## **JEWISH NEWS BRIEFS**

TEL AVIV (WNS) — The consumer price index dropped by 1.25 per cent during the first two weeks of November, compared with the last two weeks of October, 1985. The Central Bureau of Statistics said the decline was due mainly to seasonal lowering in the prices for vegetables and fruits, even though the prices for clothing and footwear went up. It was the first time the index has declined in about ten years. Finance Ministry officials say they expect the index for the entire month of November to rise by less than one percent.

NEW YORK (WNS) - The Herman Goldman Foundation has awarded a grant of \$10,000 to the Bronx Museum of Arts here for its exhibition, "Between the Wars: The Bronx Express, Portrait of the Jewish Bronx." The exhibit, appearing at the Bronx Museum now until January 26, is a historical look at the Bronx using original drawings, paintings, photographs, documents and other personal memorabilia depicting the emergence of the Jewish Bronx during the period covering the two world wars.

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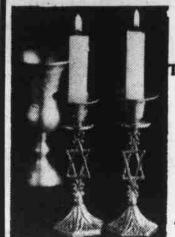
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HARTFORD (WNS) — A congregational foodsharing project started two years ago, in response to hunger and homelessness in the Hartford area, now provides monthly meals to some 150 homeless or hungry persons in Hartford, Conn. Reform Congregation Beth Israel began the third year of its Food Share program with the blessing of Rabbi Harold Silver, the Beth Israel senior rabbi, according to the Connecticut Jewish Ledger.

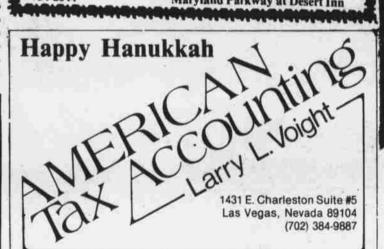
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TEL AVIV (WNS) - Placido Domingo, the star of grand opera, surprised Israeli television viewers by responding to an interviewer's questions in very good Hebrew. He explained that he sang his first operatic role with the Israel Opera more than 20 years ago. "I owe a deep debt of gratitude to the late Edis de Philippe who encouraged me and launched me on my career," he said. De Philippe was the chief diva and founder of the Israel Opera. Domingo is visiting Israel for three days during a break in the filming of Verdi's Othello on the island of Crete, in which he plays the title role. It is directed by Franco Zafirelli, an Italian, and produced by Menachem Golan.

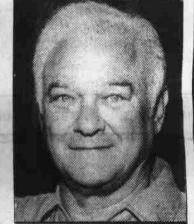
TEL AVIV (WNS) - Several hundred people many of them wearing black masks, marched from City Hall to the South African Embassy here to protest against apartheid. The demonstration was organized by Abie Nathan, who operates the "Voice of Peace" radio ship just outside Israeli territorial waters. Nathan presented the South African Ambassador with a letter condemning apartheid and urging the Pretoria government to negotiate with the African National Congress.

JERUSALEM (WNS) - A draft bill forbidding Israelis to have contact with members of a terrorist organization, inside Israel or abroad, was approved by the Knesset's Law Committee and will be presented to the Knesset plenum for approval.

- Happy Chanukah -

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