered a lame response: "Fayad's remarks were made in a private capacity. His reports have always matched the best standards of balance required by the BBC."

HonestReporting.com also accorded "Dishonorable Mention" for anti-Israel bias to: Associated Press, CNN, Robert Fisk (The UK Independent), Suzanne Goldenberg (The UK Guardian), Joshua Hammer (Newsweek), Chris Hedges (Harpers), Lee Hockstader (The Washington Post), Reuters, and Deborah Sontag (The New York Times).

The full media bias report is online at HonestReporting.com, where individuals can also sign up for weekly e-mail updates.

Courtesy of aish.com

Hebrew College Hosts Leading Scholars of Biblical Text

The Truths we derive from biblical text are not necessarily the same as historical facts, or are they? How contemporary readers should reconcile — or separate — the two has sparked intense scholarly debate. Now, several internationally renowned Bible scholars bring their individual perspectives to the discussion in "How to Read the Bible When It Isn't History: Responding to a Modern Challenge," a series of six lectures offered by the Center for Adult Jewish Learning at Hebrew College, 160 Herrick Road, Newton Centre.

The lecture series begins in January with "Story, History or (His)story: Three Case Studies," presented by Everett Fox, the acclaimed translator of *The Five Books of Moses and Give Us a King! Samuel, Saul and David*, and professor of Judaic and biblical studies at Clark University. Fox will examine the character of the Bible's narrative text over the course of three Thursday evenings, Jan. 31, Feb. 14 and 28, using each session to focus on a major biblical period. The lectures take place from 8 to 9:30 p.m.

Marc Z. Brettler, author of *The Creation of History Ancient*

Israel and The Book of Judges, will give the next two lectures addressing "The Creation of History in Ancient Israel." His first presentation on March 4, "Book of Judges," will examine whether this biblical text really recounts the ancient Israelite past. On March 11, Brettler will explore "Twice-told Narratives," explaining why various biblical episodes are described twice, how differences arose between the versions and why they were preserved. Brettler is professor of Biblical studies and chair of the department of Near Eastern and Judaic studies at Brandeis University. Both lectures are scheduled from 8 to 9:30 p.m.

The series concludes with "What is the Bible?" Two Views on March 18, 8 to 9:30 p.m. Fox and Brettler will explore a single biblical text and debate whether to view it as history, literature or ancient propaganda.

The cost of individual lectures is \$15 at the door or \$10 if registration is received by Jan. 29. Advance registration for all six lectures is \$48. For additional information or to register, please contact the Center for Adult Jewish Learning at (617) 559-8709.

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

New Collection of Spiritual Writings by Women Reflects Search for Healing

The special interests and concerns of women during today's crises and spiritual challenges are the theme of a new illustrated volume of prayers, poetry and meditations written by and for women. *A Gift of Prayer: The Spirituality of Jewish Women* is a collection of writings by Jewish women and women clergy over the past 15 years. It reflects the need of women for faith and comfort during these times of harrowing assault on civilized norms, and for all time.

The book is jointly published by Women of Reform Judaism, The Federation of Temple Sisterhoods (the women's affiliate of Reform Judaism) and the UAHC Press, the publishing arm of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. The eight illustrations on the theme of prayer are by women and men. "Although we planned the publication many months before the Sept. 11 attack, its theme has become even more relevant as a guide in helping to ease the pain and doubt of that tragedy," said Ellen Y. Rosenberg, executive director of WRJ.

She explained that more than 3,000 families were directly affected by the terrorist attack through the loss of family members and emphasized that the traumatic impact on the country as a whole and on other civilized nations has intensified the need for spiritual healing. "It is our hope that *A Gift of Prayer* can assist women to cope with the horror and fears of Sept. 11," she added.

The 80-page hardcover volume is the result of WRJ's ongoing efforts to collect the spiritual writings of women and women clergy of the Reform Movement. The 40 prayers, blessings, meditations and poetry, while written and published by Jewish women, is appropriate "Not only for Jewish women but for all those interested in integrating prayer in their everyday lives," according to Ellen M. Umansky, Carl and

A GIFT OF PRAYER

The Spirituality of Jewish Women



Women of Reform Judaism

Dorothy Bennett Professor of Judaic Studies at Fairfield University in Connecticut.

The book covers many aspects of life, including blessings and meditations dealing with parents and grandparents, daughters, adoption, death and new beginnings. One unusual meditation, "I Am," by Reva

Belle Kramer of Niagara Falls, New York concludes:

"I am an American Jewish woman.

I hope, I dream, I believe. Part of a strong heritage, producer of change.

There is a place for Peace, there is a place for Love.

There is G-d. Humble, soft, compliant, Yet proud, strong, defiant —

I am an American Jewish Woman."

Blu Greenberg, author of books and articles on Jewish religious and secular affairs, writes that *A Gift of Prayer* brings "words that open the heart, comfort the soul, firm the resolve."

Rabbi Nancy H. Wiener, clinical director of the Jacob and Hilda Blaustein Center for Pastoral Counseling at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, says the volume "is for everyone who seeks expressions to enhance their spiritual journey."

Ari L. Goldman, associate professor at Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism and author of *The Search for God at Harvard* and other works, has praised the book "both for its language and art work" and because it "gives voice to our deepest contemporary longings."

Copies of *A Gift of Prayer* may be ordered by sending a check for \$19.95 per copy (plus \$4 for postage and handling and \$1 for each additional book) to UAHC Press, 633 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017. Telephone toll free (888) 489-UAHC or fax to (212) 650-4119. Order online at <www.uahcpress.com>.

NCJW Launches Campaign To Support Roe vs. Wade

As the nation observes the 29th anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision on January 22, members of the National Council of Jewish Women will be taking the first steps in their campaign to preserve the landmark Supreme Court ruling that affirmed the right to abortion for American women. NCJW activists and supporters in the R.I. Section will be calling Senators Reed and Chafee urging them to confirm only those judicial nominees who will uphold abortion rights as spelled out in Roe v. Wade.

The Roe Anniversary Call-In is the inaugural activity of "BenchMark: NCJW's Campaign to Save Roe," a national effort to educate and mobilize NCJW members, the Jewish community, and friends and allies everywhere to promote a federal bench with judges that support fundamental freedoms including a woman's right to choose.

NCJW intends to educate, activate, and mobilize the Jewish community in the effort to save Roe. In R.I., NCJW members will enlist their friends and acquaintances and reach out to the general public using all the tools at their disposal. Nation-

ally, NCJW will also use its Web site, magazine, newsletters, action alerts, and national meetings to implement its BenchMark Campaign.

"We're not only worried about the Supreme Court," said NCJW RI Section President Eunice Greenfield. "We are also pledged to oppose any nominee for the U.S. Court of Appeals who will not uphold Roe. Too many of our appeals court judges have chipped away at Roe based on their own ideological bent. Since the Supreme Court only hears about 100 cases of 7,500 sent to it every year, the role of these judges cannot be overstated—the appeals courts almost always have the last word."

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

For more information, call 943-3760.

Songs of Freedom and Justice at Emanu-El

In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day and to help build community in the wake of Sept. 11, the Temple Emanu-El Social Action committee is hosting its annual interfaith singing event. The concert will take place on Jan. 26 at 7 p.m. at the Temple Emanu-El Alperin Meeting House, 99 Taft Ave. on the East Side of Providence (corner of Morris Avenue and Sessions Street, up the street from Nathan Bishop Middle School and the Jewish Community Center).



Admission is free and refreshments will be provided. The event is wheelchair-accessible.

In addition to audience sing-alongs with special guest, Bill Harley, several local groups are scheduled to perform, including: Congdon Street Baptist Church's Senior Choir, Gospel Chorus, and Youth Choir; Temple Emanu-El's Choral Club, and Youth and Children's Choirs; the Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School Glee Club, and Brown University's a cappella group, Shades of Brown.

Bring your family and friends for this fun and community-oriented event. If you need additional information, contact Judy Kaye at 751-8665.

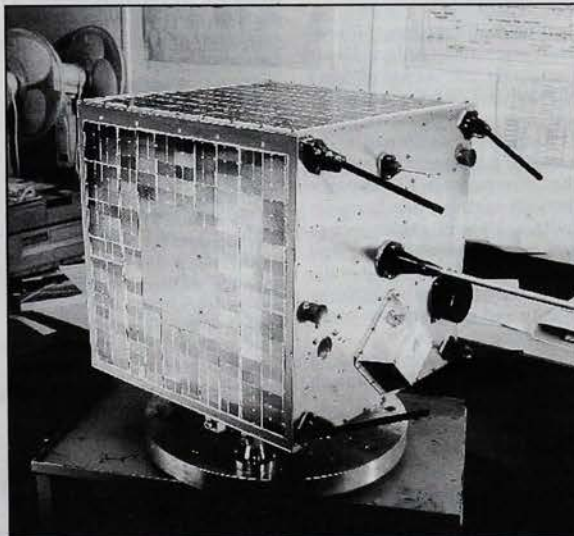
Israeli Satellite Begins Its Fourth Year in Space

Satellites the size of Gurwin TechSat II typically stay in space for one to two years, but this mostly student-built satellite has exceeded expectations as it starts its fourth year in orbit. At the same time, the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology satellite serves as the foundation for an agreement with Cornell University researchers to test new control methods.

Technion and Cornell researchers have developed small spacecraft attitude controllers — which regulate the direction the satellite points and improve their efficiency — specifically designed for less expensive, lighter small spacecrafts. The controllers are to be tested in the winter and spring of 2002 on the Gurwin TechSat II, considered ideal for the tests because of its small size (106 pounds). If the control methods work, they may be used in the next generation of U.S. satellites.

"When you are in space, it's very difficult to tell which way you are pointing, and especially difficult to be oriented in the right direction" according to attitude specialist Professor Mark L. Psiaki of Cornell's Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Department. "We are pursuing this vital field because new developments are needed to make the use of these small satellites more economical. It would take much more money — and a larger satellite — to use the existing hardware."

Psiaki, a visiting professor at the Technion in 1994-1995 and again in 2001, is working with Technion professor Moshe Guelman, head of the Asher Space Research Institute. Guelman has been working on the satellite since it was launched in 1998. At the time, the satellite was the least expensive, smallest satellite of its kind, and the lowest power consumer. Philanthropist Joseph Gurwin of Long Island, N.Y., funded the project.



Gurwin TechSat II is a small Israeli satellite that has started its fourth year in space.



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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Invisible Matters

by Rabbi Avi Shafran

Much puzzlement — and even more merriment — greeted the story, reported by the Associated Press and others, of some observant Jews reluctance to fly El Al planes from Tel Aviv to New York because their flight path at take off passes directly over a cemetery in the town of Holon.

What engendered the concern of observant cohanim, or descendants of Moses' brother Aaron, about boarding the flights was the halachic stricture forbidding them from certain contact with, including passing above, dead bodies. Such contact, according to Jewish religious law deriving from a number of verses in Leviticus, confers a spiritual contamination of sorts (a respected Reform rabbi and scholar with whom I was friendly, William Braude, once even suggested that the world "contaminate" may itself be sourced in the Hebrew word for that effect, tum'ah). While enclosures of various sorts can "insulate" a cohein from such contamination, whether the alloys that comprise the body of a modern aircraft might do so is a complex halachic issue.

At least one major halachic authority ruled that they cannot, and so some cohanim opted not to fly the airline. Others, much to the amusement of some in the media, requested to be permitted to enclose themselves on the plane in various ways, including, reportedly, in body bags — which, sadly, are well-stocked in Israel these days.

It has been reported that Is-

raeli Transportation Minister Ephraim Sneh has made efforts to reroute El Al's planes to accommodate its observant passengers. If that indeed proves to be the case, the problem for observant travelers will have been solved.

The media snickering, though, over the image of rational human beings so concerned with something imperceptible that they would go so far to wrap themselves in insulation made me think about a very similar scene that unfolded recently in a number of venues. There, too, otherwise reasonable men had encased themselves in body bags (they called them "suits") to protect themselves against an entirely invisible danger, in places like the Hart Senate Office Building and a number of post office facilities in Washington, New York and elsewhere.

Now, needless to say, anthrax germs, while invisible to the human eye, are still physical entities and detectable in other ways. And they are capable of causing very apparent disease and death. Tum'ah, by contrast, is invisible to even the most powerful microscope, and has no evident physical effects. But that does not make it unreal, and therein lies important food for Jewish thought.

The Jewish people might best be described, from a historical perspective, as the vehicle for teaching the world about the invisible. Our ancestors faced a world filled with idols of every substance and worshippers of stars, and forced it to confront a

new and outrageous idea: that the true G-d transcends all His creations and is unseen.

And there were other invisibles that our forbears introduced, to, ideals like justice, education, empathy and peace.

What is more, Judaism, while it lives and breathes in the "real" world of our physical existence, is steeped in the idea that what we think and say and do makes a difference not only in the familiar world but also — and perhaps most of all — in a spiritual realm largely imperceptible to us. When we perform a mitzvah, we affect that spiritual realm, as well as the spiritual within us.

We may have done nothing more than heard a shofar's cry on Rosh Hashanah or taken an esrog and lulav on Sukkot; nothing more than circumcised a Jewish baby or made a blessing on a food; nothing more than refrained from eating a forbidden food or from speaking ill of others. But we have created a powerful effect, even if it is one not readily noticeable.

There is much else in the rich realm of the invisible including puzzling things like tum'ah. But Jews sensitive to Jewish tradition do not seek to ridicule or dismiss them, but rather to endeavor, through study of Jewish sources, to better understand them.

Because they realize that, whether in the realm of sickness or of spirit, sometimes what is invisible matters.

Am Echad Resources. Rabbi Avi Shafran is director of public affairs for Agudath Israel of America.

Seized Ship is Terror Wake-up Call

(Continued from Page 3)

away from developing a nuclear strike capability. And Israel is already well within range of Iranian missiles. That threat is hardly confined to Israel alone: Iran is developing new generations of ballistic missiles with intercontinental range.

When the late Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin initiated the Oslo peace process, one of his main rationales was the need to neutralize the Palestinian conflict and free Israel for an eventual confrontation with its existential enemy, Iran. Sooner or later, Rabin believed, Israel would be forced to destroy Iran's nuclear capability, just as Israel destroyed Iraq's nuclear reactor in 1981.

Rafsanjani's speech reveals Rabin's prescience in identifying Iran as a threat to Israel's survival.

As Washington contemplates its next strike against terrorism, Iran needs to be moved from the column of potential allies to the column of potential targets. In fact, an attack on Iran — even before a strike against Iraq — may be strategically compelling. Attacking Iran first would preclude the danger of an Iranian seizure of Shiite areas of southern Iraq. And an attack on Tehran could embolden the democratic uprising against the mullahs that is stirring just below the surface of imposed uniformity.

Destroying the Taliban has been a crucial first step in the war against radical Islam. But the real defeat of Islamic extremists must happen in Tehran, where the movement won its most compelling victory.

The message of modern holy war first emanated from Iran; indeed, the war against the U.S. that culminated on Sept. 11 began with the seizure of the American Embassy in Tehran in 1979.

Israel's interception of the weapons ship has sabotaged Iran's moderate image, carefully cultivated in recent months to avoid scrutiny of its nuclear program. But now that its continuing involvement in international terrorism has been exposed, it cannot be allowed to continue its nuclear development unimpeded.

If President Bush is serious about challenging terror at its root, he cannot avoid a confrontation with the regime that initiated anti-American terrorism and that is considering a nuclear nightmare.

Yossi Klein Halevi is the Israel correspondent for the New Republic and a senior writer for the Jerusalem Report. He is the author of At the Entrance to the Garden of Eden: A Jew's Search for G-d with Christians and Muslims in the Holy Land.

This article originally appeared on <jewishworldreview.com>

Pizmon Concert to Benefit HEM March 2

To hear Pizmon is to hear an extraordinary array of Jewish sounds — from traditional melodies to modern Israeli music to Yiddish folk songs. Pizmon, the Jewish a cappella group of Columbia College, Barnard College, and the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, will be performing at the annual fund-raiser for the Harry Elkin Midrasha Community High School of the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island on March 2 at 7:30 p.m. at Temple Emanu-El in Providence.

The Harry Elkin Midrasha Community High School is a supplementary religious education program for Jewish teens in grades eight through 12. HEM encourages teens to remain active in Jewish life and learning after their bar or bat mitzvah by providing a broad-based curriculum in topics such as Jewish ethics, history, literature, Hebrew, and the rabbinic. Classes are innovative, stimu-

lating and taught by an outstanding faculty including the clergy from the school's partner synagogues. This year, 185 students from throughout Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts take part in this exceptional program.

Since its inception in 1986, the 17-member Pizmon has toured extensively in the United States and Europe, including several popular concerts here in Rhode Island. Pizmon concerts are known for their high energy and fantastic music. The group prides itself on appealing to audiences of all ages. In addition to Pizmon, this year's event will also feature a performance by Kol Kesem, the HEM Youth Choir under the direction of Cantor Brian J. Mayer. Kol Kesem is comprised of more than 30 teens from the greater Rhode Island area, and has been a favorite at many of the area's celebrations and concerts.

Tickets for the HEM fundraiser are \$18 for adults and \$5 for students. There will also be a special family price of \$45. Students of the Harry Elkin Midrasha Community High School are invited at no cost. Tickets are available in advance or at the door.

To purchase tickets or for more information about the HEM fundraiser or other teen programs offered by the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island, contact Rich Walter at 331-0956 or by e-mail at <rwalter@bjeri.org>.

Camp Gan Israel to Hold Open House

The parents of Camp Gan Israel will be holding an open house at the home of Ellen Knasin, for any one that is interested in knowing how fun and exciting a Jewish summer camp experience can be. The open house will be held Jan. 23 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. For more information, call Ellen Knasin at 946-8552.

Gan Israel is also proud to announce the opening of two new programs for the summer of 2002.

Due to the great success of

summer 2001, parents have requested that Camp Gan Israel extend its range of age groups. In the past the camp only served the 4- to 10-year-olds, this year they are adding a mini Gan Israel Program for kids ages 3 to 4 years old and a Girls Pioneer Program, ages 11 to 13 years old.

The regular Gan Israel day camp program is for boys and girls, ages 5 to 10 years old, which this year will be three individual weekly programs from June 24 to July 12.

Camp Gan Israel enjoys a

well-earned reputation as a trendsetter in Jewish camping with innovative ideas and creative programs. Campers will enjoy a wide range of exciting activities and field trips in a warm, caring environment, cultivating pride and love for their Jewish heritage.

"Fun, spirit, action and Jewish friends await kids at Camp Gan Israel this summer," says Shoshanah Laufer, camp director.

Each day of camp will be devoted to a different theme that the campers will explore through exciting hands-on activities, stories, games, songs and more. Challah baking and Shabbat parties are some of the experiences through which the beauty and values of our tradition will come alive.

For more information, call Camp Director Shoshanah Laufer at 886-7875.



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JEWISH COMMUNITY

R.I. Hadassah to Honor Educator Jenny Klein

The Rhode Island Chapter of Hadassah will honor Jenny Klein, its scholar-in-residence, at a luncheon to be held on March 10. Klein is the chapter's vice president for education and has initiated programs and projects that challenge members' knowledge and encourage exploration into our Jewish heritage and teachings.

The keynote speaker is Ruth Cole, National Hadassah's chairwoman of the Hadassah College of Technology located in Israel. Rabbi Alvin Kauner of Temple Emanu-El is participating in the program that honors Jenny Klein's 95th birthday and Hadassah's 90th anniversary. The event will be held at Temple Emanu-El in Providence with a reception at 11:30 a.m. and a luncheon at noon. The fee for lunch is \$25, with proceeds to benefit Hadassah's College of Technology by establishing a scholarship in Klein's name. Rosalind Bolusky, chairwoman of the event, reports that invitations are in the mail and all Hadassah members and friends of Klein are invited.

Klein has spent her life as a Jewish educator and is one of the founders of the Jewish Educators Assembly. She has served as president of Hadassah chapters and as chairwoman of the R.I. Holocaust Memorial Museum. In 1997 she was awarded a doctor of pedagogy by the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York.



Jenny Klein

Throwing Out the Burka

(Continued from Page 3)

hair, usually with headscarves, hats, or sheitels — wigs — or some beguiling combination of these. For us, the working principle comes from Tehillim, the book of Psalms: "All glorious is the king's daughter within the palace" (45:14). Glorious, yes; but inwardly glorious, privately glorious.

A woman wearing a wig, however gorgeous, is conscious that it's not her own hair on display. This awareness lets her internalize the principle of modesty even while outwardly appearing spectacular. Plus, having covered my own hair during my marriage, I can also testify to the fact that even the most gorgeous sheitel can feel like a bulky hat when your own hair is crammed underneath.

While I was a student at University of Toronto, I rarely wore my sheitel to school. With scarves or snoods over my hair, I was often taken for some sort of nun or a Muslim — even by other Muslims. (A girl once approached me and whispered the Islamic greeting, "asaleem aleikum." I wonder what she would have done if I'd answered "aleichem shalom," the traditional response to the similar Hebrew greeting.)

Since my divorce, I no longer

cover my hair. While most Jewish legal authorities rule this is not acceptable, wearing my hair uncovered has given me a sense of relief, of being unburdened, of having my youth back, and, my vanity — I guess those aren't all good things. And I'm pretty sure I lost something, as well.

When people looked at me, they saw a religious person. Somebody who put G-d first and herself second. As good as it feels to have my own hair back, I miss that respect — and the self-respect that grew from seeing myself that way.

So I'm in a fairly unique position. I think I know something of what those women are feeling as they toss aside their various scarves and heavy outer coverings. But I wonder if we in the Western world, instead of cheering them on as they toss away the vestiges of their religious traditions, ought to instead be urging them to save the baby — true Islam — as they drain the foul bathwater that was the Taliban's theocracy.

A Jewish acquaintance once asked: "Why cover your hair? When my bubbly [grandmother] boarded the boat, she tossed her sheitel right over the edge and never looked back!" And my

own bubbly said that when she first came here from Poland, someone said she didn't have to keep kosher [follow the Jewish dietary laws] here — so she didn't.

Well, bubbly, I've learned something. You don't have to keep kosher here. And you don't have to cover your hair — that's what freedom means, after all. But I wish you could have known how much more precious these things feel if you're choosing them freely rather than just doing them because you have to, or because that's the way you've always done them?

My ancestors came here believing this was the goldenh medineh, the fabled Golden Land, where Jews and non-Jews could thrive side by side. I pray for those Afghan women that their homeland will also become a goldenh medineh, that they discover new opportunities and cherish new freedoms. But I fear they're just trading one type of restriction — "you must cover yourself" — for another — "you mustn't cover yourself." In which case, all that hard-won freedom is no freedom at all.

This article originally appeared on <www.aish.com>.

Why Your Jewish Vote Counts

The 34th World Zionist Congress — known to many as "The Parliament of the Jewish People" — will meet in Jerusalem next year to debate critical political, religious, and educational issues affecting the Jewish people and to allocate funding for many important causes at this crucial time in Israel's history. You can participate in this process by voting for delegates to the congress in the most open, democratic election in the American Jewish community.

The 145-member American delegation is second in size only to Israel's. Americans' diverse opinions will significantly affect the final decisions of the entire congress, which includes representatives from more than 40 countries. American Jews who are at least 18 years of age and accept The Jerusalem Program are eligible to participate in these elections. But you must register to vote.

What is the World Zionist

Congress? In 1897, Theodor Herzl convened about 200 Jewish leaders from around the world in Basel, Switzerland to discuss the condition of the Jewish people. The delegates at the meeting, or congress, decided to create a movement whose goal it was to establish a Jewish Homeland. The World Zionist Organization was born.

Since that time, the World Zionist Congress has met 32 times to resolve critical issues facing the Jewish people, from building Israel's infrastructure to the establishment of the State...from the aliyah following the Holocaust to the aliyah of today.

The 34th World Zionist Congress, meeting in Jerusalem June 2002, will set an agenda that is certain to affect Israeli society and Israel-Diaspora relations for years to come. Read about the Zionist Congress's greatest accomplishments. Participate in history. Vote for your delegates.

Visit Azam.org for a registration form.

NCCJ Holds Youth Community Leadership Seminar

The National Conference for Community and Justice, Youth Council of R.I. High School Leaders, will hold "A Call to Action... Building a Stronger R.I. community," a youth leadership seminar on Jan. 15 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Many of us have taken the opportunity to make financial donations, donate blood or volunteer time in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 attacks. We have rallied, prayed and reflected. Now, as recovery efforts continue and military action has and still is taking place, the National Conference for Community and Justice's YOUTH Council and Leadership in a New Century, students invite you — our high school student leaders — to influence the outcome of events in our community. We must collaborate and plan together to build a stronger Rhode Island community for the long haul... Students will:

- Meet high school student leaders from the public, independent and parochial school communities.
- Formulate plans to build our community and help one another heal and solve problems.
- Participate in an exciting program, A "Wall of Hope."

The meeting will be held at the Community College of Rhode Island, Liston Campus, 1 Hilton St., Providence, R.I. For information, call NCCJ at 467-1717.

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Amazon.com Cuts Ties With Pro-Intifada Web site

Online book-seller Amazon.com has disqualified www.alaq.saintifada.org from their associates program, making them ineligible to earn referral fees. Amazon has also asked alaq.saintifada.org to remove all its links to Amazon.com, but as of this writing it has not been done.

You can write a reminder to: associates@amazon.com

In September 2001, public pressure forced Amazon to terminate its associate's arrangement with Intifada.com, when it was determined that money raised from the sale of Amazon books was being used to fund terror activities.

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JEWISH COMMUNITY

Israel News



India, Israel Discuss Military Cooperation, Fighting Terrorism

Minister of Foreign Affairs Shimon Peres held talks with Indian Defense Minister George Fernandes last week as the two countries discussed ways to cooperate in the war on terrorism, *Ha'aretz* reported. An Israeli official from the Ministry of Defense said Peres discussed the situation in the subcontinent where both nuclear-capable India and Pakistan have mobilized troops after Pakistani terrorists attacked India's parliament building in mid-December.

A Defense official from India added that Peres and Fernandes also exchanged views on the security situation, terrorism and defense cooperation. "Defense cooperation with Israel is an ongoing thing," he said.

Peres was on a three-day visit to India and met with his counterpart Jaswant Singh and Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee. Since their establishment of diplomatic relations in 1992, India and Israel have expanded defense cooperation and counter-terrorism cooperation. New Delhi purchased aerial surveillance vehicles from Israel and is currently negotiating the purchase of an Israeli made Phalcon airborne early warning radar system, which military experts say will significantly advance India's military capability. The two nations have also been discussing measures to fight terrorism.

ISA, Police Arrest Weapons Smugglers, Killers of 2 Israelis

The Israeli Security Agency and the Galilee regional police uncovered a weapons smuggling ring attempting to smuggle explosive devices from Syria into the West Bank with

the help of Druze residents of the Golan Heights, *Ha'aretz* reported. Security forces arrested five people suspected of involvement with the ring.

The men were charged with attempting to smuggle five mines and 15 hand-grenades into the West Bank. Written instructions regarding how to produce the maximum number of casualties were attached to the explosive devices.

Meanwhile, the ISA and the police announced the arrests of two Palestinians suspected of murdering kashrut inspector Aharon Avdian from Zichron Ya'akov in July and Said Fuad from Baka al-Garbiyeh in October. The two suspects, Rasam Fareed Hussein, 42, and his cousin Tarek Adnan Hussein, are residents of the West Bank village Nizlat Isa. A third Palestinian, also a resident of the village, is suspected of being an accomplice to the murders, but he evaded capture. During questioning, both men confessed to links to the Fatah organization in the area of the West Bank city of Tulkarem.

Avdian was murdered while shopping in the Baka al-Sharkiya market. It is believed that Tarek Hussein opened fire several times at Avdian before fleeing to areas under PA-control along with Rasam Hussein and the third suspect.

Israeli Arab to play Lead Role in 'My Fair Lady'

Mira Awad, 26, a Christian Israeli Arab from the village of Rama in the Galilee, was selected to play the role of Eliza Doolittle in the Israeli musical production of "My Fair Lady," *Yediot Aharonot* reported. Awad is a graduate of the Rimmon School for Music in Ramat HaSharon and competed against 119 other candidates.

In the new production, Oded Kotler will play the role of Professor Higgins, Shaike Levy will play the part of Alfred Doolittle, Eliza's father, and Alex Ansky will play Colonel Pickering. The musical is being produced by Micha Levinson and will be performed at the Opera House in Tel Aviv.

Latin American Jews Establish Jewish Nobel Prize

A group of anonymous Jews from Latin America formed the AMN fund and established the first Jewish Noble Prize in which five Israelis will receive a sum of \$1 million, *Yediot Aharonot* reported. The award will be given to Jews that have excelled in the categories of culture and art, social sciences, liberal arts, applied sciences and Judaism.

Candidates' submission process is slated to take place in the next few months. The members of the prize committee include former Supreme Court Judge Gabriel Bach, former Minister of Health Victor Shem Tov, Shulamit Shamir, wife of former Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Arye Dovson, the Director-General of the AMN fund.

Storms Raise Kinneret Water Level

The cold front that brought heavy rain and snow this week to northern and central hill regions raised the level of the Kinneret (Sea of Galilee) by 16 centimeters, *The Jerusalem Post* reported. The increased flow in the Jordan River and its tributaries and the streams leading down from the Galilee and the Golan are expected to give a further boost to the still depleted waters of the lake.

Why Are Jews So Afraid of Evangelical Christians?

(Continued from Page 5)

and recognize that not all Christians want to convert me.

However, there are many Christians who have a goal of actively seeking converts. One

of the main objectives of these Christians is to bring the Gospels of Jesus to the world. If you'll pardon the term, in their theology, this is a great "mitzvah." They believe they are saving the world and the souls of those they convert.

Further, some of these Christians specifically, proactively and very publicly target Jews for conversion. This is an affront to many Jews and does raise the ire of Jewish leadership. Not only does this send a message that Judaism is defective, but the effort brings up traumatic memory of Jewish/Christian history that continues to cause pain and fear. The most obvious example is the Inquisition and there are many others. Further, many point to Christian (i.e., church taught) anti-Semitism as one of the foundations on which the Holocaust was built.

In the West, perhaps we react more to Christian fundamentalism because we live in predominantly Christian societies. I would imagine in Iran, Jews do not think about Christian fundamentalism...they

worry instead about Islamic fundamentalism for some of the same reasons I listed above.

The solution to any real or perceived pressure from Christians, as I said from the outset, is that Jews need to feel more secure in their Judaism. This requires knowledge and learning about Judaism. Now I must say, that some Christian proselytizers are true pros who can refute anything, citing scripture left and right. To assist anyone who feels overwhelmed by such arguments, I'll end with a Web site loaded with helpful information: www.JewsForJudaism.org.

The Quest for Soul

by Velvel "Wally" Spiegler

Sometimes we use words much too liberally, without regard for their real meanings. The problem is that people understand certain words differently, words like freedom or morals or justice, perhaps the words that philosophers scratch their heads over. So consequently we often don't communicate well. One word that I find bandied about much too often is "soul."

What is the soul? For our own well-being, I think it's important to understand the nature of soul, even despite its abstract intangibility. From my viewpoint, I think that a deeper understanding of soul not only plays an important role in our lives spiritually but also the way our mind and body heals.

From a spiritual standpoint, Jewish literature is rich with references concerning the soul, but is sparse in explanations. The most common mention of soul is its three levels: nefesh—the basic soul; ruach—the breath and neshama—the higher soul. This tripartite soul is believed to generate every possible function of human life; the soul rules our lives. In some sense, we can equate the soul with the life force, the spark of the Divine; without it life ceases to exist.

The Kabbalah portrays the soul by way of the mystical diagram of the Tree of Life. The perfected energetic thread that runs through the Tree operates in agreement with the Torah. Jewish mysticism also thinks of the soul as a particle or fragment of Divine consciousness. They say the soul can be compared to a fully-blossomed deciduous tree whose main trunk is the Divine consciousness and the leaves on the end of each branch is each individual person; and the branch that connects the person to the trunk is the soul. Each person's spiritual aim, according to Jewish standards, is to align his or her own personal energy with that of the Torah. Our souls absorb Torah "energy" by studying the stories of the personalities and events in the text.

In numerous instances, participation in the major themes of the Torah attends to the soul. The Exodus from Egypt redeems our souls from the bondage of complacency. Acts of T'shuvah return our souls to its Source, and Shabbat refreshes our souls by its weekly visit to Paradise. The festivals and holidays verify that soul moves cyclically following the course of the sun, the seasons, the year, and the cycles of the day and week, not like the body which operates in the realm of time and space.

The military skirmishes re-

counted in the Book of Numbers attest to the battle the soul wages against its enemies—greed, avarice, lust or gluttony. It is a war to restore the soul's original balance in order to qualify for entrance into the Promised Land.

The soul is more concerned with the past (history) than with the present or future. The Torah tells about the passage of time of our patriarchal and matriarchal ancestors, following the history of our nation. The soul is also concerned with the origins of cultural norms—where people came from and why they do what they do, and to understand G-d's role in developing the way people live. Torah is the collective story of each soul.

But just as soul affects us spiritually, soul can also determine how we heal our pain and suffering. The entire person is a reflection of his soul. It is said that the eyes are the windows of the soul. In fact, when we look into someone's eyes or observe his physical, emotional and mental features, we're actually viewing his or her soul. We could also consider the soul as an aggregate of physical, emotional, mental and spiritual energies. These energies are the essential ingredients that healing depends upon. The soul seeks meaning and purpose, and connection to its source—without it the soul suffers from loneliness, grief, longing for the Divine.

Health is a reflection of a pure, balanced soul. The soul, as a spark of the Divine, requires balance to maintain health. A soul can get sick. A disruption of the free-flowing spiritual energy that exists in the soul can reveal itself as impaired health or behavior. Prayer, psalms and the rest of Jewish tradition were originally conceived to help restore the balance of the soul. When we feel resentful, powerless, unbending, rigid, fearful, stingy, hurt, intolerant, skeptical, untrusting, even sick, we must accept that our soul is energetically out of balance. Like the tree and like all living matter, a soul seeks equilibrium.

Restoring the balance of soul can compare to nurturing your inner child, working through imagery, visualizations and imagination—the language of the soul—to balance and permit our shortcomings to find wholeness once more. When our soul is happy, we're happy. When our soul is sad, we're sad.

The soul's importance in American culture is more prevalent than ever, based on soul-titles such as *A Handbook for the Soul*, *Soul Stories* and of course, *Chicken Soup for the Jewish Soul*. Writing about the soul is no easy task—it's like writing about how air travels through cheesecloth—real, but impossible to hold.

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

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The J Connection proud sponsor of the J Ball presents the 35+ "Schmooze & Social" will take place on Saturday January 26, 2002 at Veronique Restaurant, 20 Chapel Street, Brookline. The event will start at 8 p.m. with DJ dancing, hors d'oeuvres, Street and lot parking. The cost is \$15 in advance on-line by Jan. 24 and \$20 at the door.

For more information tickets go to www.thejconnection.com or call (781) 444-7771.

JEWISH COMMUNITY

Yiddish Book Center Announces '100 Greatest Jewish Books'

The National Yiddish Book Center recently announced its list of "The 100 Greatest Works of Modern Jewish Literature," an initiative to identify and promote the most notable books of Jewish writing of the past hundred and fifty years.

The list of books includes Jewish literature in all languages and will serve as a "re-definition of the Jewish canon," according to Book Center founder and president Aaron Lansky. "With this list," says Lansky, "we can begin to enrich Jewish education and Jewish creativity at every level."

"The need for the program arose out of our conviction that American Jews have failed to embrace modern Jewish writing — the tens of thousands of novels, stories, plays, poetry and memoirs that have chronicled the transformation of Jewish life, from the old world to the new," Lansky explains. "Our goal is to carry the Jewish story forward from the Torah, Talmud and other traditional texts to the Jewish literature of our own time."

The list was developed over the past two years, with the judges working from an initial compilation of nearly 600 titles, plus recommendations by a group of distinguished nominators. Criteria for selection included intrinsic literary merit as well as Jewish authorship and explicit treatment of Jewish experience or sensibility. The judges evaluated each book for its theme and subject, the quality of writing, the depth of ideas, and its place in the Jewish canon.

Criteria for the list are straightforward: a "Jewish book" is defined as one that is written by a Jewish author and that elucidates Jewish experience or sensibility. "Modern" has been defined to include works written from the Enlightenment of the late-eighteenth century to the present. These definitions enabled the judges to select books from a field of brilliant authors, ranging from the grandfather of Yiddish literature, Mendeley Moyshe Sforim, to contemporary masters such as Saul Bellow, Cynthia Ozick, and Philip Roth.

Starting in January 2002, the Center will launch the outreach-and-distribution program for the books selected.

The Center will also develop educational initiatives based on the books, in order to enhance the curricula of Jewish day schools, Hebrew schools, public schools, and adult education. Says Lansky, "The list is only the beginning — the start of a whole new effort to strengthen knowledge and understanding among American Jewish population, and beyond."

Funding for the Great Jewish Books project was provided by The Kaplen Foundation of Tenafly, NJ, with additional support from Jack and Bernice Hoffinger of New York City.

The National Yiddish Book Center is a vibrant, non-profit organization working to rescue Yiddish and other modern Jewish books and celebrate the cul-

ture they contain. Since 1980, it has rescued 1.5 million Yiddish books and distributed them to libraries and individuals worldwide. Supported by 30,000 members, it is now the largest and fastest-growing Jewish cultural organization in America. The National Yiddish Book Center was founded in 1980 by Aaron Lansky, who received a MacArthur Fellowship for his work and who continues to lead the organization as its president.

The National Yiddish Book Center is located in Amherst, Massachusetts, and features a permanent museum exhibition, English-language bookstore, weekly programs, and other resources, and is open to the public Sunday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Admission is free. For information about visiting, call (413) 256-4900, ext. 124.

The list of "The 100 Greatest Works of Modern Jewish Literature" and the list of the selection committee follow. The list, annotated and accompanied by essays written by members of the selection committee, is published in the new issue of *Pakn Treger*, the Center's English-language magazine, and can also be found on the Web site of the National Yiddish Book Center.

Selection Committee (Affiliations for identification only): Glenda Abramson, University of Oxford; professor Robert Alter, University of California at Berkeley; Hillel Halkin, Israel; Ilan Stavans, Dept. of Romance Languages, Amherst College; Gershon Shaked, Israel; Kenneth Turan, *Los Angeles Times*; professor Ruth Wisse, Dept. of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, Harvard University; Dr. Jeremy Dauber, Columbia University.

Tales of Mendeley the Book

Peddler (Fishke krumer, 1869) (Kitsermasoes Binyomin hashlishi, 1878), S.Y. Abramovitch

The Nag (Di Kliyatshe, 1873-1909), S.Y. Abramovitch

Ash on a Young Man's Sleeve (1954), Dannie Abse

A Guest for the Night (Oreakh natalalun, 1939), S.Y. Agnon

A Simple Story (Sipur Pashet, 1935), S.Y. Agnon

Only Yesterday (Tmol shilshom, 1945), S.Y. Agnon

The Joy of the Poor (Simkhataniyyim, 1941), Nathan Alterman

Selected Poetry, Yehuda Amichai

Pioneers (Pionern, 1904-05), S. An-ski

The Dybbuk (Der Dibuk: Tsvishntsvey veltn, 1911), S. An-ski

The Age of Wonders (Tor hapelaot, 1978), Aharon Appelfeld

Salvation (Der tilim-yid, 1934), Sholem Asch

Collected Stories, Isaac Babel

The First Day and Other Stories (2001), Dvora Baron

The Garden of the Finzi-Contini (Ilgiardino dei

Finzi-Contini, 1962), Giorgio Bassani

Feathers (Notzot, 1979), Haim Be'er

Herzog (1964), Saul Bellow

Mr. Sammler's Planet (1970), Saul Bellow

Selected Stories, Michah Yosef Berdichevsky

Descent (Opgang, 1920), David Bergelson

Selected Poems, H.N. Bialik

Breakdown and Bereavement (Shekhol vekishalon, 1920), Joseph Hayyim Brenner

The Rise of David Levinsky (1917), Abraham Cahan

The Memoirs (1977-1986), Elias Canetti

Selected Poems and Prose (2000), Paul Celan

The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay (2000), Michael Chabon

Belle du Seigneur (1968), Albert Cohen

Tales in Praise of the Baal Shem Tov (Shivkhei Ha-Besht, 1814), Dov Ber of Linitz

Whither? (Lean, 1927), Mordecai Ze'ev Feilerberg

Jud Süß (1925), Leon Feuchtwanger

The Journey (Podroz, 1990), Ida Fink

The Diary of A Young Girl, Anne Frank

The Williamsburg Trilogy (1961), Daniel Fuchs

The Jewish Gauchos of the Pampas (Los gauchos judios, 1940), Alberto Gerchunoff

The Things We Used to Say (Lessico famigliare, 1963), Natalia Ginzburg

Selected Poems, Jacob Glatstein

Next To (Etzel, 1913), Uri Nisan Gnessin

The Fragmented Life of Don Jacobo Lerner (1978), Isaac Goldemberg

The Yeshiva (Tsemakh Atlas, 1967), Chaim Grade

Selected Poetry, Uri Zevi Greenberg

See Under: Love (Ayen erekhahava, 1986), David Grossman

Life and Fate (Zhizn i sudba, 1980), Vasily Grossman

The Victory (1969), Henryk Grynberg

Selected Poems, Moishe Leib Halpern

The Dweller in Gardens (Yoshevetbaganim, 1943), Hayim Hazaz

Jewish Stories and Hebrew Melodies (1987), Heinrich

Heine

Heschel's Kingdom (1999), Dan Jacobson

The Castle (Das Schloss, 1926), Franz Kafka

Collected Stories, Franz Kafka

The Trial (Der Prozess, 1925), Franz Kafka

A Walker in the City (1951), Alfred Kazin

Fateless (1975), Imre Kertesz

The Second Scroll (1951), A.M. Klein

Zelmenyaner (1928), Moyshe Kulbak

Hebrew Ballads and Other Poems (1902-1939), Else Lasker-Schüler

The Golem (Der Goylem, 1919), H. Leivick

If This Is a Man (Se questo e un uomo, 1946) [Survival in Auschwitz], Primo Levi

The Complete Stories (1997), Bernard Malamud

Khumesh Lider and Selected Poems, Itzik Manger

Selected Poetry, Peretz Markish

The Pillar of Salt (La statue de sel, 1953), Albert Memmi

Victoria (Viktoryah, 1993), Sami Michael

Death of a Salesman (1949), Arthur Miller

Paper Bridges (2000), Kadya Molodowsky

The Tales (Mayses, 1815), Nachman of Bratslav

The Family Mashber (Di mishpokhemashber, 1939; 1943), Der Nister

Unto Death (Ad mavet, 1971), Amos Oz

The Pagan Rabbi (1971), Cynthia Ozick

Selected Poetry (1989), Dan Pagis

Collected Stories (1994), Grace Paley

Selected Stories, I.L. Peretz

Revealer of Secrets (Megaletemirin, 1819), Joseph Perl

Selected Poems, Rakhel

Blood from the Sky (Le sang duciel, 1961), Piotr Rawicz

Collected Poems (1937), Isaac Rosenberg

Call It Sleep (1934), Henry Roth

Leviathan (Der Leviathan, 1940), Joseph Roth

The Counterlife (1986), Philip Roth

Patrimony (1991), Philip Roth

The Street of Crocodiles (Sklep cynamonowe, 1934), Bruno Schulz

In Dreams Begin Responsibilities (1938), Delmore Schwartz

The Centaur in the Garden (1980), Moacyr Scliar

Past Continuous (Zikhron Devarim, 1977), Yaakov Shabtai

The Blue Mountain (Roman rusi, 1988), Meir Shalev

The Jewish Government and Other Stories (1971), Lamed Shapiro

Menakhem-Mendl and Mottel Peysethe Cantor's Son (Menakhem-Mendl, Mottel Peysedem khazns, 1909), Sholem Aleichem

Tevye the Dairyman (Tevye dermilkhiger, 1895-1914), Sholem Aleichem

Fables (Mesholim, 1932), Eliezer Shteynberg

The Brothers Ashkenazi (Di biderashkenazi, 1937), I.J. Singer

Satan in Goray (Sotn in goray, 1935), Isaac Bashevis Singer

The Collected Stories (1953), Isaac Bashevis Singer

Maus: A Survivor's Tale (1986), Art Spiegelman

As a Driven Leaf (1939), Milton Steinberg

The Collected Poems of Abraham Sutzkever (1991), Abraham Sutzkever

Selected Poems, Saul Tchernikhovsky

The Investigation (Die Ermittlung, 1965), Peter Weiss

Night (1958), Elie Wiesel

Five Seasons (Molkho, 1987), A.B. Yehoshua

The Days of Ziklag (Yemei Ziklag, 1958), S. Yizhar

Selected Poetry, Natan Zakh

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

'Luv' or 'Take My Wife... Please!' at Mill River

Could a husband be more tender with a wife he hopes to palm off? The events that follow need not be detailed. All you will wish to know is that whatever marriages are made and unmade, Milt, Ellen and Harry end up in sorrow and self-pity, and the greater their misunderstandings and self-made problems, the more you will laugh. "Luv" is sophisticated comedy at its best.

The cast includes Laurence Cagle of North Attleboro, Mass., Darleen Mixer of Pawtucket, R.I., and Bill McMillan of Somerset, Mass. The show runs through Feb. 3. Dinner menu includes choice of entrees prepared in our own kitchen. We are a smoke-free theater. Reservations are required. Call 721-0909.



IN A SCENE FROM 'LUV' are Darleen Mixer (Ellen), Bill McMillan (Harry Berlin) and Laurence Cagle (Milt Manville).

Photo courtesy of Mill River Dinner Theater

'Specimens' at URI Fine Arts Gallery

January 18 to February 18

With an MFA in Filmmaking from the Art Institute of Chicago (1992) followed by an MA in Modern Art History also from Chicago (1995) Sheri Wills came to the University of Rhode Island in 1997 to teach film, video and the latest digital technologies. Aside from her own fundamental professional devotion to filmmaking, over recent years Wills has persisted in making photograms, possessing especially overtly organic imagery. These photogram "specimens" will be the focus of her upcoming Corridor Gallery exhibition.

Photogram-making seems remarkably at odds with the contemporary medium Wills normally practices, as she recognizes. Her work dates to the earliest days of the history of photography, is handmade, courts the awkward and sentimental, and is at home in the land of miniature, whereas digital technologies would seem to refute all of those qualities. Yet Wills thrives in this peculiar zone, finding "dynamic interplay between practical technology and rhapsodic subject matter." Indeed, this interplay is a liberation that propels her work forward.

Wills' new digitally manipulated Polaroid transfers on view this winter represent her latest achievements in an ongoing series. Like older photograms from the Victorian era, she places organic materials onto film and exposes them to light, but in her contemporary case, she then scans these images into the computer and performs adjustments before outputting them to Polaroid pack film.

Finally she creates an emulsion transfer by lifting a photographic image from its supportive backing, usually paper, "like skin peeled from a peach." Given its delicate nature, the image is released from the strictures of its rectangular format and emerges as a fragile and unique phenomenon. The imagery contained in Wills' photograms has been described as seeming to be no less than "on some extreme precipice of human existence, either within the womb or at the first moments after one's death." (Virgil Wong, PaperVeins Museum). Gallery talk by the artist Wednesday, January 30, noon, in the Corridor Gallery.

Photos by Shane at the Barrington Library

An exhibit of landscape photographs by Rhode Island photographer Shane Guterrez will be on display at the Barrington Public Library during the month of January, Shane says:

"The pictures you see in this exhibit represent subjects I have been interested in photographing for the past 20 years. Most

of my work follows the traditional method of using a single exposure. Some subjects, however, lend themselves to a more unique presentation, and have led me to begin experimenting with multiple exposure, movement and stereo (3-dimensional) photography. The option of manipulating a photograph to match my interpretation of it continues to intrigue and challenge me.

"Love of the landscape, its beauty and design, has been consistent throughout the years. Texture has always played a large part in my landscape photography and has led me along some very interesting paths, including my discovery of historic burial grounds. I have been looking for and walking through these graveyards for

eight years now and have come away with many images from my visits there. I also seek texture in architecture, particularly weathered structures seemingly untouched for years. These interests have given me a new perspective of landscape photography."

Shane will also be giving a free photography workshop at the library on Jan. 24 at 7:30 p.m. Registration for this program begins on Jan. 15 at 9:30 a.m.

The exhibit, housed on the first floor of the building, can be seen during the hours the library is open — Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 1 to 5 p.m. The Barrington Library is located at 281 County Road in Barrington, R.I.

Synergy: A Collection of Contemporary Jewelry

CenterCity Contemporary Arts is the perfect place to visit this month. Whether shopping for a valentine or choosing a gift to adorn yourself, you find it at CenterCity Jan. 17 to Feb. 17.



Poppy Earrings, silver and 14k gold, white, black and pink pearls. Darrian S. Segal

Synergy: A Collection of Contemporary Jewelry is an annual exhibition which highlights the contributions of local designers and metal smiths. CCA has invited artists with distinct approaches and styles to participate in this year's show.

Participating artists include: Boris Bally, Richard Fishman, Aline Gittleman, Tamra Mottl, Amie Plante, Sarah Richardson, Dianne Rielly, Darrien Segal and selected pieces from the Daniel Swarovski collection.

Some of the artists in the show have chosen to concentrate on reproducing images from nature, like Darrien Segal's "Hickory Seed Necklace" and "Australian Pine Cone Earrings." Amie Plante further employs organic forms, literally using the physical material of bone to create a series of hair

combs. The bone is carved and color-dyed, represented in the series called "Frill, Fancy & Frou Frou."

Contrasting the expressions of nature are the industrial elements of Metalsmith Tamra Mottl and Boris Bally. Tamra Mottl, designer of the RISD class ring, introduces her line of jewelry called "Gearings." Geometric shapes, mesh gears, and interlocking rings are pure representations of an industrial influence. In addition to Boris Bally's ready to wear street sign jewelry, his Soma Series: Systems of the Body is introduced. This series of pins are artfully carved in sterling silver and cross-reference Dr. Netter's *Atlas of Human Anatomy for Physicians*.

The show begins Jan. 17 and continues through Feb. 17. There will be an opening reception on Gallery Night Providence, Jan. 17, from 5 to 9 p.m.



3 rings, silver, enamel, shell, pearl, glass, moonstone. Amie Plante

CCA is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call Diana DeCesaris at CCA at 521-2990.

Open House to Celebrate Second Birthday at Harborhill Place

The public is invited to attend a very special open house and party to celebrate the second birthday of Harborhill Place, Independent and Assisted Living at 159 Division St., East Greenwich. The festivities will begin in the Grand Atrium at 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 17. Residents and visitors will enjoy birthday cake as they are entertained by the lively music of Lou Renzi. Tours of the restored 1844 mansion will be available. Visitors will have the opportunity to see the beautiful interior architecture of the original residence which offers studio and one bedroom style apartments. A furnished model apartment will be open.

For further information, contact Nancy Kimball at 884-2704.



Ballet Finale at RIC

Ballet Concierto De Puerto Rico will close the Rhode Island College Performing Arts Series season with a performance April 23 at 8 p.m. in the auditorium in Roberts Hall. Tickets are \$22. Call 456-8144.

Photo courtesy of RIC

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



City Nights Dinner Theatre Presents Neil Simon's 'Rumors'

Neil Simon's hysterical farce, "Rumors" opens on Jan. 18 at City Nights Dinner Theatre.

City Nights Dinner Theatre, which has been held up as a standard for quality entertainment in the Pawtucket and Greater Providence area for nearly two decades, is now under new management. Doug Macaskill, who has worked extensively in theater for the past 30 years, not only is the new executive producer for City Nights, but is the director for his very first production as well.

Macaskill was the owner/operator of the successful Forest Dinner Theatre in Fort McCoy, Fla., and after returning to his native New England, he honed his acting and directing skills through his association with a variety of adult and children's theaters. Macaskill stresses that he will maintain the City Nights tradition of the family-style atmosphere that has been so successful for the theater in the past.

Written by America's greatest comic playwright, Neil Simon, "Rumors" finds four

couples at the townhouse of a deputy New York City mayor and his wife to celebrate their 10th wedding anniversary. The party never begins because the host has shot himself (it's only a flesh wound) and his wife is missing. His lawyer's cover-up gets progressively more difficult to sustain as the other guest arrive and nobody can remember who has been told what about whom. Doors slam and hilarity abounds as the couples get more and more crazed.

"Rumors will be presented at City Nights Dinner Theatre, which is located at 27 Exchange St. in Pawtucket, from Jan. 18 to Feb. 9. Performances are scheduled for Thursday evenings at 8 p.m. (no dinner will be served on Thursday evenings), Friday and Saturday evenings, with dinner at 6:30 p.m. and performances at 8 p.m. and Sunday afternoons with dinner at 12:30 p.m. and performances at 2 p.m.

Come and join us for a thoroughly enjoyable and entertaining evening of dinner and theater. For tickets, call 723-6060.



BRIAN ELLSWORTH (from left) of Cranston, Fatima Rodrigues of Cumberland and Karen Gail Kessler of Barrington star in Neil Simon's hysterical farce, "Rumors" to be presented at City Nights Dinner Theatre in Pawtucket from Jan. 18 to Feb. 9. For tickets, call 723-6060.

Photo courtesy of City Nights Dinner Theatre

Jacqueline Kennedy: The White House Years

The special exhibition on Jacqueline Kennedy that opened to rave reviews at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art this spring has come home to Boston.

Jacqueline Kennedy: The White House Years — Selections from the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum is now being presented at the Kennedy Library and Museum through Feb. 28. The unprecedented special exhibition of the original clothing and accessories worn by Mrs. John F. Kennedy at state events in America and abroad marks the 40th anniversary of her emergence as America's first lady.

The materials for the exhibition have been drawn almost exclusively from the extensive collections housed in the John F. Kennedy Library. Considered by many as one of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis' most notable accomplishments, the national memorial to President Kennedy

was designed by I.M. Pei and dedicated in October 1979. Other materials in the exhibition are on loan from Caroline Kennedy.

In addition to the state clothes and materials displayed at the New York premier, the Kennedy Library exhibition is offering visitors the opportunity to learn even more about Mrs. Kennedy's extraordinary contributions to her husband's administration, as documented in the Kennedy Library Museum's permanent exhibits on the first lady.

Same-day tickets for weekdays are normally available for purchase at the Kennedy Library. Reserved tickets to the exhibition may be obtained by calling NEXT Ticketing at (617) 695-2JFK. Reservations are recommended for weekends.

The hours for the special exhibition are Tuesday through Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Monday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Traveling Through The Middle East

Triopia — A Journey Both Spiritual and Historical

"Not only does travel show you new parts of the world, but traveling in another country can introduce you to new parts of yourself — and that's a geography as magnificent and mysterious as anywhere," said Bryan Richards, discussing his new novel *Triopia* and *The Burden of Excess*. "When traveling, that's why the experiences are richer, relationships deepen and the soul grows."

Daniel, the protagonist of *Triopia*, could be a poster boy for his church: he's bright, handsome and has baptized plenty of converts during his two years as a missionary. But when Daniel spends a semester in Jerusalem studying his roots of Judaism, Islam and his own Mormonism, his studies mirror and magnify a growing inner conflict — the age-old clash between group orthodoxy and individual thought. Out of spiritual chaos, the creation, definition and history of *Triopia* is realized — a genuinely new and yet ancient understanding. Wry, philosophical and tender, *Triopia* and *The Burden of Excess* follows in the

great tradition of coming-of-age novels like *Catcher in the Rye* and *The Chosen*.

Whether observing a Palestinian riot or the ancient traditions of Mea Shearim, Daniel's

isn't much difference between an individual and a deviant," Daniel realizes and questions his own commitment to orthodoxy. Yet, he continues to crave the intimacy of his religious community. Besides, if he leaves his religion he has nothing to show for the personal sacrifices he has made for the religious community. Daniel's personal conflict runs strikingly parallel with the local uneasiness toward Western influences. Looking for a resolution Daniel (with the help of his best friend Anthony) is lead to an embryonic understanding of his role as an individual and his spiritual duties.

Richards based much of *Triopia* and *The Burden of Excess* on his own experience, including his travels through the Middle East where he studied at the Brigham Young University's Jerusalem Center for Ancient and Modern History. Richards continues writing, while simultaneously co-developing methodologies for complex engineering projects at NASA.



travel with fellow students through Israel, Jordan and Egypt is peppered with insightful encounters with local cultures. "To the orthodox, there

Opera Orientation at Cranston Public Library

You too can be an opera star... at least for an hour! Middle and high school students can experience "life as a diva" and discover passionate stories and music. If you like to act, sing, or would like to be transported to another time or an exotic place, then opera is the thing for you! In opera, characters sing through all the action, whether you are falling in love, fighting, or even dying. Opera is sort of a singing marathon. The singing is awesome (no microphone is needed). At the opera, you can see a play, some sort of dance and listen to the orchestra, too.

This fun introduction to opera is presented by the Ocean State Lyric Opera. Begin the adventure of a lifetime at the Cranston Library, 140 Sockanosset

Cross Road on Jan. 23 from 7:15 to 8 p.m.

For more information or to register, call the Cranston Public Library at 943-9080, ext. 126.



PRESIDENT AND MRS. KENNEDY attend the opening of the musical "Mr. President" at the National Theatre, Washington, D.C., Sept. 25, 1962.

Photo courtesy of John F. Kennedy Library

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OBITUARIES

FREDERICA ALPERT
FALMOUTH, Mass. — Frederica (Zerner) Alpert, 67, of Lantern Lane, Falmouth, Mass., executive director of the Center for Alcohol Problems in Fall River until retiring, died Jan. 8 at home. She was the wife of the late Donald E. Alpert.

Born in New York City, a daughter of the late Bernard and Lillian Zerner, she had lived in Fall River for most of her life. She moved to Falmouth 15 years ago.

She attended Smith College in Northampton, Mass.

As executive director for the Center for Alcohol Problems, she was instrumental in developing social service programs for addiction-related diseases, and later was involved with grant work in related fields.

After retiring she was active with Alcoholics Anonymous of Falmouth.

She was a member of the Falmouth Jewish Congregation, and a former member of Temple Beth-El, in Fall River.

She enjoyed attending art classes.

She leaves two daughters, Jacqueline Alpert of Freeport, Maine, and Julia A. Gladstone of Providence; and three grandchildren, Jacob Leighton and Daniel and Helary Gladstone.

The funeral was held Jan. 11 at the Falmouth Jewish Congregation, Hatchville Road, Falmouth. Burial was in Temple Beth-El Cemetery, Fall River. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Stanley Street Treatment & Resources, 386 Stanley St., Fall River, Mass. 02720. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

DANIEL EZRA COHEN
SARASOTA, Fla. — Daniel Ezra Cohen, 63, a former advertising and marketing executive, died on Dec. 31, 2001. The cause was lung cancer.

He was born and raised in Providence, R.I. He is the son of Dr. William B. Cohen and Edith L. Cohen. After graduating from the Moses Brown

School, he attended Harvard University, where he served as advertising manager of the *Crimson* and graduated cum laude.

He spent the majority of his career working in account management at major advertising agencies and two years as CEO of Lower-Marschall San Francisco. He contributed to well-known advertising campaigns for brands such as Coca-Cola, John Hancock, and Grey Poupon and won a Clio as a copywriter for Sony Electronics.

After working in advertising for 30 years, he served as a director of marketing for Price Waterhouse and then as an independent marketing consultant in New York City.

In 1998, he moved to Sarasota, Fla., where he served on the boards of several nonprofit organizations. During his last year, he served as president of the Sarasota Institute of Lifetime Learning, secretary of the Harvard Club of Sarasota, and interim publisher of the *Longboat Observer*.

He is survived by his wife of 37 years, Lynda Lee Cohen; two sons, William Eli and Daniel Adam; grandchildren Camryn Meredith and Daniel Zev; and a sister, Beverly Peterman.

Graveside services were held at Beth Shalom Cemetery on Jan. 3 in Sarasota, Fla. Toale Brothers Funeral Home, Colonial Chapel, was in charge of arrangements.

SARRA GEYSHES
PAWTUCKET — Sarra (Slavutsky) Geyshe, 99, of George St., a former museum guide in Russia, died Jan. 13 at the Oak Hill Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

She was the wife of the late Isaac Geyshe. Born in Ukraine, she was a daughter of the late Aaron and Deborah Slavutsky. After World War II, she had lived in St. Petersburg, Russia, before coming to this country in 1992.

She was a member of Temple Emanu-El.

She leaves a son, Anatoly Geyshe of Pawtucket; a brother,

Isaac Slavutsky in Israel; a grandson, and a great-grandson. She was the sister of the late Esphira Suluna, and Solomon and Yankel Slavutsky.

The funeral was held Jan. 15 in the Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel.

HARRIET GOLDSTEIN
WALPOLE, Mass. — Harriet Goldstein, 62, of Common Street, a retired office manager, died Jan. 11 at the New England Medical Center, Boston. She was the wife of Dr. Harold Goldstein.

Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Simon and Lillian (Goldstein) Chorney, she had lived in Walpole for 20 years, previously living in Norwood, Mass. She was the office manager in her husband's dental office for 20 years, retiring in 2001. She was a graduate of Hope High School in Providence and attended Bryant College.

She was a member of Temple Shaare Tefilah and its sisterhood in Norwood, Mass. She was a life member of Hadassah, a member of the Dysautonomia Foundation and a volunteer for Meals on Wheels.

Besides her husband, she leaves a son, Mark Goldstein of Studio City, Calif.; a daughter, Susan Robison of Westport, Conn.; two sisters, Rhoda Fischman of Providence, R.I., and Estelle Schleifer of Cranston, R.I., and three grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Jan. 14 in Temple Shaare Tefilah, 556 Nichols St., Norwood, Mass. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick, R.I. In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be made to The Neely House, 750 Washington St., Boston, Mass. 02111 or the Breast Cancer Fund, New England Medical Center, c/o

John Erban, P.O. Box 245, Boston, Mass. 02111. Arrangements were made by Shalom Memorial Chapel, 1100 New London Ave., Cranston, R.I. 02920.

JEROME M. HERMAN
CRANSTON — Jerome M. Herman, 89, of Oaklawn Avenue, a retired personnel administrator, died Jan. 3 at Philip Hultar Hospice Center, Providence.

He was the husband of Rosalind (Rakusin) Herman. Born in Providence, a son of the late Henry and Mary (Diamond) Herman, he had been a Cranston resident since 1948.

He was the chief personnel administrator for wage and classification for the Department of the Navy at Quonset Point, retiring in 1974.

He was a founding member of Temple Torat Yisrael, a member of its Men's Club and a former member of its school committee and board of directors. He was a former member of the board of the Bureau of Jewish Education.

He was an army veteran of World War II, and a member of the Jewish War Veterans. He was a former president of the American Society of Public Administrators.

Besides his wife, he leaves a daughter, Harriett Pratt of Plano, Texas, and four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He was the father of the late Sheila Sheer, and brother of the late Benjamin, Rena and Ruth Herman.

The funeral service was held Jan. 10 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 Temple Torat Yisrael, 330 Park Ave., Cranston, R.I. 02905. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel.

ERNEST LEVY
CHARLESTON, S.C. — Ernest Levy, 95, of Charleston, S.C., a retired government employee, died on Jan. 9 at the Ashley Crossing Nursing Home. He was the husband of the late Sylvia (Sandler) Levy.

Born in Boston, a son of the late Sydney and Lena (Freedman) Levy, he lived most of his life in Boston, residing part-time in Barbados since 1972, and living South Carolina the last seven years.

He was a graduate of the High School of Commerce in Boston.

He was a clerical worker with the United States Postal Service for 25 years, retiring in 1972.

He was in the United States Navy during World War II, serving in New Guinea and the Philippines. He was a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

He is survived by two daughters, Linda Kerzner of Providence and Theresa Eldridge of Yonkers Island, S.C.; eight grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. He was the brother of the late Henry Leigh and Jerome Levy.

A graveside service was held on Jan. 13 in Sharon Memorial Park, Sharon, Mass. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

ADA RICHMAN
WARWICK — Ada Richman, 88, of Village at Hillsgrove, 75 Minnesota Ave., died Jan. 9 at Kent County Memorial Hospital.

She was the wife of the late Samuel Richman. Born in Russia, a daughter of the late Nathan Weisberg and Bessie (Goldfarb) Weisberg Lieberman, she had lived in Warwick for 39 years, previously living in Providence.

(Continued on Page 15)

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Volunteers Needed for American Cancer Society's Daffodil Days

Celebrate the arrival of spring by volunteering for the American Cancer Society's Daffodil Days. Lend a hand to sell, pack sort or deliver flowers during the week of March 25. With your help during Daffodil Days, the American Cancer Society can raise the vital funds for research, education, advocacy and patient service programs, while bringing hope and help to cancer patients in your community. Call the American Cancer Society at (800) ACS-2345 to be connected to a staff person in your area.

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(Continued from Page 14)

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Jewish History and the New England Patriots

by Cary Eichenbaum

The past several weeks, and for the foreseeable future, Jews planet-wide will read in their Shabbat portions about their ancestors' Exodus from Egypt—a country where they had been enslaved for over 200 years. We will also learn of all the hardships the ancient Hebrews endured there—such as having to make bricks to build the Egyptian cities of Pithom and Ramses without the benefit of the required straw.

But never once during that time span did the nation of Israel submerge their individualities or take on the attributes of their domineering country. Despite overwhelming odds to "cave in" to the idol-worshipping and ungodly habits of Mitzrayim (Egypt), the mightiest nation on the face of the globe at that time, the Israelis held true to their monotheistic cultures, mannerisms and lifestyle.

B'nai Yisroel (the children of Israel) remained true to the proper and just pathways of life. And when Moses redeemed his People and the Creator rained down 10 disastrous plagues on Egypt, the Jewish people finally had their long-sought victory—and redemption. They were thus able to worship their G-d with all the splendor and honor He deserved. Just as in Chanukah, the few had defeated the mighty, and the downtrodden had persevered to reach the summit.

Over the next few weeks, another "mini-coronation" will play out in the United States. A handful of National Football League teams—down from 31 hopeful squads at season's beginning, will battle for the sport's biggest prize—The Super Bowl—on Feb. 3.

Included, surprisingly, in

that list of hopefuls is our very own—and revered—New England Patriots. This is akin to all the miracles in the Bible occurring simultaneously.

The Pats were a lousy unit in 2000-01, finishing dead last in the American Football Conference (A.F.C.) East with a 5-11 record. They looked even more pathetic at the beginning of this campaign, losing their first two games to mediocre teams. New England was all but given up for dead when, toward the end of their second loss, franchise quarterback Drew Bledsoe went down with a serious injury.

In the third game for squads following the terrible September 11th terrorist tragedies, the Patriots were walloped by the Dolphins in Miami, dropping their record to 1-3.

All looked hopelessly lost.

But just as B'nai Yisroel did in Egypt, New England rolled with the punches and eventually came out on top. Led by their second-year quarterback, Tom Brady, the third-string signal-caller at season's onset who had thrown a total of only seven career passes, the Pats rallied to win 10 of their final 12 games. They are the second-seeded team in the A.F.C., will host at least one playoff game in the soon-to-be-demolished Foxboro Stadium and need to win three games to be Super Bowl Champions.

Along with the Chicago Bears of the National Football Conference (N.F.C.) Central, the

Patriots are the true surprise team of the N.F.L., winning six more games than last year—in a 16 game schedule. Many of the self-proclaimed "experts" picked the Pats to finish last in their division—few in any predicted they would make the playoffs. The Patriots believed in themselves when nobody else did, worked hard and were rewarded with a home playoff game and an easier road to the Super Bowl. Their legacy is a tribute to resiliency.

But the real lesson that everyone—Jew or gentile—can learn from this great Patriots season is to never give up, even in the face of great despondency. At any point during this just-concluded regular season, the New England players and coaching staff could have said: "Look, everybody picked us to finish

last, we lost our \$11-million-a-year quarterback in the second game of the season, we were embarrassed three of our first four games, and we—like all other Americans—are deeply affected by the aftermath of the 9/11 tragedies. Let's just fold our tents and go through the motions for the remainder of the season."

But the Pats didn't. Completely beaten and bedraggled, they pulled themselves up by their bootstraps and went to work. Over three months later, the entire six-state region is salivating over them. They are true warriors—and winners.

So just like the ancient Jews who kept to their hard-working mannerisms and believed in Moses and "the system," the 2001-02 New England Patriots kept the faith and persevered. And they were rewarded with one of the franchise's best seasons in recent memory. Any underdog or person who was ever told "they couldn't accomplish anything" can relate to this wonderful tale.

Cary Eichenbaum, a frequent contributor, lives in Providence.



Feinstein Challenges President Bush to Help The Hungry, Offers \$40 Million Challenge

Rhode Island philanthropist, Alan Shawn Feinstein, promises to raise \$30 million from the public by this spring to help the hungry people nationwide and is challenging President Bush and Congress to do more to help them, too.

"Thirty million people in our country struggling with hunger is disgraceful," says Feinstein. "I'm promising \$1 million to U.S. anti-hunger agencies to use as a fund-raising spur this March and April and that it will raise at least \$30 million more from the public. I'm calling on President Bush to match my \$1 million and I guarantee that if he does, that will raise the returns from the public to at least \$40 million."

"And if President Bush and Congress improve on welfare reform this year to help the needy, I promise to raise yet at least another \$30 million from the public to fight hunger next year, too."

"But charities can't do it all," said Feinstein. "The President and Congress must provide leadership in overcoming the widespread hunger which is a blight on our nation. That is what the public wants."

More than 1 million people have signed Feinstein's petition calling on the president and Congress to do more to end hunger in America. He is sending it to President Bush and is notifying each senator of the signers from their state.

Feinstein is founder of the Center for a Hunger Free America at the University of Rhode Island and the Feinstein International Famine Center at Tufts University. Any non-profit agency wanting to share in the Feinstein money or wanting more information visit <www.feinsteinfoundation.org> or <www.helpthehungry.org>.

RI Foundation Announces Searchable Database

The Rhode Island Foundation recently announced the availability of a searchable database on its Web site <www.rifoundation.org> for the 82 scholarship funds administered by the foundation. Students may search by their city/town of residence, intended field of study, and school, among other search options.

A student may, for example, indicate that he/she lives in Warwick and learn about two scholarships specific to Warwick residents, the Cataract Fire Company #2 Scholarship for Warwick residents and the Carol Pellegrino Scholarship for orchestra students at Toll Gate High School, as well as an additional 50 scholarships that are open to students of any Rhode Island city/town.

While most of the endowed scholarship funds the foundation administers are traditional ones for high school seniors accepted at four-year colleges or universities, others enable high

school seniors accepted at four-year colleges or universities, others enable high school students to take art courses, college graduates to attend graduate school, older women to attend or return to college, and more. For many scholarship funds, applications may be downloaded directly from the Web site.

The scholarship module of the Web site also includes links to dozens of additional sources of financial aid/scholarship assistance, both national and statewide.

For additional information on scholarships available through The Rhode Island Foundation, visit <www.rifoundation.org> or call the foundation's special funds office at 274-4564.

Great Decisions 2002 at The Library

Great Decisions, the foreign affairs discussion series, returns to the Barrington Public Library for eight bi-weekly sessions on Tuesday mornings from 10 a.m. to noon, Jan. 29 to May 7. The series will be co-led by Barringtonians Maynard Shusman and Bernhard Weiss. Topics include:

- Why do they hate us? The roots of terrorism
- Korean security issues
- Middle East peace process
- Columbia and drug trafficking

• South Asia: focus on India; Aids in Africa

• Russia reexamined

• Energy and environment

The series was created by the Foreign Policy Association.

Registration for Great Decisions 2002 begins at 9:30 a.m. on Jan. 22 at the library's reference desk, by phone (247-1920, ext. 2) or in person.

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