





## Jerusalem's Bambi

by Adam Jessel

Rachel Bamberger Chalkovsky, affectionately known as Bambi, is a walking Jerusalem legend. The chief midwife at Shaare Zedek Hospital, she has brought over 35,000 babies into the world over the past 40 years, and is now delivering the grandchildren of her first small charges. But numbers alone are not what have made Bambi's name so familiar in Jerusalem homes.

Born in France at the beginning of World War II, Bambi and her parents were soon on the run from the Nazis. When her father was sent to his death in Auschwitz, Bambi and her pregnant mother hid in the forest. When Bambi's brother was born, her mother somehow found hospital whose staff — at great risk to their lives — cleared a room and arranged for a secret circumcision. Bambi seems to have inherited that determination.

After the war, the family, who had lost everything, was "adopted" by an anonymous Jewish couple in America who sent them clothes, books, toys, and money. Other relief organizations provided food and shelter to the refugees, but these special gifts represented a more personal connection.

"There was an emotional aspect here that was extremely important," says Bambi. "It meant that individuals cared for us. It made us, who had lost so much, feel [like] part of a family."

When she emigrated to Israel, Bambi came to emulate her benefactors, to always be on the lookout for quiet, personal ways to assist people in need. In her second year of nursing school, she formed a close relationship with Rebbetzin Rachel Sarne, wife of the head of the Hebron

Yeshiva. A Holocaust survivor herself and afflicted with tuberculosis, the Rebbetzin, who passed away only last year, was constantly collecting and distributing food for the poor.

"She had a tremendous love of the Jewish people. Despite her illness and advanced age, she opened a shelter for all kinds of people — children, the elderly, families. She had a very special way. I regard her as one of the greatest women of our generation."

Bambi worked closely with Rebbetzin Sarne, absorbing her special approach to helping others. And when the Yom Kippur War broke out and scores of wives and mothers tragically and suddenly became widows, Bambi did what she knew she had to do.

"When there are wars, the people who are poor or orphaned are put on hold. The direct victims of the war have to take priority, and others fall through the cracks."

Her childhood wartime experiences gave Bambi the idea of matching benefactors with Israeli families in need, and she started a charitable foundation known as Matan B'Seter (giving in a hidden way,) though it is often referred to simply as "Bambi."

The charity is staffed entirely by volunteers — rabbis, social workers, teachers — who personally track each case. A small committee oversees the effort's approximately \$1,000,000 annual budget, meeting regularly in Bambi's modest kitchen. All the money raised goes directly to help the needy. Mailing and transportation costs are paid out of the volunteers' pockets.

And the funds come from both likely and unlikely places.

(Continued on Page 15)

## My Renewal and Rebirth

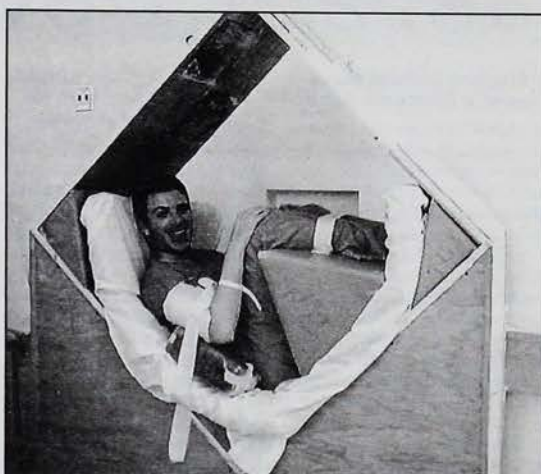
by Max Dwares

"There was a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job, that man was wholesome and upright, he feared G-d and shunned evil." (Job 1:1)

They say that as one lays on his death bed he cannot help but look back at his life and take stock of that which he wishes he had done. I am lucky enough to be presented with a thoroughly complex situation; I am not on my death bed, but laying perhaps on what one might call my "life bed." Now this seems like a strikingly unlikely situation, but what else does one call the moment when his life begins anew?

I lay here receiving a bone marrow transfusion. Not a surgery, not a complex procedure at first glance, but in all reality just an intravenous transfusion with a little more prep work. Judaism presents us with an interestingly similar situation in the book of Job.

The book of Job enlightens us to the story of Job and the plights and perils of a disease



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that he is forced to deal with for no immediately presented reason. This is a message we can all take to heart.

I too have always striven to be as wholesome and upright as

I could be. Job has always striven to be a moral and righteous man, and yet G-d punishes him for what seems to be no reason.

When questioned by his associates as to what he thinks of his plights, Job responds, "Were He to kill me, I would still yearn for Him, but I will justify my way before Him. He will also be my salvation, but a hypocrite will not come before him." (Job 13:15-16) Job never admits to doing anything wrong (and he hasn't), and in the end G-d apologizes to him and Job's wealth and his property are restored two-fold.

In the end, all is well that ends well. Job maintains his faith and G-d retains a disciple. I will maintain my faith. I will persevere. I will live on to tell the tale of my journey. "Yea, though I walk through the valley of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me." (Psalms 23:4)



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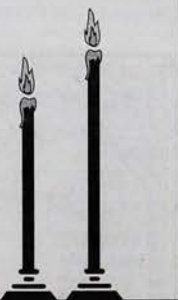
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## Look Who I'm Related To!

Does it bother you at all that many of the people we go around referring to as Jewish — all those scientists, artists, musicians, business leaders, innovators — often do not feel exceptionally Jewish? Do you still feel a surge of pride in being somehow connected to them, despite their lack of enthusiasm for the title?

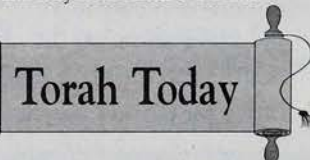
Do you mind about the great thinkers who converted because that was the only way they could continue pursuing their professions in their native lands? Or the Hollywood moguls who, during the Chanukah season, celebrated with decorated pine trees in their living rooms? Or the composers who wrote famous songs about the holidays other religions observe? Or the early Zionist leaders, many of whom did not read or write Hebrew, and actually knew very little about the history of their people? Or the great men and women of more recent times, who proudly declare themselves "cultural Jews," unaffiliated with either synagogues or core Jewish beliefs?

Maybe that doesn't bother you. Maybe you take comfort in other things. Like the accomplishments of those who actually do announce and observe their Judaism. Including the ones who would not give up that identification no matter what the consequences. And the Righteous Gentiles who have had so great an affection for us that they risked their own lives

believed, or what Irving Berlin wrote, or what stats Sandy Koufax achieved. It doesn't matter because it doesn't change what you have done or what you believe. If it does, you've been reading the wrong newsletter. The one you should be reading includes, in *Va'etchanan* last week: "...this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, that, when they hear all these statutes, shall say: 'Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.'"

What matters is your identifications with what G-d asks of us, not with what kind of Jews he happened to create in the next county or the last century. They all had a personal choice to make — to follow Torah or not — and that's the choice you have. You can always take pleasure in a newspaper headline that features a Jew who has done good. But, please... remember that it's better to be the Jew in that headline.

Submitted by Rabbi Yossi Lafer of CHAI Center of Chabad of West Bay, Warwick.



to protect Jews. Or the effect the Judaic beliefs and writings have had on everyone in sight. Would it upset you if someone said that none of this matters? Oh, it matters that we are here, and that we have a purpose: to make a home for G-d here on earth. And it matters that we have persevered as a people, and survived the travails we've endured. But it matters only in a grand sense.

What matters on a personal level is not what Albert Einstein

# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Israel News



### Sharon: Reform Movement a Strategic Asset

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon met with a North American Reform movement solidarity mission last week in his office in Jerusalem, calling the movement a strategic asset to Israel, Israel Radio, *KOL YISRAEL* reported. Sharon called on members of the Reform movement "to come to Israel, be involved in Israeli life, invest in Israel, and — at this critical time — give tangible expression to solidarity by visiting Israel. We need you now more than ever."

The Reform leaders expressed their support for Sharon's policies and commended his success in unifying the Jewish people in Israel and around the world. According to a survey presented to Sharon, 60 percent of the members of Reform communities in the United States support his policies and leadership.

Sharon briefed the mission on the diplomatic-security situation with the Palestinians and emphasized Israel's commitment to peace and the implementation of the Mitchell report and the Tenet understandings. Sharon also reiterated that the government will not conduct negotiations under fire, and stressed that progress in the diplomatic process will be possible only after a complete cessation of terrorism, violence and incitement.

### Senator McCain Slated to Lead Campaign for Kidnapped Israelis

U.S. Senator John McCain (R-AZ.) will lead a campaign to free the three Israel Defense Forces soldiers, Adi Avitan, Omar Souad, Benny Avraham and Elchanan Tannenbaum the Israeli civilian kidnapped by Hizbullah last October, *Yediot Aharonot* reported. McCain spent several years as a POW in Vietnam.

The senator was contacted by Speaker of the Knesset Avraham Burg. Burg and members of the kidnapped Israelis' families are slated to arrive in Washington, D.C. and will meet with McCain at a later date.

### Jewish, Arab Teens Graduate Joint Summer Camp

Approximately 100 Jewish and Arab teens participated in a three-week joint summer camp which ended last week, *The Jerusalem Post* reported. The camp, held in the Galilee, is organized by Shemesh, a non-profit organization dedicated to coexistence between Jews and Arabs.

Shemesh director Yasser Faour remarked, "our greatest achievement this year is that the event took place and was held as planned in Sakhnin, thanks to the cooperation of the municipality there and the goodwill of parents, Arabs and Jews, who believe in the path of coexistence and see it as the guid-

ing light to a better and brighter future for us all."

He added that given the circumstances in the region, there were doubts that the camp would be held as planned. He also said this is especially true considering that the camp is held in Sakhnin, a site of clashes between Israeli Arabs and police forces last October.

"We were concerned that Sakhnin might not want to host the camp, as it did last year, or that Jewish parents would not want to send their children there, because of what happened in October." In the end, he said, both sides enthusiastically agreed to cooperate. The Shemesh organization was established 15 years ago. It is financed by the Abraham Fund, the Beracha Foundation, private donors and other associations in the United States.

### Federal Lawsuit Filed Against PLO

A Rhode Island judge ruled in favor of a \$250 million federal lawsuit filed against the Palestinian Liberation Organization by relatives of a Jewish couple killed in a 1996 terrorist attack. In a 47-page ruling issued on Tuesday, U.S. District Court Judge Ronald R. Lagueux said the case against the PLO and the Palestinian Authority could proceed under the federal Anti-Terrorism Act of 1991.

The lawsuit claims Palestinian officials were responsible for the drive-by shooting of Yaron

and Efrat Ungar as they allowed Hamas, a Palestinian terrorist group, to operate training facilities in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and encouraging terrorism in the region. The Ungars were near the city of Beit Shemesh right outside of Jerusalem when gunmen sprayed their car with bullets five years ago. Their then 9-month-old son, strapped in a car seat at the time, survived the machine-gun attack unharmed. Another son, now seven years old, also survives the couple.

The lawsuit is based on a bill enacted by the U.S. Congress after the 1985 Achille Lauro hijacking. The statute gives federal courts jurisdiction over such cases, making it easier for U.S. victims of terrorism overseas to collect damages. Lagueux ruled the case may also proceed since Yaron Ungar was a native of New York.

### Israeli Scientists Grow Human Heart Cells from Stem Cells

Israeli scientists declared that they successfully grew heart cells from human embryonic stem cells, marking a step toward regenerating tissue dam-

aged by cardiac disease, *Ha'aretz On-Line* reported. Researchers said they created early-stage human heart cells in petri dishes using stem cells derived from an embryo just days after fertilization. They added that they envisioned using these cells, after refining the process, to reverse damage inflicted on cardiac muscle by heart attacks.

One of the scientists, Dr. Joseph Itskovitz-Eldor of the Faculty of Medicine and Rambam Medical Center in Haifa said in a telephone interview, "It was shown for the first time that the cells that are being created are definitely cardiac cells that show electrical, biochemical and morphological characteristics of early or young cardiac muscle."

Embryonic stem cells are viewed as the body's early building blocks, as they can transform into almost any cell type, enabling an embryo to grow from a round ball of a few cells into a fully formed body. Researchers are hoping to use stem cells to create therapies for a variety of illnesses, including heart disease, one of the leading causes of death worldwide.



### RI Members of AABGU Participate in 18th Annual Evening at the Pops

The New England Region of American Associates of Ben-Gurion University held its 18th annual evening at the Boston Pops at Symphony Hall. The event honored three Women of Valor — Helen Cyker, Harriet Kaplan and Faye Sundell — for their devotion and commitment to the University.

Named in honor of Israel's first prime minister, David Ben-Gurion, BGU was created to fulfill a unique nation building mission to develop the Negev, the focus of the future of Israel. For more information please call AABGU R.I. affiliate, Bob Bernstein or Robert Oster at 728-3600.

(Pictured from left to right) Peter Silverman, Cheryl Silverman, AABGU board member Lillian Bernstein, Jean Bernstein and Joel Bernstein

Photo courtesy of AABGU



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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

*Last  
Day —  
Hooray!*



Sixth-grade students Nava Winkler, Ilana Eides and Shayna Weinshel hang loose on the last day of school.



Top Left

Emma Sherer (left) and Rachel Kerzer (right) show some exuberance as the final minutes wind down.

Bottom Right

Waitin' for my folks — Jared Wisen and Nuriya Coke wait by the fence outside ASDS to be picked up after school.



## APN Opposes Anti-Jewish, Anti-Israel References In U.N. World Conference Against Racism Declaration

Americans for Peace Now today expressed its opposition to proposed language in the draft declaration of the upcoming U.N. World Conference Against Racism that singles out Israeli settlement practices for condemnation, equates Zionism with racism, and denigrates the Holocaust. APN is a Zionist organization with a mission to enhance Israeli security through peace and to support the Israeli Peace Now movement.

"Americans for Peace Now has never shied away from opposing Israeli settlement policies or condemning intolerance," said Debra DeLee, APN president and CEO. "However, the U.N. World Conference Against Racism is supposed to be an opportunity for all countries and people of goodwill to

discuss problems of discrimination and ways to combat it. In a draft document that otherwise almost completely deals in universal language and concepts, the several provisions singling out Israel and the Jewish people for condemnation are totally inappropriate and counter-productive.

"This is particularly true at a time when people in the Middle East desperately need more opportunities for coming together, rather than tearing each other apart. APN encourages the U.S. government to participate in the U.N. World Conference Against Racism, to work hard to make the event a global call for tolerance and understanding, and to fight efforts that would politicize this gathering and diminish its lofty goals."

## Simon Wiesenthal Dean Testifies on UN Conference, Focuses on Anti-Semitic Sentiments

Rabbi Marvin Hier, dean and founder of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, was one of the lead witnesses before the Committee on International Relations for Capitol Hill hearings entitled, "A Discussion on the UN World Conference Against Racism." The UN Conference will take place in Durban, South Africa from Aug. 31 to Sept. 7.

The hearings addressed the growing threat of anti-Semitism and related issues being proposed at the UN Conference, as well as other relevant concerns. Rabbi Hier's testimony focused on Arab anti-Semitism, Holocaust denial, and the anti-Israel language presented in the final version of the NGO Forum Declaration.

The Simon Wiesenthal Center is the only Jewish organization elected to the International Coordinating Committee of NGOs for the UN Conference on Racism. As such, the center has been involved in most of the planning meetings leading up to the conference with the exception of the Tehran Preparatory Conference where the center was excluded because of its Jewish identity.



## National Jewish Named Top Respiratory Hospital

*Fourth Consecutive Year*

For the fourth straight year, *U.S. News & World Report* has named National Jewish Medical and Research Center the top respiratory hospital in the United States. The ranking is part of the 2001 *America's Best Hospitals* guide published by the weekly newsmagazine.

"We are pleased that *U.S. News* and the board-certified pulmonologists it consults have once again recognized the outstanding care our staff provides to patients from around the world," said Lynn M. Taussig, M.D., National Jewish president and CEO. "Our clinical and research programs are working hand-in-hand to further extend our knowledge and improve our treatment of people with respiratory disorders."

Respiratory disorders treated at National Jewish include asthma, emphysema, bronchitis, cystic fibrosis, sarcoidosis, tuberculosis, interstitial lung disease, and occupational and environmental disorders such as chronic beryllium disease.

As *U.S. News* points out, the rapid rise in childhood asthma has been a major concern of physicians at National Jewish and across the nation. Asthma is the most common chronic disease among children, affecting more than 5 million under the age of 18 in the United States and accounting for more than 10 million missed days of school each day.

Physicians and researchers at National Jewish have pioneered new approaches to understanding, diagnosing, and treating

asthma from infancy through adulthood. Numerous studies directed by National Jewish physicians have helped to improve the standard of care, which includes new treatments, closer monitoring, and earlier interventions for children with asthma. Although there is no known cure for asthma, current studies at National Jewish are also examining several potential strategies for prevention of the disease among children.

"As we learn more about the natural history of asthma, we are finding new targets for both prevention and treatment of the disease," said Dr. Erwin Gelfand, chairman of pediatrics at National Jewish. "Since 70 to 80 percent of adult asthmatics first develop asthma in childhood, we believe our research on childhood asthma will have important ramifications for the entire asthma population."

National Jewish is the only medical and research center in the United States devoted entirely to respiratory, allergic, and immune system diseases. In addition to respiratory disorders, National Jewish physicians also treat severe allergies, AIDS, cancer chronic fatigue syndrome, lupus and other autoimmune diseases. It is a non-profit, non-sectarian institution dedicated to enhancing prevention, treatment and cures through research, and to developing and providing innovative clinical programs for treating patients regardless of age, religion, race or ability to pay.

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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## NCJW Launches Reproductive Rights Campaign

Challenges Nomination of Judge Kuhl

The National Council of Jewish Women, long active in support of women's reproductive rights, has announced its commitment to examine all U.S. Supreme Court and federal appellate court nominees and to challenge those who oppose reproductive rights as embodied in Roe v. Wade, the landmark case decided in 1973. NCJW has launched a campaign to educate and mobilize its membership and the larger Jewish community to advocate for a judiciary that will protect a woman's right to choose.

"For over 100 years, NCJW has protected the rights of women — as a resource to those in need, as a pioneer in family planning, and today, as the leading pro-choice Jewish organization fighting to preserve reproductive rights. Now, NCJW plans to reach out to the Jewish community nationwide to educate and activate its allies to preserve a woman's right to choose through monitoring court ap-

pointments and challenging anti-choice nominees," said NCJW President Jan Schneiderman.

NCJW's first effort in this campaign will challenge the nomination of Judge Carolyn Kuhl of Los Angeles to the Ninth Circuit court of Appeals. Kuhl has made clear her opposition to the Supreme Court's decision in Roe v. Wade, calling for its "abandonment." NCJW's opposition to Kuhl marks the first time the organization has taken a stand on a judicial nominee below the Supreme Court level.

"Our scrutiny and advocacy regarding judicial nominees must extend to the entire federal appellate judicial system. Too often in the past, women's reproductive rights have been curtailed by the federal appellate courts, whose decisions have been endorsed by the Supreme Court or been allowed to stand unreviewed, with restrictive provisions intact, Schneiderman added. "Furthermore, recent Supreme Court Justices have been drawn from the federal appellate bench, where judges have acquired the credentials they need to be considered for the high court. The situation is urgent and the statistics are dramatic."

From 1993 to 2001, conservatives blocked 36 nominations made by President Clinton. During the eight years of the Reagan presidency, only nine nominations were blocked. Currently, 32 of 179 total authorized federal appellate court judgeships are vacant, or nearly 20 percent of the federal appellate judiciary. In the next four years, 18 additional vacancies may be created when sitting judges assume senior status. In this term, President Bush may have the opportunity to appoint nearly 30 percent of the federal appellate judiciary.

"Conservatives in Congress have stymied mainstream judicial nominees during the '90s in the hope that winning back the White House would enable them to control the federal judiciary. NCJW will join with others in this campaign to see that the judicial nomination process proceeds fairly," said President Schneiderman. "Opposing Judge Kuhl's nomination to the appellate bench is the first step in our effort to safeguard the constitutional rights of the majority who support the Roe v. Wade decision and a woman's right to choose."

## Catholic-Jewish Scholars Panel Suspends Study of Holy See's Archival Material

Cited Lack of 'Positive' Response From the Vatican

A Catholic-Jewish commission of historians, created jointly by the Vatican and an international Jewish interreligious committee to review published archival material related to the Holy See's activities during World War II, has suspended its study because of "lack of positive response" to its appeal for additional documentation. The scholars have also asked that the Holy See open its archives covering that era.

Seymour D. Reich, chairman of the International Jewish Committee on Interreligious Consultations, expressed "deep disappointment" at the lack of an affirmative reply by the Vatican to a preliminary report by the joint commission of historians titled "The Vatican and the Holocaust."

The Catholic-Jewish study was established in October 1999 as a joint undertaking by the Holy See's Commission for Religious Relations With the Jews and IJCIC. Three of the six scholars on the panel were appointed by the Vatican commission and three by the Jewish committee. They agreed to undertake a review of 11 volumes of already published Vatican records from the World War II period and "to pose questions about unresolved matters" in the published documentation. The panel's preliminary report, issued in October 2000, concluded that its review of the published material raised many questions, listing 47 issues by way of illustration, requiring additional documentation from the Vatican's unpublished archives.

In response, Walter Cardinal Kasper, recently appointed president of the Holy See's Commission for Religious Relations With the Jews, stated in a letter to the historians, dated June 21, that "the Vatican ar-

chives are accessible only until 1923" and that access "after that date is not possible at present for technical reasons." He asked the panel to prepare a final report about the history of the Holy See during the Holocaust from the material it already reviewed.

In a letter to Cardinal Kasper dated July 20 and signed by all five of its members, the panel cited "a seeming misunderstanding between you and the scholars on the very terms of our work."

The five signers included the two Catholic members: Rev. Gerald P. Fogarty, S.J., professor of religious studies and history, University of Virginia; and Rev. John F. Morley, associate professor, department of religious studies, Seton Hall University, N.J.; and three Jewish scholars, Dr. Michael R. Marrus, professor of history and dean of the School of Graduate Studies, University of Toronto; Dr. Bernard Suchocky, researcher, department of social science, Free University of Brussels, Belgium; and Dr. Robert S. Wistrich, professor of history and holder of the Neuberger Chair in modern Jewish studies, Hebrew University, Jerusalem. Dr. Eva Fleischner, professor emerita of Montclair State University, New Jersey; a Catholic appointee, was the sixth member of the academic team but retired from the panel after the work on the preliminary report was completed.

In their joint letter, the historians noted that their mandate was to examine the 11 volumes of Vatican archival material published between 1965 and 1981 — known as the *Actes et documents du Saint Siege relatifs a la Seconde guerre mondiale* — and "to pose questions about any matters we believed were

unresolved in the published documentation."

They said they agreed to this "unusually limited mandate" because they hoped to contribute to "a more balanced public discussion" of the complex historical issue regarding the policies and actions of the Holy See during World War II and "because we were at the same time hopeful that the process we began might promote the advisability of opening the archives for the period of the Second World War."

The historians' letter acknowledged that while their work is not complete, "we have made our best case for responsible historical inquiry" and "set a framework for a balanced approach."

The scholars asserted that without some positive response to their request for unpublished Vatican archival material, "we could not maintain our credibility with the many voices, Catholic, Jewish and others, who have called for greater availability of archival material" and added: "We therefore cannot see a way forward at present to the final report that you request, and believe that we must therefore suspend our work."

Reich noted that despite the Holy See's policy of keeping its archives closed for many years after an event, Pope Paul VI in 1964 made an unprecedented decision to override its policy by giving archival access to the four Jesuit scholars who prepared the publication of the 11 volumes of materials that were the basis of the Catholic-Jewish historical panel's preliminary report. "In that case, why not also give archival access to the Catholic-Jewish panel and to other respected historians," Reich said.

## Yawgoog Gets a New Jewish Scout Chaplain

Rabbi Sol Goodman is the new Jewish chaplain at Yawgoog Scout Reservation in Rockville, succeeding Rina Wolfgang of Wakefield, who held the post for the last 11 years.

Rabbi Goodman, who was ordained in 1980, is spiritual leader of Temple Shalom in Milford, Mass., and is Hillel advisor and chaplain at Bryant College in Smithfield.

The appointment of Rabbi Goodman as full-time Jewish chaplain at Yawgoog was announced by Jules Cohen of North Kingston, chairman of

the Jewish Committee on Scouting of Narragansett Council, BSA. Cohen pointed out that Rabbi Goodman has been heavily involved in Jewish education and chaplaincy activities for a number of years. He is founder and director of SHORESH, which provides outreach and educational services.

As Jewish chaplain at Yawgoog, Rabbi Goodman leads Friday evening Sabbath services and Sunday morning ecumenical "bagel and talk" sessions at the Temple of the Ten Commandments. He also works with the other chaplains



Rabbi Sol Goodman

on ecumenical activities. He will help Jewish scouts prepare for their Ner Tamid awards and will assist them in their Jewish studies, as needed.

Rabbi and his wife, Suann, are the parents of four children and live in Providence. Mrs. Goodman is a teacher at the Temple Sinai religious school in Cranston.

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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Adult Jewish Learning at Temple Beth-El

Temple Beth-El in Providence is offering the following adult education classes, all of which are open to the public. Please call Temple Beth-El to reserve your space at 311-6070.

**Selichot:** An evening of learning, music, and reflection in spiritual preparation for the High Holy Days. This year we are excited to join with Temple Habonim on Sept. 8 at Temple Habonim in Barrington.

**Refresher and Refreshments:** Just in time for Rosh Hashanah, we can brush up on our Hebrew and get in the holiday spirit. "Refresher and Refreshments," on the evening of Sept. 12, is for people who've already learned the alef-bet but would like to review Hebrew in time for the Days of Awe. Helen Salzberg will teach Hebrew while Rabbi Blake conducts a Shofar-blowing workshop and Cantor Seplowin reviews and teaches High Holiday Melodies. Goodies will be served.

**A Night of Film and Fun:** As a kick-off event for the fall season, we'll enjoy an evening of entertainment and education with the movie "Yidl in the Middle," presented by the filmmaker, Marlene Booth. That's on Oct. 10.

**Hebrew:** For the fall we'll offer the perennially popular course Introductory Hebrew on Wednesday evenings and Intermediate Hebrew on Wednesday mornings, from Oct. 17 to Dec. 5.

**Torah 101:** Rabbi Blake will repeat his oversubscribed course from last spring, an introduction to Torah (no Hebrew experience or prior knowledge necessary). It runs for eight weeks from Oct. 17 to Dec. 19.

**Jewish Bio-Medical Ethics:** Beth-El member and physician Douglas Blake will conduct a discussion-style course about contemporary medical issues as viewed through the lens of Jewish teachings. Whether you're a physician, a patient, or just an

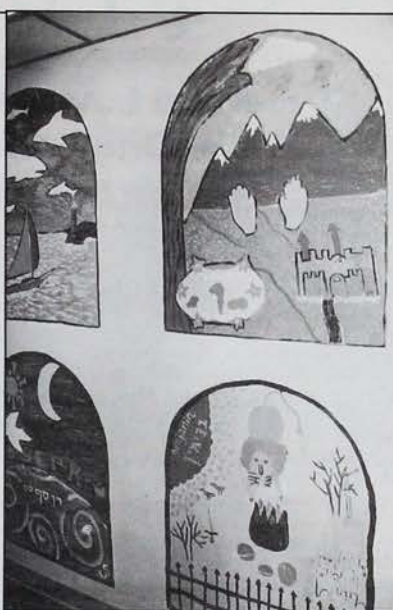
interested person, this course will broaden your perspective and deepen your knowledge. It runs from Oct. 17 to Dec. 5.

**Introduction to Judaism:** The clergy offer this 18-week course for anyone interested in learning or reviewing the basic concepts and practices of Judaism. Designed for Jews and non-Jews alike, it begins Oct. 17.

**Weekly Torah Study:** This fixture of Shabbat mornings at Temple Beth-El has grown steadily over the past several years. Following an informal service in our chapel at 9 a.m., join us each Saturday morning at 10:15 a.m. as we study Torah and enjoy a light brunch in the board room. No experience necessary — come as you are.

**Scholar-in-Residence:** Rabbi Peter Knobel of Beth Emet, the Free Synagogue, in Evanston, Ill., an eminent figure in the Reform Movement and chairperson of the effort to produce the forthcoming Reform prayer book (the planned successor to *Gates of Prayer*), will join us for the weekend of Nov. 16 to 18. You'll have a chance to interact with Rabbi Knobel at programs throughout this celebratory weekend. Come and learn about how and why we pray the way we do — and will in the near future — with this dynamic scholar and speaker.

**The 2001 UAHC Biennial:** The major convention of the Reform Movement's synagogue arm, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, will take place this year in our backyard, Boston, from Dec. 5 to 9. Every day will be packed with discussions, workshops, presentations by noted leaders, and many other activities. There is no Reform Jewish experience like it: the chance to socialize, learn, and worship with thousands of congregants from across North America, together in one place. Don't miss it!



## Marvelous Murals at Temple Sinai!

Hebrew school students at Temple Sinai in Cranston decorated the walls of the synagogue with bright and beautiful murals. The numerous paintings stretch down the lengths of a hallway, and depict various scenes of creation, the 12 tribes of Israel and other biblical events.

*Herald photo by Jon Rubin*

## Book Drive For Ethiopian Jews Announced

"Jewish children in Ethiopia deserve food for the mind as well as for their undernourished bodies," says Barbara Ribakove Gordon, national director of the North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry.

She reports that a library and study hall have just been constructed on the NACOEJ elementary school compound in Addis Ababa. More than 2,000 children attend daily classes in the Herbert Berman School there, studying Hebrew and Judaic subjects, in addition to the standard Ethiopian curriculum, and being served a nourishing lunch.

NACOEJ is appealing to Jewish schools, synagogues, community centers and other friends throughout the United States for new and used children's books of Jewish interest, in English and Hebrew, for the Ethiopian school library. There is a serious shortage of books for the eager, grade-school students in Addis Ababa.

"The children in the NACOEJ schools will read anything they can get their hands on," Gordon stated. "Their desire to learn is heart-warming. Unfortunately, there are few books of the kind we need available in Ethiopia. What books we have are tattered from handling and being passed from child to child.

The humidity in the rainy season also contributed to their deterioration," she added.

"The new library and reading facility will help preserve the books and give the children a place to sit and read — something they can't find in the crowded, dark hovels in which they live."

Improving educational facilities for Ethiopian children in Israel is also a prime concern. Several years ago in Israel, a NACOEJ-sponsored library was established at the Harin school in Ramla by Zelda Stern and the Harry Stern Family Foundation of New York in memory of Zelda's mother. A science room in the same school is now being completely renovated in memory of New York educator Sidney Stern, a long-time NACOEJ board member and volunteer, by his widow, Barbara Stern, and a group of family members and close friends.

Another library was recently completed at the HaMeiri school in Lod, with a generous grant from Alan Sieroty of Los Angeles in honor of his parents. Although these schools have large Ethiopian-Jewish student bodies, all NACOEJ-sponsored facilities are used by all students.

The HaMeiri school library has been described by its faculty as "our jewel." Designed to make optimum use of the available space, the bookshelves are easily moved to create secluded areas for video, computing, reading and study.

For more information about how to contribute books, or establish dedicated learning facilities, as well as other NACOEJ programs in Israel and Ethiopia, write to NACOEJ, 132 Nassau St., Fourth Floor, New York, N.Y. 10038; call (212) 233-5200; fax (212) 233-5243; e-mail <nacoej@aol.com>.

## JFS Kosher Mealsite Will Host Presentations on Medication and Living Wills

Do you have a question about prescriptions? Are you planning for the future? Seniors are invited to the Jewish Family Service Kosher Mealsite in Cranston for programs that will provide information on these topics. "Proper Use of Medications" will be presented on August 6, by a representative of CVS Pharmacy. "The ABC's of a Living Will and Durable Power of Attorney" will be the subject on August 20, when a speaker from Aging 2000 will be at the mealsite.

Many other activities are planned for the month. Programs begin at 11 a.m. and lunch is served at noon. Every Friday, there is a special Shabbat meal, complete with candles, challah and kiddush. All Jewish holidays are observed.

In August, regular activities include: bingo, Aug. 14, 21 and 28; exercise class with Sylvia,

Aug. 8, 15, 22 and 29; visits from the Bureau of Jewish Education Bookmobile, Aug. 8 and 22; dance therapy with Theresa, Aug. 27; Yiddish group with Lillian, Aug. 30; and a birthday party with cake and entertainment on Aug. 16. Every Friday there are men's and women's discussion groups. The mealsite will be closed on Aug. 13.

The JFS Kosher Mealsite in Cranston is located at Temple Torat Yisrael, 300 Park Ave. Transportation is available every day for residents of Cranston and areas of Warwick. A small donation of \$2 is requested for the meals and the programs are free. For reservations and information, call mealsite coordinator Ronda French at 781-1771 during Mealsite hours, or at 331-1244, ext. 42 at any time to leave a message.



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# HEALTHWISE

## Free and Low Cost Prescription Drugs Available

Are you one of the millions of Americans without prescription drug coverage? If so, free information from the Providence R.I. Patient Assistance Network may be able to help.

The Providence R.I. Patient Assistance Network helps people to apply for enrollment in one or more of the many patient assistance programs that have free and low cost prescription drugs available to qualified individuals. The organization, which is run by volunteers, also helps individuals who are without prescription drug coverage obtain a pharmacy discount card, if their income is too high to qualify for free prescriptions. These discount programs typically save consumers 15 to 30 percent on prescription drug costs.

"Many drug manufacturers have patient assistance programs that provide free or low cost medication for qualified individuals, but they rarely, if ever publicize the programs," says Paul Richard, a volunteer at the organization's headquarters in Washington, D.C. This will allow anyone without prescription drug coverage to immediately get lower prices at pharmacies when purchasing prescription drugs."

Consumers can get free information about patient assistance programs and prescription drug discount cards by calling the organization's 24-hour hotline at (800) 277-0472.



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If you are an oxygen user at home or have severe problems with breathing, please call for more information to see if you qualify. Call toll free, Dennis Karnes at (800) 344-5764.

## Two Prestigious Health Education Awards to Hadassah

Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, continues to garner special status recognition and honors during this International Year of the Volunteer, 2001. The organization has just been granted two prestigious awards for its work in health education and awareness. The awards, from the American Society of Association Executives, cited the country's largest women's and largest Jewish membership organization for its outstanding programming in the Civic and Community Volunteers category ("Check It Out") and the Public Education and Information category (It's in the Genes!).

"Check It Out" is an educational program for high school students, aimed at increasing awareness of breast and testicular cancer, and teaching early

detection. The "Check It Out" seminars are presented in an age-appropriate manner in high schools around the country, featuring an interactive panel consisting of a Hadassah volunteer, a health professional, a social worker and a cancer survivor. Since Hadassah developed the program in 1992, it has reached more than 500,000 boys and girls in high schools (and some colleges) around the country. Through its mandate of educating both students and their parents, the program has been responsible for saving many lives through early cancer detection.

Hadassah's It's in the Genes! is a program offered in community centers, hospitals and other public spaces across the country. Information about genetic testing and research — includ-

ing its place in Jewish values and its potential psychological and health impact — is imparted by a panel consisting of a Hadassah volunteer, a geneticist, a genetics counselor or advocate, a patient living with a rare genetic disease and a Jewish ethicist.

Since its founding almost 90 years ago, issues of education and health have been important to Hadassah's core mission. The organization, with 300,000 members across the country, has received honors and awards confirming its primacy in many areas of volunteer activity during the International Year of the Volunteer, 2001 — including the fact that Hadassah is the only Jewish organization appointed to the U.S. steering committee overseeing the U.N.'s yearlong celebration.

## Learn The ABC's of Living Will and Durable Power of Attorney

Memorial Hospital of Rhode Island, will be hosting a one-hour workshop on the ABC's of Living Will and Durable Power of Attorney for Healthcare on Aug. 21 at 7 p.m., in Sayles Conference room 1.

Andrea Mainardi of Aging 200, will discuss the various options available to people and explain the importance of com-

municating health care preferences in advance of serious illness or injury.

Participants will examine personal values as they assess their choices and review the requirements of documents such as the Living Will and Durable power of Attorney for Healthcare.


A living will is a written docu-

ment which directs your physician to withhold or stop life-sustaining medical procedures if you develop a terminal condition and can't state your wishes at the time a decision about those kinds of procedures must be made. A durable power of attorney for health care is a written document in which you name another person as agent to make health care decisions for you in case you become unable to make or communicate these decisions for yourself.


This workshop will also emphasize the need to communicate end of life care wishes to health care providers and family members.

The program is free. Booklets, brochures and supportive literature will be provided. Registration in advance is requested by calling 729-2459.

Aging 2000 is a local non-profit consumer organization whose mission is to improve the health and health care delivery system of older Rhode Islanders.



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# HEALTHWISE

## Are You a Stroke Survivor?

The American Heart Association Wants to Know

Stroke is this nation's third leading cause of death and the primary cause of serious disability. To increase people's awareness about stroke, warning signs, prevention, and rehabilitation, The American Heart Association is seeking stories from individuals who have survived a stroke or who are caregivers for someone who has survived a stroke.

"The project will hopefully result in a collection of inspirational and motivational stories that will help people become more familiar with warning signs of stroke, and how important it is to treat stroke as a medical emergency and seek rapid and expert medical care. We also hope that these stories will bring hope to the thousands of people who are dealing with stroke now and for the rest of their lives," said Nancy Thomas, director of communications, Southern New England, American Heart Association.

Individuals will have the opportunity of telling their stories using their own name or anonymously. No article will be reproduced without the written permission of the stroke survivor.

The American Heart Association is in its second implementation year of a project called Operation Stroke. It is a statewide, and national, campaign to increase awareness of stroke, and the accessibility and availability of the most current treatment and rehabilitation methods. Urgency in getting treatment within a short time period is the main message as the campaign works with hospitals and in the pre-hospital setting to improve survivability and reduce disability from stroke.

Every 53 seconds, someone in America has a stroke. Currently, only 2 percent of stroke sufferers receive proper medical treatment because they wait too long to seek medical attention within the average three-hour treatment window.

Stories of any length and in any format may be sent to Nancy Thomas, American Heart Association, 275 Westminster St., Providence, R.I. 02903, or e-mail at: <nancy.thomas@heart.org>.

"We know that we can reach people if we can touch their hearts with what has happened to someone else. Whether the individuals involved receive treatment in time, or not, we know that people remember stories of real people just like them, and might be more inclined to act if they have heard what someone else has gone through," said Thomas. "We also know that it can be healing in itself, to write down how one's life has changed, and explore one's feelings and emotions regarding stroke. We hope this effort will provide this personal opportunity as well. And, of course, all individuals submitting their stories will maintain all rights to have their stories used or not."

Stories of any length and in any format may be sent to Nancy Thomas, American Heart Association, 275 Westminster St., Providence, R.I. 02903, or e-mail at: <nancy.thomas@heart.org>.



## State's Only Tuberculosis Clinic Moves to The Miriam Hospital

Providence Mayor Vincent A. Cianci, Jr., cuts the ribbon to officially open the RISE/TB Clinic at The Miriam Hospital on July 2. From left are: hospital president and CEO Kathleen Hittner, M.D.; Cianci; R.I. Department of Health Director Patricia A. Nolan; and E. Jane Carter, M.D., medical director of the RISE/TB Clinic. The state-funded clinic, formerly located at the Roger William's Medical Center, treats 99 percent of the tuberculosis cases in the state.

Photo courtesy of The Miriam Hospital

## Herbal Supplement Makes Mind the Matter

A hectic lifestyle and a light sleep regimen are common contributors to such absent-minded activities as misplacing your keys or forgetting the name of your favorite Italian restaurant. But Americans are responding to these disconcerting lapses in memory and concentration by taking the herbal remedy ginkgo (Ginkgo biloba).

Age-associated memory impairment (AAMI) affects up to 38 percent of individuals 50 and older. Everyday factors often contribute to AAMI, including stress, sleep changes, alcohol, smoking and medications. Keeping the arteries healthy is key, says experts, because clear arteries ensure blood flow to the brain.

Another way to reduce AAMI is by supplementing your lifestyle and diet with herbs such as

ginkgo. With sales of \$310 million in 1998, ginkgo is gaining speed among the American public as a safe way to treat age-associated memory loss.

For consumers worried about whether these herbal remedies really do work, published evidence may shed some light. One 1997 study, for example, suggested that ginkgo is an effective treatment for individuals who suffer from mild to severe cognitive impairment. In addition, over 100 studies support the safety and various benefits of ginkgo preparations.

Used for centuries in traditional Chinese medicine, ginkgo is believed to counteract the symptoms of AAMI by improving circulation to the smallest blood vessels in the brain. The herb's antioxidant properties

also work to protect cell membranes. Although few serious side effects have been documented, there is concern that ginkgo may interact with blood-thinning drugs. Therefore, it is important to discuss use of ginkgo with your doctor before trying it.

In Europe, where the German Commission E has sanctioned the use of ginkgo extract for improving memory and concentration, the herb is even more popular, boasting sales of more than \$200 million per year in Germany alone. Further, the herb has also been approved by the commission E and the World Health organization for use in dementia, tinnitus (ringing in the ears) and difficulty concentrating.

This information has been produced by the American Botanical Council (ABC), a non-profit research and educational organization in Austin, Texas. For more scientific and technical information on ginkgo and other herb information, contact ABC at <www.herbalgram.org>.

Submissions for the Healthwise pages should be sent to:

Healthwise  
Rhode Island  
Jewish Herald  
P.O. Box 6063  
Providence, RI 02940

be swept away by river currents and are very difficult to spot if they become submerged in lakes.

To find a CPR training center near you, call the American Heart Association at 1 (877) AHA-4CPR or visit <www.americanheart.org> and click "Learn CPR." When calling your local training center for course information, specify that you would like to take a Heartsaver CPR course that will include the child and infant module.

## American Heart Association Water Safety Tips

In the midst of summer's warm weather, Americans are heading to the water. The American Heart Association encourages all people to learn cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) so that they're ready to act quickly to prevent drowning. Following are water safety tips:

- Be prepared to perform CPR. Drowning is a leading cause of fatal injuries in infants, children and adolescents.

- Watch infants and children who are swimming at all times. Drowning can occur in minutes even in shallow water.

- No child is "drown proof" and the ability to swim does not prevent drowning. The drowning child often sinks quietly without screaming for help or thrashing in the water.

- Put life vest on your children. Children should wear life vests when swimming in natural bodies of water such as lakes and rivers. Children can easily

## Contact Lens Summer Tips

Now that summer's here, contact lens wearers — like everyone else — are looking for good ways to beat the heat. The Contact Lens Council offers some tips to help users get the most out of their summer fun without giving up the convenience of contacts over glasses or more expensive laser surgery.

For people who wear the more expensive specialty contact lenses, Schilling suggests temporarily switching to inexpensive, one-day disposable lenses. "It is easy to lose or forget your lenses while on vacation, or standing in the surf at your favorite beach," he says. "Check with your eye care professional about the suitability of these less expensive lenses as a vacation alternative. While your vision may not be perfect, it will often be good enough for the leisure activities we all enjoy."

Daily disposables offer other advantages to the vacationer and traveler as well. Risk of eye

infection increases when wearing contacts in the pool or in other environments where dust and air pollution are present. While these risks can be minimized with regular cleaning and disinfecting, temporary disposable contacts can also be discarded after use.

UV protection is also important for people who care about good vision. Newer contact lenses now offer UV absorption and provide excellent vision correction, both in and out of the water. Schilling recommends users also wear sunglasses. "With contacts, you can take advantage of the extra protection sunglasses offer, and easily change your look or style without having to buy extra pairs of expensive prescription sunglasses."

For more information on contact lenses, visit the Contact Lens Council Web site at: <www.contactlenscouncil.org> or call (800) 884-4CLC.



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# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Holocaust Survivor Has Never Forgotten Her Past

Lea Eliash sat back in the chair as the group of 30 or so senior citizens at Sakonnet Bay Manor in Tiverton settled in around her. They sat close to the elderly woman with the silver hair and listened attentively to what the Holocaust survivor had to say.

Eliash spoke of her experience during World War II. Although the events she told happened 60 years ago, Eliash's memories were vivid.

Eliash was born in Lithuania, a democratic agricultural community prior to the war. Eliash explained that when Germany conquered Lithuania she and her family were forced to live in

a ghetto and had to wear the Star of David on their clothing.

Men were separated from the women, thus separating Eliash from her husband. After being apart for three years, they were reunited.

"When the war ended I was able to locate my husband," said Eliash "It was a pure miracle."

Eliash worked in a factory sewing fur to make gloves and vests for the soldiers fighting in cold climates.

"The chemist and a lady who worked in the office tried to help me as much as possible," Eliash told the seniors. "They gave me bread and news of

what was going on. When they found out Nazis were going to take the children away, they helped me find a Christian family that would care for my 18 month-old daughter.

"As the war was closing the Germans went on a rampage and killed and burned everything," she continued. "I managed to escape by bribing a guard with a watch hidden in my shoe. I came to America and was able to get my daughter after the war, from that very kind and brave family."

Eliash and the rest of her family made a new life for themselves in the United States. For 49 years she taught Hebrew at Temple Emanu-El in Providence.

On her husband's deathbed in 1978, he made Eliash promise that she would tell and retell their story so that people would not forget what happened and so they could not claim that the Holocaust never took place.

"What a moving story. We are in awe of her," said Milton and Deena Gershon at the conclusion of the program. "Mrs. Eliash's story is a moving one and needs to be kept alive," said Susan Adler, the director of Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island. "Her words are quite motivating and we thank her for sharing her story with all of us."

Eliash's presentation was part of a speaker's bureau put on by Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum in conjunction with the Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island, a division of the Jewish Seniors Agency.

The Jewish Seniors Agency located in Providence, has evolved from a home for the aged into one of leading providers of Jewish seniors services, offering a net of care for Rhode Island's Jewish seniors. For more information on the Jewish Seniors Agency and any of its programs call 351-4750.

## Rachel Reingold Weds Ernest Mandel

Sheraton Northshore Hotel, Northbrook, Ill., was the setting of the wedding of Rachel Naomi Reingold and Ernest Israel Mandel on July 1. The bride is the daughter of Professor Edward and Ruth Reingold, of Evanston, Ill. The bridegroom is the son of Drs. Alex and Shari Mandel of Sharon, Mass.

Rabbi Robert Klapper officiated at the wedding. The reception was held at the Sheraton Northshore Hotel.

The bride was given in marriage by her parents.

Bridesmaids were Leah Gordon, Deborah Klapper and Eve Reingold, sisters of the bride and Sarah Donath, Razelle Holtz, and Samara Kaplan, friends of the bride.

Ushers were Jonathan Mandel, Raphe Mandel and Ephie Mandel, brothers of the bridegroom; Ben Gordon and Robert Klapper, brothers-in-law of the bride; Myles Brody, Steven Schwartzberg, Jeffrey Neiger, and Lev Polinsky, friends of the bridegroom.

Paternal grandparents of the bride are Professor Haim and Badonna Reingold and the late Mrs. Leah Reingold. Maternal grandparents are Mrs. Charlotte Northmann and the late Dr. Gerhard Northmann.

Paternal grandparents of the bridegroom are Mrs. Shoshana Ehrlich, the late Maurice Ehrlich, and the late Ernest Mandel. Maternal grandparents are Mrs. Selma F. Fishbein and the late Dr. Joseph J. Fishbein.

The bride graduated from Cornell University with a bachelor of science in industrial and labor relations. She will attend the University of Connecticut School of Law in the fall.

The bridegroom graduated magna cum laude from Harvard University with a bachelor of arts in chemistry. He will attend Yale School of Medicine in the fall.

The couple honeymooned in Paris, France, and will make their home in New Haven, Conn.

## ADL Calls G-8 Proposal for International Observer Force in Middle East "Counterproductive"

The Anti-Defamation League recently called a proposal by the G-8 nations to introduce an international observer force to monitor a cease-fire between Palestinians and Israelis "counterproductive" and said, "it would serve no practical purpose." Glen A. Tobias, ADL National Chairman, and Abraham H. Foxman, ADL National Director, issued the following statement:

"We find the G-8 nations' proposal to send for an observer force to monitor an Israeli-Palestinian cease-fire to be counterproductive. The Palestinian Authority has long been pushing for an on-the-ground international involvement in the conflict, as a means of politicizing and internationalizing the crisis.

"Such a force would serve no practical purpose and would do little to promote peace and security for Israelis and Palestinians. Indeed, past experience has shown that such a presence might only serve to exacerbate existing tensions and possibly provoke extremists to further violence.

"The G-8 should focus their efforts on urging Chairman Arafat and the Palestinian Authority to make a serious and sustained effort to stop the violence. Only then will a cease-fire and further confidence building measures be possible."



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## Senate Letter Supports Magen David Adom

Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, recently applauded the efforts of Sen. Peter Fitzgerald (R-IL) and Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-NY) in sending a letter, along with 42 of their Senate colleagues, to U.S. Secretary of state Colin Powell protesting the treatment of Magen David Adom, Israel's National Emergency Medical Service, by the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

In thanking Senators Fitzgerald and Clinton and their colleagues, Bonnie Lipton, National President, said: "We believe the U.S. administrative assistance should not be provided to the headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross unless Magen David Adom is afforded full and equal membership in the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. We join with the 44 senators in urging Secretary Powell to use his good offices to finally bring equality of treatment to Israel's Magen David Adom."

# JEWISH COMMUNITY

## U.S. Congress Approves Bill Against Palestinian Terrorism

The United States Congress approved a bill last week that would limit assistance to the Palestinian Authority if it supports and encourages terrorism. The Foreign Assistance Act for the 2002 fiscal year, which passed by a large majority, also compels the president to present a report to Congress concerning the PA's attempts to control terrorism and its compliance with commitments to prevent terror attacks, as stipulated by the Oslo Accords and other agreements it has signed with Israel.

If the president concludes that the PA has not met its commitments, he must choose one of three options: withdrawing the presidential waiver that enabled the establishment of the

Palestinian Authority's current diplomatic representation in the United States; designating the PLO, or one or more of its constituent groups, such as Fatah or Tanzim, or various groups operating as arms of the Palestinian Authority, such as Force 17, as a "foreign terrorist organization"; withholding United States aid, except humanitarian assistance, from the West Bank and Gaza.

Congress also passed a clause which calls for the withholding of monetary assistance to the International Red Cross as long as it continues to discriminate against Israel's Magen David Adom by refusing to accept Magen David Adom into its umbrella organization.

## Perspectives Events in August

### Block Island with Mosaic — August 12

Have ya done B.I. yet? No, that's not A.I. or B.O.! I'm talking about Block Island, the wonderful square mile that's 13 miles off Rhode Island's coast. Mosaic of Connecticut (the Jewish Outdoors Group) is headed there and they want us to join them. We'll be meeting at the ferry in Galilee at 9 a.m. and we're not coming back until... the ferry brings us back. To RSVP, call Jamie at 863-9357 or for more information, log onto Mosaic's Web site: <mosaics.org/CT>.

### Book Club — August 15

This month the book club is reading Abraham Joshua Heschel's *The Sabbath*. One of the most influential books in, understanding Shabbat and it's Observances. As always the Club will meet at Books on the Square, 471 Angell St. Providence, at 7:30 p.m. Come one come all...if you've read the book. For more information call Nora Klein at 331-4732.

*The Mission of Perspectives is to provide a social outlet and a resource for Jewish Adults in their 20s and 30s and to offer a connection to the greater Rhode Island Jewish Community. Perspectives is a project of the Brown-RISD and URI Hillel Foundations and is made possible by grants from the Jewish Federation of RI and the Bureau of Jewish Education of RI.*

## Save The Date: Jewish Family Service Family of the Year Awards October 18

By the time you read this article, the Family of the Year committee will have met and selected the recipients of the 2001 Jewish Family service Family of the Year Awards.

In keeping with its commitment to honor families, Jewish Family service conducts a state-wide search each year for nominations for the Family of the Year Award. For the sixth year, members of the community throughout the state submitted profiles of families who exemplify the best in family life.

Make plans to attend the Jewish Family Service annual meeting and meet the 2001 Family of the Year Award recipients on Oct. 18 at Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Avenue in Providence.

Watch for more information in September. For details, call Jewish Family Service at 331-1244.

ing Passover?" Adler said. She said that questions like this help the elderly person feel connected to the Jewish community, and let them feel like a person, not just a patient.

The Jewish spirit is sometimes very strong in nursing home residents, even the few who have not had verbal capacity in months or years. Rabinowitz and Adler both described occasions where Jews who are barely mentally cognizant have perked up at the sound of Jewish prayer and would sing along with songs like "dayeinu," or follow along to Shabbat melodies from their childhoods. Jewish ritual items like challah or grape juice on Friday night can sometimes lead to a powerful and emotional revisiting to moments in a person's past.

CHAVER recently "gradu-

## CHAVER Program

(Continued from Page 1)

ated" its first class of volunteers. They visited nursing home residents one-on-one while being supervised by either Adler or Rabbi Gauze, until they were comfortable enough doing it alone. CHAVER volunteers meet together on a monthly basis to exchange stories and discuss tactics, and many find they are receiving more out of the visits than they ever thought possible. Adler remarked enthusiastically that the feedback she has received from volunteers has been "fabulous."

One of the skills CHAVER imparts is the power of prayer, whether saying the Shema, the blessing over the Shabbat candles, or in saying a prayer for good health (a meshaberach). Other times, residents who are either unfamiliar with traditional Jewish prayers, or those residents who desire a more personal prayer, may be helped with what Rabbi Gauze calls "spontaneous prayer." Spontaneous prayers are often improvised prayers that may contain the specific

problems the resident wishes to overcome in a warm and personal way. "This can give the prayer more power," said Rabbi Gauze.

"Every elderly person," said Adler, "regardless of where they are, counts. They have been our teachers...we have learned from them. Through the CHAVER programs, we have the opportunity to learn together."

Visiting a resident, she said, creates a very special gift that two people can share. Even if it is just a touch on the arm or a good Shabbos kiss on the cheek, that person counts, and that's what the CHAVER program is all about."

The next CHAVER workshop is scheduled to begin on October 11. For more information about becoming a CHAVER volunteer, please call the Jewish Seniors Agency at 351-4750 or e-mail them at <jewishseniors@aol.com>.

Jon can be reached at jonjherald@hotmail.com.

## Ari Evan Geller

Mr. and Mrs. David K. Geller of Sutton, Mass., announce the birth of their third child and second son Ari Evan Geller born on April 25.



Ari Evan was welcomed home by his brother, Cyrus Ian, and his sister, Tori Frances. Ari Evan was lovingly named after his great-grandmother Marian Geller and his great aunt Esther Weitzman.

His paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Phillip R. Geller of Cranston and his maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Harry Katzman of Warwick. His maternal great-grandmother is Mildred Lazar of Warwick and his maternal great-grandfather was the late Bernard Lazar. His paternal great-grandmother is Ruth Gorman of Warwick and his paternal great-grandfather was the late Robert Gorman. His paternal great-grandparents were the late Marian and Cy Geller.



JSA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Susette Rabinowitz and JERI Executive Director Susan Adler at a CHAVER meeting at the JCC. Herald photo by Jon Rubin

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## A City-Wide Celebration of Women

The Providence Tourism Council and the city of Providence will unveil A Celebration of Women, a two-day festival of arts and entertainment to celebrate the diversity of women. On Aug. 16 and 17, Providence, will host a number of special events specifically tailored for women.

"Providence is steeped in the tradition of women who add to the arts and cultural make-up of the city to business, education, healthcare and community service. A Celebration of Women will be a unique opportunity to spotlight their contributions," said Patricia McLaughlin, chairwoman of A Celebration of Women and director of admin-

Tickets for this special breakfast are \$35 and all profits from the breakfast will benefit the Sophia Academy, a new middle school opening this fall for girls from low-income families.

From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday, festivities will move to the Fleet Skating Center for the Women-to-Women Expo. Booths will be tailored for today's busy woman, focusing on health and well-being, financial strategies, stress management and professional development. In addition, there will be several booths that will offer a little more pampering with hair and make-up tips and massage stations.

The expo will also include a



The Becky Chace Band

Photo credit Ron Pownall

istration for the city of Providence. "It is important for the younger women in our city to be aware of the women who have been pioneers in our community and should be honored as role models."

A Celebration of Women kicks off Aug. 16 with a special Gallery Night, with several of the galleries on the tour featuring women artists and exhibits.

Starting at 8 p.m. on Thursday evening, a free concert will be held in Waterplace Park. The Divas in Providence will feature several area female-led bands, including Kay Hanley and The Becky Chace Band, that are sure to get people singing and dancing along.

On Aug. 17 A Celebration of Women continues with a breakfast in the Providence Biltmore Grand Ballroom. Special tribute and honors will be given to women who have made significant achievements in the arts, science, business, education and sports.

fashion show highlighting the latest in business and casual clothing. There will be a special children's area where kids can color and play.

A Celebration of Women will conclude at 6 p.m. at the Fleet Skating Center with an event for everyone — including children and men. The public is invited to participate in an attempt to set a Guinness World Record for the largest yoga class led by Maya Breuer, a R.Y.T. certified Kripalu yoga teacher.

Based on the very successful Night Without Men in Bogota, Colombia, A Celebration of Women is the first of such events in the United States. "We are excited to be among the first U.S. cities to host such a unique festival, and we urge other cities to join in the celebration," concluded McLaughlin.

For more information on A Celebration of Women, contact the Providence Tourism Council at 861-0100.

## The Jews of France

"[An] impressively succinct and informative history," according to David A Bell, of the New Republic.

To the Jewish population of Europe and the Near East, France has exemplified liberty and the Rights of Man; a model of emancipation. It has been regarded as a haven, dreamed of and sighed over by those not fortunate enough to reside within its bounds. Conversely, France and its Jews have also suffered through the Dreyfus affair, Vichy, and numerous bouts of anti-Semitism. Esther Benbassa addresses this disturbing paradox in *The Jews of France: A History from Antiquity to the Present* (281 pages, 6 x 9, 0691-09014-9 paper \$16.95, 0-691-05984-5 cloth (1999) \$40.00, publication date: Aug. 15, 2001), the first English-Language edition of a general history of French Jewry from Roman Gaul to today. The perception of Jewish influence on France's rulers contributed to a clash between church and monarchy, which culminated in the mass expulsion of Jews in the 14th century.

*The Jews of France* examines detailed yet quick-paced discussions of key episodes in the French Jewish history:

- progress made toward social and political integration
- the shifting social and demographic profiles of Jews in the 1800s
- Jewish participation in the economy and the arts
- the mass migrations from Eastern Europe at the turn of the 20th century



- the Dreyfus affair and persecution under Vichy
- the Holocaust
- the postwar arrival of North African Jews
- re-entry of small numbers of Jews as New Christians in the Southwest

• the emergency of a new French Jewish population with the acquisition of Alsace and Lorraine

• the sage of modernity, beginning with the French Revolution

• and the granting of citizenship to French Jews.

With verve and insight, Benbassa reveals the diversity of Jewish life throughout France's regions, while showing how Jewish identity keeps redefining itself. Reinterpreting such themes as assimilation, acculturation, and pluralism, she finds that French Jews have integrated successfully without always risking loss of identity. Published to great acclaim in France, *The Jews of France* brings important issues to bear on the study of Judaism, and makes for dramatic and absorbing reading.

Esther Benbassa teaches Jewish History at the University of Paris IV-Sorbonne, and is director of Research at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique. Some of her books translated into English are *Haim Nahum: A Sephardic Chief Rabbi in politics, 1892-1923*, and, with Aron Rodrigue, *The Jews of the Balkans and A Sephardi Life in Southeastern Europe*.

## 'A Night Under The Stars' Benefits Families of Domestic Violence

The Blackstone Shelter is holding its annual "A Night Under The Stars" wine and cheese fundraising event on Aug. 17 from 5:30 to 9 p.m. at Diamond Hill Vineyards located at 3145 Diamond Hill Road in Cumberland. The fun-filled evening will include wine tasting, hors d'oeuvres, music and live and silent auctions. Channel 10 reporter Dan Jaehrig is this year's emcee.

Auction items include: Two round-trip tickets anywhere Southwest Airlines flies, four box seat tickets for a Boston Red Sox game, an autographed Drew Bledsoe ball, an autographed Bill Russell book, an overnight stay at the Providence Biltmore and a Foxwoods get-away package.

Tickets are \$10 per person or \$15 per couple. Tickets can be purchased by calling the Blackstone Shelter at 723-3057. The rain date is Aug. 24

All monies raised will benefit the Blackstone Shelter which provides comprehensive programming to families affected by domestic violence. Services provided by Blackstone Shelter include emergency shelter, 24-hour Helpline, court advocacy, community outreach, community support groups, Latina Advocacy and the School Based Community Awareness Program.

## Glocester Heritage Society Holds Heritage Day

The Glocester Heritage Society of Chepachet, R.I., is announcing its 23rd annual Heritage Day on Aug. 19 with a rain date of Aug. 26 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Arts, crafts, antiques and collectible vendors will line the main street with their goods. Food and refreshments will be served. Admission is free. Come and have an old-fashioned country day. Vendor space is still available. Call Dino Rotatori at 568-7888 or 568-8007.



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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



## 'The King and I' Reigns at Theatre-By-The-Sea

by Tj Feldman

Once again my toes are still tapping days after a visit to Theatre-By-The-Sea. This time it was for "The King and I" and while I usually review shows alone this time I took my mom and in the tradition of Siskel and Ebert we give this production "two thumbs up."

Rodgers and Hammerstein's musical masterpiece comes to life on the Theatre-By-The-Sea stage with colorful costumes and breathtaking sets that make the audience feel like a part of Siam in the 1800s. This show is as timely and classic as it was when it debuted on Broadway in 1951. "The King and I" is based on the novel *Anna and the King of Siam* that was a chronicle of the experiences of an English governess, Mrs. Anna Leonowens, who spent seven years imparting Western ways to the Siamese Royal Court in Bangkok.

Judith Swift, who directed "Jesus Christ Superstar," "Phantom," "South Pacific" and "My Fair Lady," returns to direct this production. Rhode Island native Jena Barrette who has performed at TBTS in "Dames at Sea," "Godspell," "42nd Street," and "Jesus Christ Superstar," provides the choreography. Both women do a fantastic job.

Broadway veterans Thom Sesma and Luann Aronson, portray the King and Anna. This production is filled with local performers including James Carroll (Captain Orton), Tristan Viner-Brown (Louis Leonowens), James Olerio (the crown prince) and a dozen local children. All of the performances are riveting and the classic songs, "Shall We Dance," "Getting to Know You," and "I Have Dreamed" keep playing in my head.

The songs, plot, scenery, and great performances make this production a must see.

"The King and I" runs through August 19 at Theatre-By-The-Sea in Matunuck. Performances are scheduled for Tuesday through Friday at 8 p.m., Thursdays at 2 p.m., Saturdays at 5 and 9 p.m. and Sunday evenings at 5 p.m. For tickets call 782-8587. Also, for a real treat stop by the Seahorse Grill for dinner before the show on Thursday and Friday nights and don't forget to check out the gorgeous gardens all at 364 Cards Pond Rd.



LUANN ARONSON and Thom Sesma portray "Anna and the King" in Theatre-By-The-Sea's production of the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical masterpiece.



THE ACTORS are from left Nina Negri (kneeling), Thom Sesma, Orville Mendoza, and Luann Aronson star in Theatre-By-The-Sea's production of the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical masterpiece, "The King and I" through Aug. 19. For tickets call 782-TKTS.

Photos by John C. Meyers

## Artist in Residence At CenterCity

Leif Goldberg, a Providence artist, will participate in CCA's artist-in-residence program Aug. 16 through Sept. 15. Previously, his drawings, prints and video concepts were

cases the work of contemporary Rhode Island women artists. On view at CCA will be clay figurines by Madelyn Macedo, pit-fired vessels by Marguerite DeLucia Hall, ceramics by Kate

Champa, mono prints by Leslie Bostrom, drawings by Jessica Deane Rosner and more.

CCA is located at 65 Weybosset St., Providence, Call 521-2990 for more information.



housed within the Ft. Thunder art complex. The residency at CCA is sponsored by Rhode Island State Council on the Arts and will provide Goldberg with the opportunity of sharing his ideas with the public and introducing the public to the artists.

There will be an opening reception Aug. 16 from 5 to 9 p.m.

One of CCA's fine art galleries will be transformed into a studio for a month long period. During this time, the artist will create a room of influence for visitors to explore. An experimental stage will be set as Goldberg makes his drawings in a serial progression, using the daily arrangement of found objects, drawings and sound as stimuli. Film video will be introduced to direct and capture the creative process of the artist during his residency.

Also at CCA "Celebration of Women" — This exhibit show-

## Paintings of The Providence Skyline, Pottery at Barrington Library

During the month of August two displays will be featured at the Barrington Public Library. John Irwin is exhibiting a series of paintings of the Providence skyline. Irwin has done many paintings of the city from a vantage point on the overlook on Veterans Parkway in East Providence. He has painted the skyline over multiple seasons and at different times of day, in sunshine and shadow.

Pottery by Rena Bidney is also featured at the library in August. Bidney specializes in hand-built pottery inspired by nature.

The Barrington Public Library is located at 281 County Road in Barrington. Call 247-1920.

## Band of Liberty Comes to Waterplace Park

The Providence Parks Department, office of cultural affairs, invites you to Waterplace Park to celebrate its 25th Anniversary Concert Series. On Aug. 17, at 7 p.m., the series presents The United States Air Force Band of Liberty as the final concert of the series.

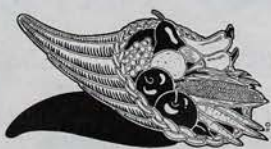
The United States Air Force Band of Liberty presents a musical concert extravaganza. This outstanding group of highly talented, professional musicians brings to each concert the skill and knowledge gained from years of study and performing experience. The Band of Liberty has been entertaining audiences throughout the New England region since 1978, and in the past, has performed for the president of the United States, as well as the president of France and the prime ministers of England and Canada. Their exciting program highlights America's musical diversity and musical, cultural heritage.

With a mix of dazzling vocalists and instrumental soloists, this performance is a high-energy event guaranteed to leave you on the edge of your seat. No matter what your musical tastes, from the classics to pop, from Broadway to swing, this talented group of musicians will certainly delight and entertain.

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# OBITUARIES

## JANET ARBOR

WEST WARWICK — Janet Arbor, 88, of East Greenwich Avenue, a secretary for 22 years before retiring, died Aug. 3 at home.

She was the wife of the late Sol Arbor. Born in North Providence, the daughter of the late Samuel and Annie (Rosner) Lubosky, she had lived in Sharon, Mass., for 30 years before moving to Florida in 1980 and returning to Rhode Island two years ago.

She worked for Irving Tanning Co., Boston, and Goodyear Tire and Rubber in Needham Heights, Mass., before retiring in 1978.

She was a former member of Temple Israel, Sharon, and its Sisterhood, and of Temple Beth-Am in Randolph, Mass., and Temple Beth-El in North Port, Fla. She was a member of B'nai B'rith women's association for many years.

She is survived by several cousins.

A graveside funeral was held Aug. 5 in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to your favorite charity. The family was assisted with the arrangements by the Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.



## DAVID DAVIS

PROVIDENCE —

David Davis, 87, of Maude St., a retired chemical worker, died Aug. 5 at Elmhurst Extended Care Facility.

He was the husband of Ruth (Seltzer) David. Born in Providence, a son of the late Alfred and Dora (Snyder) Davis, he had lived in Providence before moving to East Providence in 1986. He returned to Providence this year.

He was a chemical worker for the Hunt Chemical Co., East Providence, for 30 years, retiring in 1976.

He was an Army veteran of World War II, serving in Europe, where he received a Purple Heart and Bronze Star.

He was a member of the Disabled American Veterans and a

former member of the Providence Lodge of the Elks 14.

Besides his wife, he leaves a son, Donald Davis of Santa Monica, Calif.; a daughter, Helene Davis of Somerville, Mass.; and two sisters, Jeanette Herman of Stoughton, Mass., and Sally Rifkin of Cranston. He was the brother of the late Frank Davis.

The funeral service was held Aug. 6 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 Jewish Eldercare of Rhode Island, 401 Elm Grove Ave., Providence, R.I. 02906. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel.

## ANDREW MATTHEW KATZ

NEW BEDFORD, Mass. —

Andrew Matthew Katz, 55, of Hawthorn St., a former Commissioner for Citizens With Disabilities for the city of New Bedford, died Aug. 4 at New England Sinai Hospital in Stoughton.

Born in New Bedford, a son of Florence (Lipman) Katz and the late Morris Katz, he was a lifelong resident of the city.

He was a 1963 graduate of New Bedford High School. A gifted athlete, he suffered a spinal chord injury in a diving accident shortly after graduation, leaving him a quadriplegic.

For 38 years he was a tireless worker on behalf of people with disabilities. He helped to make a difference in many people's lives.

He was a member of Tifereth Israel Congregation and the Masonic Order.

Besides his mother, he leaves three brothers, Alan L. Katz of Dartmouth, Frederic Katz of Needham, and Howard A. Katz of Fairhaven; two sisters, Louise G. Katz and Carol A. Katz of New Bedford, and several nieces and nephews.

The funeral was held Aug. 6 at Tifereth Israel Congregation, 145 Brownwell Ave., New Bedford, Mass. Burial was in Plainville Cemetery. In lieu of

flowers, contributions may be made to the National Council on Spinal Cord Injury, 20 Park Plaza, Boston, Mass. 02116. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

## RUTH KAUFMAN

PROVIDENCE — Ruth (Berry) Kaufman, 87, of Cole Avenue, a retired teacher and social worker, died July 30 at Hillside Health Center, Providence.

She was the wife of the late Oscar Stillman, and of the late David Kaufman. A lifelong resident of Providence, she was the daughter of the late Morris and Bessie (Lisker) Berry.

She was a graduate of the University of Rhode Island.

A kindergarten teacher in the Providence public school system for many years, she also had been employed by the school department as a social worker, in the area of special education, before she retired in the early 1970s.

She loved music, horses and the theater, and was a supporter of the Rhode Island Philharmonic and the Barker Street Playhouse.

She was a member of Temple Beth-El and its Sisterhood, Hadassah, the National Council of Jewish Women, and the Miriam Hospital Women's Association.

She leaves a son, Michael B. Stillman of Providence. She was the sister of the late Dr. Joslin Berry.

The funeral was held Aug. 2 in Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Temple Beth-El Cemetery, Providence. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the American Heart As-

sociation, 275 Westminster St., Providence, R.I. 02903; or the American Cancer Society, 400 Main St., Pawtucket, R.I. 02860. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel.



## RAPHAEL PITCHON

WARWICK —

Raphael Pitchon, 73, of 127 Cushing Road, a retired purchasing agent, died Aug. 2 at home. He was the husband of Bette (Shuster) Pitchon.

Born in Tel Aviv, Israel, a son of the late Philip and Regina (Couriel) Pitchon, he had lived in Warwick for 40 years.

He was a graduate of the former New England Institute of Technology, class of 1955, where he received his bachelor's of textile engineering degree. He was a purchasing agent for the former Hamilton Web Co. in North Kingstown, R.I., for 22 years, retiring in 1978. He had served in the Israeli Army during the War of 1948. He was a member of Temple Sinai in Cranston, R.I., Union Lodge AF & AM of the Masons and the Knights of Pythias. He was a private Hebrew tutor and a Hebrew teacher at Temple Sinai for 25 years.

Besides his wife, he leaves a son, Howard Pitchon of Tarpon Springs, Fla.; three daughters, Regina Pitchon of London, England, and Mindy Spitz and Marcy Pitchon, both of Wellesley, Mass.; a brother, Igal Pitchon of Modin, Israel; four sisters, Becky Lulu and Yaffa Lande, both of Haifa, Israel, Judith Noth of Scottsdale, Ariz., and Leah Pitchon of Tel Aviv, Israel; and five grandchildren. He was the brother of the late Joshua Pitchon.

Graveside funeral services

were held Aug. 3 in Sinai Memorial Park, 100 Harrison Ave., Warwick. Arrangements were made by Shalom Memorial Chapel, 1100 New London Ave., Cranston, R.I.

## ANNE SWARTZ

PROVIDENCE — Anne Swartz, 87, of 101 Highland Ave., died Aug. 1 at Bethany Home of Rhode Island.

She was the wife of the late Jerome "Jack" Swartz. Born in Lynn, Mass., a daughter of the late Jacob and Mindle (Lozow) Cohen, she had been a Providence resident most of her life.

She was a member of Temple Beth-El and its Sisterhood for 45 years.

She leaves a daughter, Susan Schaufeld of Framingham, Mass.; two sons, Alan L. Swartz of Pawtucket and Jerry Swartz of New York City; a sister, Bess Platt of Cranston; and seven grandchildren and a great-grandchild. She was a sister of the late Eve Katz.

The funeral service was held Aug. 3 at Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to your favorite charity. The family was assisted with the arrangements by Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel.

## Correction

The obituary in last week's *Herald* for Gilbert S. Goldman mistakenly listed that he both attended and graduated from Brown University; he neither attended or graduated from the university. Additionally, the last name of Sonya Garfinkle was listed instead as Garfinkel.

## The Worst Time To Arrange A Funeral

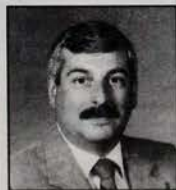
It may sound strange, but the worst time to make a funeral arrangement is when a family member has just died.

We believe that surviving family members should be spared the heavy burden of making funeral arrangements immediately after a death has occurred.

That's why we stand ready to help you plan and fund a funeral long before the need arises. You can make most of the important decisions while time pressures and emotional stress are not so overwhelming.

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*May G-d help you understand the hints contained in everything in the world; may He show you how, through them, you can draw closer to Him each and every day, depending on the individual, the place and the time. Everything that happens in the world, be it life or death, rising prices or falling prices, poverty or wealth, or any other occurrence or incident that takes place in the world — globally, nationally, locally or to an individual — happens only in order to remind us of G-d specifically through this. He, in His wisdom and mercy, is the Cause of everything. Everything that happens is for our eternal good, in order that through everything we should come to know Him, each and every day. For G-d is indeed working His will at this very moment and will continue to work His will.*

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# FEATURE

## Bambi

(Continued from Page 3)

"People will sponsor a parlor meeting in a fancy neighborhood," Bambi explains, "and then children will come too, bringing small amounts from their savings."

One innovative girl in Manchester spent a summer creating an exhibition of butterflies and insects, and then invited the neighborhood children to come to her house and view it. She charged a small admission, and before long has raised 100 pounds sterling for the cause. And she continues to do the same each year.

The foundation's assistance is allocated to single-parent families, families in which one parent is chronically ill or unemployed, and families with special medical needs.

"Once I had a patient who

had her first 12 children here and then the 13th happened to be born at a Tel Aviv hospital," Bambi said. The head of the department was not religious, and when he learned that this was the woman's 13th child, he scolded her. "What do you need with so many kids? Are you crazy?"

"The mother phoned her husband and told him to dress all the kids in their Sabbath clothes, and bring them to the hospital. When they arrived she lined them up, all clean and smiling. Then she knocked on the department head's door, and introduced him to her children. 'Which one would you say is expendable?' she asked him."

"These are very hard times for the Jewish people," she says, "not just here but also in many parts of the world. People aren't sure what they can do, what's the right approach. Spiritually, though, one of the things we can do is 'chesed,' acts of kindness. This definitely makes a difference."

*Am Ehad Resources. Adam Jessel is a former staff member at Hadassah Hospital. Bambi can be contacted through him <jessel@softhome.net> or by writing to Devora Prag, 1667 54th St., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11210.*

## Jimmy Fund Walk is Set For Sept. 30

Join 8,000 walkers in the Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk, presented by MFS Management, on Sept. 30 to help raise more than \$4.5 million for cancer research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Known as Boston's "hometown walk," the Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk takes place along the historic 26.2-mile marathon route. Walkers can choose from three different starts: 26.2 miles from Hopkinton, 7 a.m.; 13.1 miles from Wellesley, 11 a.m.; or they can join patients and families on a 3-mile route that begins at Harvard Medical School Quad, 200 Longwood Ave., at 2 p.m.

All walkers finish at the Copley Square finish line. Register by team or as an individual walker; each participant must raise a minimum of \$100. "Pacesetters," those who raise more than \$750, will be recognized at the finish line by the announcer. The Jimmy Fund is the official charity of the Boston Red Sox. To register, or make financial contributions, visit <www.jimmyfund.org>. Contributions can also be mailed to: Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk, 375 Longwood Ave., 7th Floor, Boston, MA 02215. For more information, call (617) 632-3562.

## Empty Nest Syndrome Hits Providence Residents

It could be a match made in heaven. A Providence resident has a son or daughter who will attend college in the fall. Their son or daughter will leave behind a bedroom, walls of pictures, companionship and memories. That child could also leave a parent with a feeling of loss and sadness known as Empty Nest Syndrome.

According to a recent U.S. Census Bureau report, "Projections of the Number of Households and Families in the United States: 1995 to 2010" currently, 52 percent of American families have no children under the age of 18 living at home. By the year 2010, however, this proportion could increase to 59 percent as the number of families with no children under age 18 grow to 46 million, up from 36 million.

Yet across the world, there is a teenager who is about to courageously embark on a trip to the United States in August that he or she has been dreaming about since childhood. That student's dream will not become a reality, however, without a Providence family's love and support. Very simply, that student needs a bed and a place to study and two meals a day, but most importantly, that student needs a Providence

resident to welcome him or her into their home as if he or she were a son or daughter.

These international students come to the United States on the Academic year in America program. Each student arrives with full medical insurance, spending money, at least three years of English language study and the hope of seeing the United States through the eyes of a resident. Students are age 15 to 18 and come from more than 30 different countries such as Brazil, China, Germany, France, South Africa and Poland.

Who can host an AYA student? There is no "typical" host family. Just as there is no "typical" American family, there is no "typical" host family. Retirees, single parents and young couples are all able to give an international student a god home. Some host families may not even have children of their own.

To get more information on hosting, call Danielle Carpino at (800) 322-HOST or e-mail <dcarpino@aifs.com>. You can also visit <www.academicyear.org> for more program information, or <www.academicyear.org/students> to see some of the students currently available to host.

## Liturgica.com Offers Online Spiritual Refreshment

In the deluge of new Web sites that deliver hype and "never-before-seen opportunities," a new Oregon-based site stands out by merit of its very different approach. Launched at year-end 2000, <Liturgica.com> uses the best of Internet technology to give users a soul-enriching musical experience of the Judeo-Christian liturgical traditions. Although it is a niche market — presenting the history and development of liturgical worship and music, and selling a unique variety of related music CD's and books — any size visitor first encounters free music and pleasing visuals that provide a genuinely restorative experience.

"Spiritual rejuvenation, and helping people understand and appreciate the development of liturgical worship, is what we're about," says Ben Williams, founder and president of <Liturgica.com>. "Most mod-

ern Jews and Christians are terribly disconnected from their spiritual history, and on top of that, living in the Information Age is incredibly intense. That's why we've tried to create something of a on-line retreat for people. Even if they never buy anything from us, the site inspires, and educates in a way most Web experiences don't."

The site's storehouse of personal enrichment opportunities includes an extended overview of the history and development of liturgical worship and music. Each major liturgical tradition — Jewish, Orthodox, Catholic, Protestant — has its own series of pages for exploration. Samples of sacred music built into the text illustrate the subject, and exemplary visual images demonstrate how traditions have developed into their present forms.

So far, <Liturgica.com> offers some 150 CDs of chants and liturgies, and more than 50 books that explore Jewish, Catholic, and Orthodox spiritual traditions, with additional selections posted each week.

Upon entering the site, a user is greeted by serenely mystical Byzantine and Gregorian chants, while engaging images of iconography, candles, and other trappings of worship appear on the screen. The home page introduces the options of hearing additional music selections as well as learning more about liturgies, and accessing Liturgica's Web store. Internet industry professionals recently recognized the value of these site benefits by presenting <Liturgica.com> a 2001 Golden Web Award for site excellence.

Already welcoming more than 3,500 visitors a month, <Liturgica.com> has ambitious expansion plans over the next

several years. Enhancements are slated to include an online personal retreat option, a moderated chat room, seminars on liturgical traditions for lay people and clergy alike, as well as a chant-of-the-day feature.

According to Williams, long-term enhancements are natural for the site. "These liturgical traditions, taken together, have been around for more than 3,000 years, so that gives us a lot of material to draw from. There will always be something new we can add, at least for the next 3,000 years or so."

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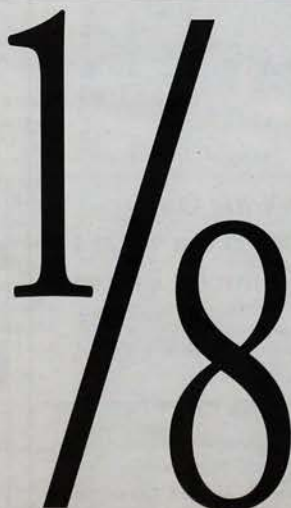
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## Kosher Food in Prague? No problem!

A man wearing a fez outside of the "Casablanca" restaurant in Prague lets traveling Jews know that the vittles inside are fit for kosher stomachs.

*Photo courtesy of the Eichenbaum family*



## My Kingdom for Some Velcro!

Tyler Degnam gets some help tying his shoe from counselor Stephanie. Adena Darkstar stands in the background.  
*Herald photo by Jon Rubin*

## Luncheon or Tea with Eden Garden Club

Eden Garden Club will hold a meeting Aug. 16 at 1 p.m. at Temple Beth El, 70 Orchard Avenue, Providence.

There will be a luncheon or tea with a guest. What better way to enhance your luncheon or tea with a special guest than with a floral arrangement of your creation.

Theme: You've invited a friend, a neighbor, a or relative to drop by to celebrate your friendship. This is your opportunity to be creative with your place setting and of course, flowers are a must.

Each member is asked to bring (to showcase) a place setting of china and silverware and a floral arrangement. Size and type, your choice.

Hostesses for the meeting are Rona Nachbar, Norma Mushnick, Lorraine Webber. Finger pastries would be appreciated, suitable for tea time. Any questions, call Fran Salder, 942-7796.

## UJA Chairs Announce Record Gifts

Campaign chairs and directors from Jewish federations across North America successfully launched the 2002 UJA Federation Campaign this month by announcing a record total of pledged gifts. During their just-completed annual mission to Israel and the former Soviet Union, campaign chairs and directors announced gifts totaling \$2,991,193, a 47 percent increase in gift pledges made at the beginning of the 2001 Campaign.

"This record number is an energetic start to our new fundraising year, and reflects a recognition by North American Jews of increasing needs, here at home, in Israel, the former Soviet Union and elsewhere overseas," said Robert M. Schroyer, National Chairman of the UJA Federation Campaign.

The mission was the first ever to visit Kharkov, a Ukrainian community of 50,000 Jews, and included 130 participants from 43 federated Jewish communities. Along with Schroyer, the mission was co-chaired by Sandra Cahn of New York, Chairman of the UJC National Women's Constituency; Dede Feinberg, Immediate Past President of the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington; and Barbara Sherman, Campaign Director at the United Jewish Federation of San Diego County.

United Jewish Communities (UJC) represents 189 Jewish Federations and 400 independent communities across North America.

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## SHABBAT UNDER THE STARS

Mark your calendars for August 24 at 7:30 p.m. for Temple Beth-El's Summer Shabbat Under the Stars at Temple Beth-El in Providence.

Held on the back patio of the temple, these services include singing, stories, and summertime Oneg Shabbats. Children with summer birthdays will also be honored.

Also during the summer, spend moments of music, meditation, and memory between the hectic workday and your Shabbat dinner at the Kabbalat Service each Friday at 5:45 p.m. in the Bennett Chapel. Call 331-6070.

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