

## ON THE TOWN

# Magician Mesmerizes Seniors with Sleight of Hand

BY PATRICK TRACY

Special to The Times

With a little hocus-pocus and some abracadabra, magician extraordinaire Ryan Adler delighted seniors at the Bancroft Convalescent Hospital with a magic show that proved his hands were quicker than our eyes.

Adler, with help from his assistant, Kelly Lencioni, razzle-dazzled his audience turning handkerchiefs into doves, doing

card tricks, transforming ribbons into candy canes, making magic cookies and pulling a dollar bill from an uncut lemon. He even let his audience into a little trade secret by showing them how he turns a handkerchief into an egg and vice versa.

The egg he uses for this trick is plastic. However, what he did not reveal was how he turned this plastic egg into a real egg right before our eyes. Adler finished his show imitating the great magician Harry Houdini by getting

himself out of a strait jacket very quickly.

Adler's act at the hospital is just one of many free performances he does throughout the year for hospitals and schools. However, if you are looking for something fascinating and out of the ordinary for your next business meeting or party then Adler is your man.

Adler has been seriously interested and involved with magic since he was 16 when curiosity made him buy a trick that made a dollar bill/silk handkerchief disappear.

"I figured if I could make a little profit every time I did that trick maybe there could be something to this magic thing," said Adler. "After that I was hooked. I began doing shows for family and friends and when I turned 18, I produced my first stage show for my high school friends."

Last summer, Adler did an 11-week internship in Las Vegas with his mentor, professional il-

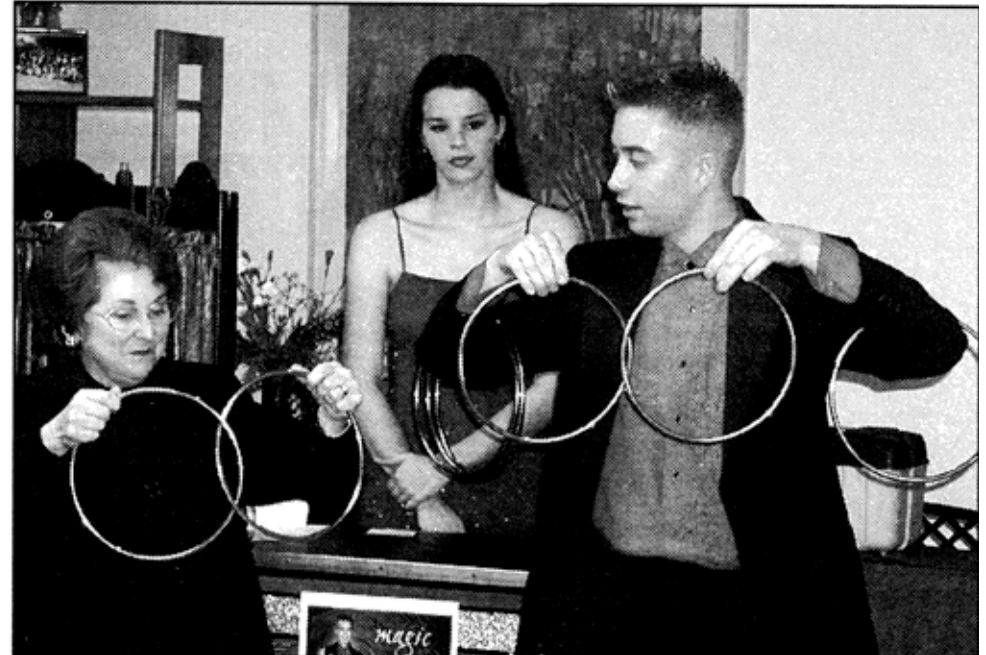


PHOTO BY PATRICK TRACY

Magician Ryan Adler, right, performs a magic ring trick with help from Bancroft Convalescent Hospital resident Harriet Anderson, left, and his assistant Kelly Lencioni.

lusionist Rick Thomas, learning how to shrink a 550-pound tiger

into a cub in front of a live audience.

"I loved working with the tigers and hope to one day incorporate them into my act," said Adler. "And working with Tho-

mas was an educational treat for me, learning the ins and outs of the business."

For more information visit Adler's web site at [www.ryanmadler.com](http://www.ryanmadler.com)