

Chanukah Greetings
See Pages 12-23

Arts
Pushing the bounds of opera.
See Page 25

Teens
A dilemma over driving and texting.
See Page 28

The Torah and marriage

Daughters of Israel Mikvah in Brighton offers family purity review classes – with lessons that help wives and husbands recharge their lives.

See Page 3

The underside of Israel

A local filmmaker returns to his homeland to make a documentary about trafficking in women.

See Page 4

The return of Rabbi Fleer

For the 25th year, he makes his monthlong teaching visit to Greater Boston. His followers say he has changed their lives.

See Page 7

What's wrong with being 30?

Plenty – if you are a woman on a Web dating site, laments columnist Tamar Caspi.

See Page 26

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SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

Parshah: Miketz-Chanukah

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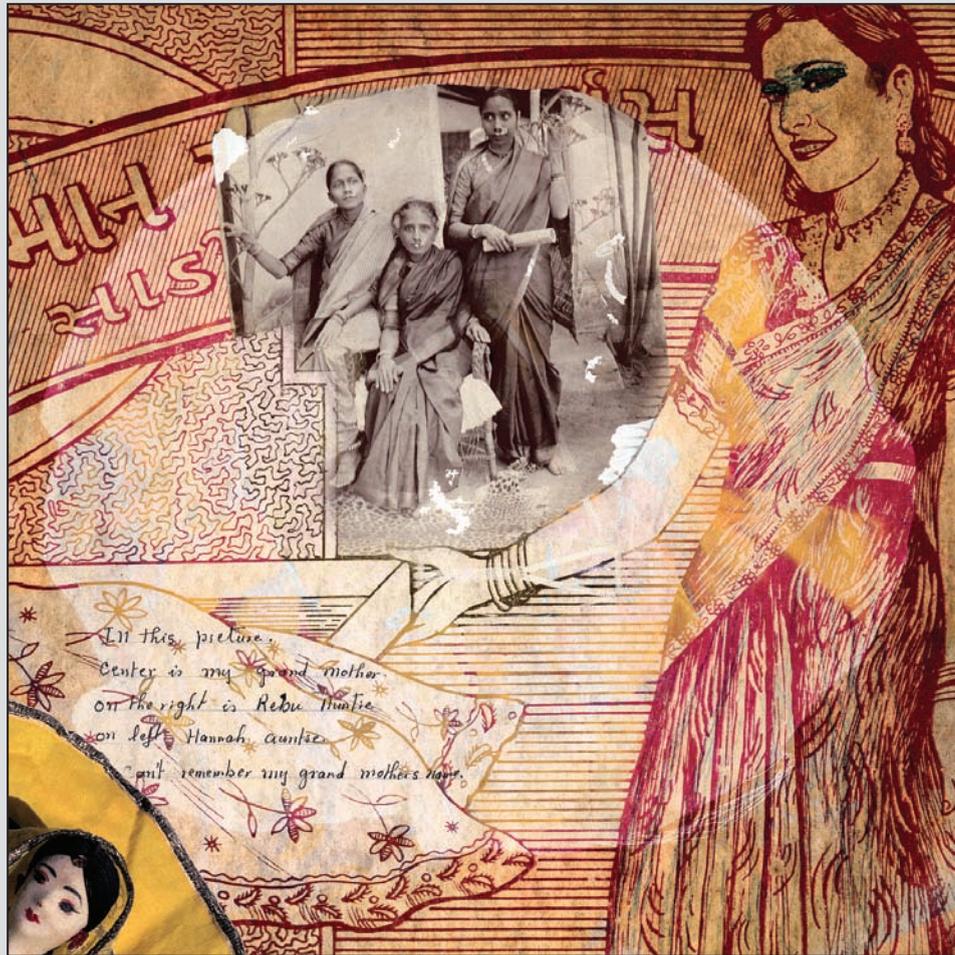


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“I Can’t Remember My Grandmother’s Name,” by Needham artist Leslie Starobin, is a photo of a collage of artifacts a Jewish family took with them when they left Pakistan in 1971. It is part of a Chanukah exhibit at the Mobius Gallery that focuses on the theme of assimilation vs. tradition.



Artists tell another Chanukah story

By Elise Kigner
Advocate Staff

Judas Maccabee takes a back seat in the Chanukah exhibit at the Mobius Gallery in Boston. Rather than focusing on the heroic revolt and miracle oil, the display examines an underlying theme of the Chanukah story: tradition vs. assimilation. In other words, the exhibit chose not to tell the typical Chanukah story: “They tried to kill us; we survived;

let’s eat” – as summed up by Michael Reichman, co-director and program manager for Prism, which is sponsoring the show. Prism is the young adult branch of the New Center for Arts and Culture.

“We are positing that the revolt was a civil war within the Jewish community,” Reichman said. “There were the Hellenized Jews wanting to adopt Greek culture,

Continued on Page 5

Fallout seen from Shoah fraud cases

Survivors tarred, deniers bolstered

By Penny Schwartz
Special to the Advocate

A pair of unrelated events involving apparent Holocaust fraud undermines the credibility of survivors and abets deniers, warns Deborah Dwork, a Clark University Holocaust scholar.

In Massachusetts, a court ruling last month put the spotlight back on a Holocaust memoir that had been revealed as a hoax several years ago. In New York, a lengthy federal investigation led to the arrest of 17 Brooklyn residents for defrauding \$42.5 million from the Claims Conference, the organization that oversees compensation to Holocaust victims. Among the accused are six people who worked for the Claims Conference, some since 1989.

Dwork said she fears that such cases would plant doubts in people when they hear Holocaust victims tell their stories. She is particularly concerned about the effect on young people and others who have little knowledge of the Holocaust. Dwork is Rose Professor of Holocaust History and director of the Strassler Family Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Clark, which is in Worcester.

Continued on Page 6

Birthright, the movie

Film follows Israel trip by BU students

By Lawrence Bergman
Special to the Advocate

What happens when a bunch of students from Boston University travels to Israel in search of their Jewish identity?

Seth Kroll, a first-time filmmaker from Roslindale, decided to find out by documenting a Taglit-Birthright Israel trip. Three years in the making, Kroll’s “Mifgash: Encountering Jewish Identity in the 21st Century” was scheduled to have its

world premiere Dec. 2 at the Regal Fenway in Boston.

Birthright is a Jewish/Israeli charity that sponsors free 10-day heritage trips to Israel. They are offered to people ages 18-26 who have at least one parent of Jewish descent and who do not practice another religion.

“After leading six Birthright trips to Israel, I found myself discussing these trips with

Continued on Page 2



Making “Mifgash” (from left): Andy Schiller, Natan Magid, Alex Abzog, and Kip Lombardo at the Western Wall in Jerusalem.



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