

TRAVEL TALES

HELPFUL HINTS FOR THE JEWISH TRAVELLER

By **MIKE COHEN**

MANCHESTER, N.H. Recognized as New Hampshire's commercial and industrial leader, as well as its largest city and the home of nearly 10 percent of its population, Manchester (www.manchestercvb.com) is only 58 miles from Boston.

Manchester first gained national fame in the 1800s as the home of the massive textile mill of the Amoskeag Manufacturing Company. Today Manchester is home to a melting pot of high tech companies, banks, business services enterprises, retailers, manufacturers and health care professionals.

Commerce is just one part of Manchester's appeal. The city is also the focal point of the state's cultural community and home to many of the region's eight colleges and universities. Cultural institutions such as the Currier Gallery of Art and Palace Theatre join with the new Verizon Wireless Arena and outdoor concert venues to attract world-class performers and exhibits to the city. Performances, exhibits, classes, workshops and lectures are offered to the general public at many of the area's institutions of higher education. Other city attractions include the Manchester Historic Association, Franco-American Centre and the SEE Science Center.

ACCOMMODATIONS: A brand new La Quinta Inn and Suites recently opened at 21 Front Street. Located in the City

Hotel. Located in the historic Millyard district, this hotel and conference center (that part known as the Falls Center) overlooks the beautiful Amoskeag Falls. There is a convenience store in the lobby, free high-speed wireless Internet access throughout the hotel, a fitness center, business center, seasonal outdoor pool, meeting facilities, an airport shuttle and pets are welcome. Guest rooms are furnished with La Quinta's signature pillow top mattresses, microwave, refrigerator and coffee maker, iron, ironing board, hair dryer, as well as a 32 inch flat panel HDTV with over 35 HD channels from which to choose. Breakfast here is free, and includes waffles, hot and cold cereals, bread and muffins, fresh fruit, coffee, juice, pastries, bagels and milk.

This four floor facility has 109 rooms, including three suites. It is located off of Exit #6 of the I-293. You can call 603-669-5400 or go to www.lq.com. Rooms can start as low as \$79 a night. Following a multi-million dollar renovation, Alta Properties in partnership with Roedel Companies (roedelcompanies.com) officially opened the property last April, complete with a ribbon cutting ceremony featuring the mayor, the head of the Chamber of Commerce and La Quinta executives.

David Roedel, a partner of Roedel Cos., explained

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MEN ONLY

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women into strategic positions."

Chazkel believes that Israel is progressing, albeit, slowly.

"If we want to continue progressing ourselves as a Western society that's moving toward democratic, and equal opportunities, we

need to make sure we represent ourselves at the level the European's are and the level that the Americans are. So, in order to do that, we need to make sure there are more women in leadership positions—because that's the future," Chazkel said.

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that the improvements for The Falls Center and La Quinta Inn and Suites met the company's original objective of improving the building's overall functionality. The site also offers the Greater Manchester community and those visiting the Queen City a completely re-

vitalized option. "Designed as a sister property for our award winning Hilton Garden Inn Manchester, The Falls is virtually a brand new hotel with contemporary architecture and interior design," said Roedel. "It provides exceptional price value and excellent service that

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THE WORD MACHAL IS A HEBREW ACRONYM for "Mitnadvei Chutz L'Aretz", meaning "Volunteers from Abroad". The Machalniks were mainly veterans of World War II. As the war clouds were gathering over Palestine, these veterans felt an obligation to support their brethren in the new-born State of Israel. More than 4,500 volunteers came from 58 countries - men and women, Jews and non-Jews. Most importantly, these veterans brought their invaluable World War II experience and skills. They rallied to Israel's aid in her struggle against the invasion of 6 well-armed armies. "Volunteering to fight in the War of Independence was the most important aspect of my life" said a young 86 year old Stanley who came from Kenya and who went to Israel with 800 men and women from South Africa. The above photograph was taken last month when these brave heroes were honoured in a special exhibition "By Land, by Air and by Sea" at the Museum of the Jewish People (the Diaspora Museum) which

our guests will really enjoy." SHOPPING: Check out The Mall of New Hampshire, a traditional stop for us anytime we visit Manchester. It has 125 specialty stores, four full-service restaurants and a 550-seat Food Court. Macy's, JC Penney, Sears, and Best Buy serve as the anchors and a Ruby Tuesday Restaurant pleases our taste buds.

JEWISH COMMUNITY: "Greater Manchester" takes in a number of the surrounding towns including Londonderry, Derry, Bedford and Amherst. The Jewish Federation of New Hampshire (www.jewishnh.org) is the sole social service agency in the state, other than the synagogues.

New Hampshire is known for its motto of 'Live Free or Die,' and it is consis-

tent in the Jewish community as well, officials tell me. The State is known for its "Hidden Yidden" who often choose not to associate with the "typical institutions." Many of them belong to a Chaverot and participate in Jewish Federation cultural or learning activities, but do not belong to traditional synagogues. There are three Jewish places of worship in Manchester: Temple Adath Yeshurun(R) at 152 Prospect Street, Temple Israel(C) at 66 Salmon Street and Chabad/Lubavitch of New Hampshire (O) at 7 Camelot Place.

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BRINGING HISTORY HOME

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the vessel as a maritime museum. The Keewatin will be moored in a new waterfront park in Port McNicoll — steps from the original location where it was originally tied. The park will

feature a replica of the town's original train station and surrounding English Royal gardens. Once there, restoration work will be completed to return the ship to her original early 20th century grandeur.

"This vessel is one of a kind," said Eric Conroy, author of the book *A Steak In the Drawer*, which details his experiences working on the Keewatin as a 17-year-old. Conroy, a long-time Keewatin volunteer who worked with Blutrigh to negotiate her repatriation, will chair the R.J. and Diane Peterson Great Lakes and S.S. Keewatin Foundation.

Constructed five years before the ill-fated voyage of RMS Titanic, the Keewatin is the last surviving vessel in the Great Lakes Steamship fleet and features many of the same design and construction features of her cousin Titanic, including a quadruple expansion steam engine

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